Dreaming about a new master bedroom

PHILLIP ENNIS PHOTOGRAPHY

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Deborah Martin renovates this master bedroom using three guidelines

In directing the course of their master bedroom's floor to ceiling renovation, these Plainview homeowners made three requests: That the room not be made to look "pretty," that whatever bedding was chosen be warm, and that the couple's art remain in the room.

For these well-seasoned travelers, performing arts enthusiasts and dedicated foodies, Deborah Martin of Deborah Martin Designs knew precisely the course she would follow. Her approach was centered on beautifully crafted millwork and opulent fabrics using a sublime and sophisticated color palette of mauvey minks, mochas and sandstone neutrals.

Based on their need for storage, a customized pair of his and her wardrobe units were designed for two of the bedroom's walls. Rich wood finishes, light distressing and interesting worm-holing effects on these pieces were carried over to the nightstand and tufted bench at the foot of the bed. Two master craftsmen collaborated in the construction of the tall upholstered headboard framed in a patinated silver leaf finish that Deborah designed to balance the storage and entertainment unit on the opposite wall.

A highly-textured fabric the color of steel-cut oatmeal was selected for the comforter whose hand-tufted square pattern is reminiscent of the dramatic quilted headboard. Designed for lofty warmth, its construction sandwiches layers of flannel and filler between the face fabric and cotton lining. A custom Anichini quiltina brings contrast to the end of the bed and is pressed into service in place of the heavier comforter during warmer weather. Deborah used a tone on tone embroidered silk and viscose for the functional drapery and the skirted bedside table.

Perfect for reading, a pair of swing-arm sconces on either side of the headboard was chosen in lieu of more conventional table lamps. Overhead, a ceiling fan with tortoise finish blades blows gentle breezes. The series of botanical book plates were returned to the bedroom with new silk matting and complimentary wood frames.

In the ensuite bathroom, sumptuously-patterned wallcovering, large-format black and white cityscapes, a custom oval area rug, new satin nickel fixtures and unique accessories complete the elegant transformation of this master bedroom. ■