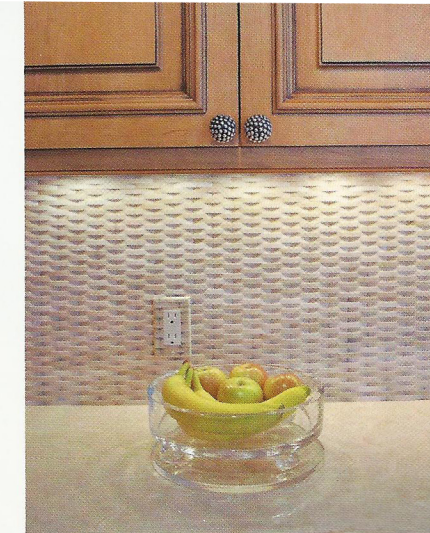


# Creative Collaboration

Deborah Martin Designs & The Creative Edge integrate fashion and function.



*Karl Lagerfeld bowl from his Coasters collection is one of a limited worldwide production. Faux painted outlet covers all but disappear against the woven 3D backsplash. Jewelry-like door hardware is a key textural element.*

Long-standing clients of Deborah Martin, Deborah Martin Designs, with whom she had worked with for nearly six years, were anxious to update a wing of their East Hills home. Deborah turned without equivocation to Nava Slavin of The Creative Edge, Inc. Having worked with her on previous upscale projects, Deborah was very impressed with Nava's designs, unwavering attention to detail and ability to meet deadlines.

Having raised two active sons, each with a family of his own now, the clients expressed a desire for a sophisticated, urbane aesthetic for their home as they live now. Given clear instruction that this complete renovation must be accomplished with minimum down time, Deborah and Nava worked to create a kitchen that is contrary to conventional design as the centerpiece of this four-room renovation that also includes a separate laundry room, small den and full bathroom. American-made cabinetry that surpasses the highest quality craftsmanship standards available in limitless hand-applied finishes

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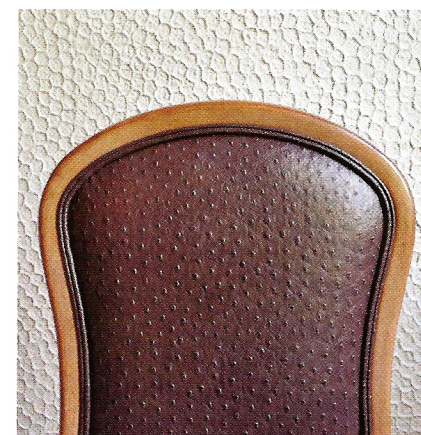
*Right: Hand cut marble tiles form delicate filigree pattern behind cooktop.*

*Inset, below: Blown glass knot with smooth and textured roping sits atop Crema Marfil island.*



(from traditional distressed antique to modern mirror like high gloss) with handmade interior fittings was chosen in two wood species. The lighter wheat finish appears on maple perimeter cabinetry, and the cherry island has a warm, deep walnut finish. The furniture-quality cabinetry was also specified for the adjacent laundry room in creating a seamless look for this entire wing.

Once the cabinetry as cornerstone of the design process was chosen, Deborah worked with the client to select flooring, state of the art appliances, fixtures, lighting, wallcoverings, furniture and to design window treatments for the kitchen as well as the adjacent spaces. Crema Marfil marble used in the kitchen as flooring, countertops and back-



*Top, inset: Sparkling sixteen-light cut crystal chandelier brilliantly merges glamour and function.*

*Above: Award-winning honeycomb pattern wallcovering from Nepalese lokta is a luxe appointment contrasting with brown ostrich on chair.*

*Right: According to Martin, "Technology has become an integral part of our lives, so while rooms must be fashionable, they must also be functional."*



splash is repeated in the full bathroom. Stunning Thassos and Crema Marfil filigree behind the cooktop contrasts with the three-dimensional woven marble used elsewhere. The island's 2 1/2 inch built-up top with two edge details is a proprietary Creative Edge design and was executed to perfection by Elegante.

Premium finish, ostrich-covered chairs were customized for the clients' modern glass and chrome table, which comfortably seats six. Deborah chose exquisite Maya Romanoff wall-surfacing materials for the bathroom (a

hand-woven abaca and glimmering metallic) and for the kitchen (sustainably farmed lokta with flecks of mica). Barbara Barry for Kravet fabric in complimentary patterns was used for the button-tufted kitchen cornices and a desk chair, and for the soft-pleated Roman shade in the bathroom.

Once plans and elevations were completed for a layout intended to maximize both space and efficiency as well as to achieve the stated design impera-

tive, Nava supervised her highly-skilled team of contractors to complete the renovation in just over six weeks. At Nava's direction, however, the demolition phase did not begin until the delivery and inspection of cabinetry had taken place. This strategy succeeded in not only completing the project in an astoundingly short amount of time, but also in avoiding the customary pitfalls prevalent in projects such as this. ■