



Soft Focus

Inside the thoughtful and fresh makeover of a Silicon Valley estate

INTERIOR DESIGN BY
CHRISTINE LIN OF FORM + FIELD
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRAD KNIPSTEIN

With a roster of clients that includes everyone from Ayesha Curry to some of the biggest names in tech, Christine Lin of San Francisco's Form + Field is one busy designer. Lin and her team are sought after for their empathetic and integrated interiors. "Our goal is to promote joy and well-being through design," states Lin. "We care about our clients' experience through a space—not just the visual component, but how the





space feels, smells, and sounds. We're interested in design and materials that have longevity, timelessness, and above all a sense of balance."

Case in point is the elegantly transformed Tudor home in Los Altos Hills that Lin reimagined for clients based in Asia. "The family saw the work we had done on their friends' Atherton estate," recalls Lin. "They loved the end result and were drawn to the idea of working with someone who their friends trusted. Trust was key since most of the project was conducted long distance."

The scope of the project called for a total revamp of the sprawling Tudor. "Our clients wanted a home that would be comfortable for three generations of family and gracefully appointed for entertaining as well," adds Lin. "The

wife prefers a modern but welcoming look while the husband leans toward a more traditional one." Lin's expertise is evidenced in striking a subtle balance between the two styles.

The foyer with grand staircase segues to a sunken formal living room. "One of the design challenges in this space was to incorporate an antique Persian rug that had been in the wife's family for two generations," says Lin. To make the rug work in the contemporary surroundings, Lin took color cues from its soft palette of cream, blush, and cloud blue. The walls were painted in a fresh ivory—a shade repeated in the dramatic floor-to-ceiling Parisian pleated draperies from Fabricut. A striking conversation area was created with a custom sofa by Lawson-Fenning, a walnut-framed chaise by

Verellen and upholstered in Holland & Sherry's exquisite Delacroix blue, and a pair of curved back swivel chairs upholstered in fabric from Maxwell. At the center of the space stands a Mid-Century-inspired "Spule" coffee table by Stahl & Band.

Delicate whimsy comes to mind when describing the "Cloud 37" chandelier from Apparatus in the adjoining formal dining room. Lin covered the walls in a blue horsehair wallpaper from Phillip Jeffries and added the dining table from Senient surrounded by Loggia chairs upholstered in a creamy fabric from Angela Brown. John-Richard's stunning "Willits" cabinet is topped by a pair of Riga buffet lamps.

The kitchen, breakfast room, and family room required a complete overhaul. "The entire layout of these key spaces had to be reimagined," notes Lin, "and include two dining spaces to accommodate family and





friends.” The new spaces flow together seamlessly with a generous banquette at the heart. Minimalist shaker cabinets and the beautiful quartzite countertops and backsplash are punctuated with gleaming nickel fixtures and ultra-contemporary chandeliers. A vibrant oil painting by Ky Anderson adds color and depth above the banquette.

Lin relates, “In contrast to the bright, airy spaces in the home, we opted for a deeply hued peacock-green library—it’s a richly saturated space that’s unexpected. Our clients were hesitant about the color at first but ended up loving it. It’s so satisfying to know that you’ve been able to take your clients’ vision and truly bring it to life.” ●