

The library is a richly colored sanctum with walls painted in custom high-gloss hues by Fine Paints of Europe. The pair of custom ottomans and blue bergère are in Claremont fabrics; the sofa is the client's own.



OPEN HOUSE

A MANHATTAN COUPLE CREATES NEW HOLIDAY TRADITIONS AFTER INHERITING A FAMILY HOME OVERLOOKING PARK AVENUE.

INTERIOR DESIGN BY BROCKSCHMIDT & COLEMAN | ARCHITECTURE BY RICCARDO S. VICENZINO
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LEFT: Custom curtains in a Holland & Sherry fabric with Scalamandré trim; directoire desk; caned Louis XVI chair; antique Swedish clock, Gary Young Antiques; custom rug, Vermilion Rugs. BELOW: Louis XVI chair in a Brunshwig & Fils silk; antique tapestry. OPPOSITE: An 18th-century sideboard holds such holiday treats as a traditional game-bird pie. Wallcovering and stool fabrics, Claremont.



THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAYS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE—IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIKELY SIPPING A TRADITIONAL MILK-AND-BOURBON

punch in the gracious apartment that Fernanda Kellogg and her husband, Kirk Henckels, have shared for the past few years on Park Avenue. Kellogg, a longtime Tiffany & Co. executive, inherited the 3,600-square-foot apartment in 2006 from her father, Ambassador Francis L. Kellogg, who was a diplomat during the Nixon and Ford administrations. So even before she and Henckels took ownership, she had decades of fond memories of the home. “I sort of grew up here,” she says. “And that makes inhabiting it today feel particularly wonderful.”

Still, the couple—who spend weekends on their pair of horse farms an hour-and-a-half north of Manhattan in Millbrook, New York—wanted to put their own vivid stamp on the apartment. Their goal was to preserve the historical significance and personal resonance of the space but freshen things up.



In the dining room, 18th-century Italian chairs harmonize with warm green walls. Antique chairs and custom table skirt in Claremont fabrics; tablecloth, Schweitzer Linen; curtains in a Scalamandré fabric with hardware by Christopher Hyland; artwork, Abelardo Favela. OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Vintage china, Christofle. Vintage silver tray and cups. Vintage English bone china on an antique Italian commode.



The owners temper their love of fine old things with a zest for informality.

They hired Bill Brockschmidt and Courtney Coleman, a duo known for working in an haute-traditional vein: uniquely sensitive to the past yet cognizant of the practicalities of living in the present.

The challenge—and joy—was that the designers could have their pick of amazing furniture. Kellogg had unfettered access to her family's world-class collection of antiques, including pieces once owned by her maternal great-grandfather, John Wanamaker, of department-store fame. "It really was a matter of creating a fresh canvas and then 'shopping' at home," Brockschmidt says. Henckels, a vice chairman at Stribling & Associates, the blue-chip real estate firm, loved his wife's family heirlooms but also wanted to make sure there was room for his own collections of Georgian silver and botanical prints.

A perfect example of how Brockschmidt and Coleman edited and reimagined the space is their solution for a 17-foot-long Beauvais tapestry. Ambassador Kellogg had hung the piece, which dates from the 17th century, in the 31-foot-long living room and drawn the drapes so it wouldn't fade. But the designers made it the centerpiece of the entrance hall, where it is shielded from the light and brings singular impact.

Despite the grand furnishings, a key concern for the owners was that the apartment not feel like a museum. Elegant new textiles be damned, their two Labradors, Frolic and Lulu, are welcome on the sofas. And during parties, guests flow through the rooms as freely as the food and wine.

Accustomed to spending weekends mucking about in the barns, on weekdays in town, the couple temper their love of fine old things with a zest for informality. "We're the kind of people who put out all the good china," Henckels says, "and then order in Chinese." □



Napoleonic-era finery adorns a bedroom. Empire bed, dresser, and desk; custom bedcover, bolsters, antique klismos chairs, and wallcoverings in Claremont fabrics; antique French barrel chair covered in a John Boyd Textiles horsehair; antique Aubusson rug and panels, mounted as curtains with Christopher Hyland hardware. For more details, see Sourcebook.