

# TRADITIONAL HOME

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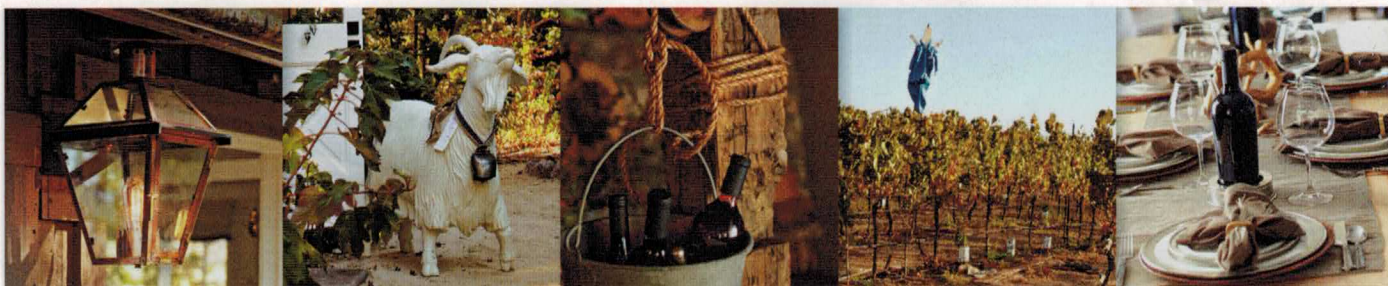
## GREAT AMERICAN Homes

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# Stories and Sauvignon

COMPELLING DESIGN TALES EMERGE FROM THE NAPA VALLEY SHOWHOUSE

WRITTEN BY SALLY FINDER WEEPIE PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN MERKL PRODUCED BY JENNY BRADLEY PFEFFER

Creativity just seems to flow like wine at the Caldwell Vineyard. John Caldwell first uncorked it back in the winter of '84, when he launched his vine and wine business by "importing"—yes, some might say smuggling—grafted French grapevines across the Canadian border in the trunk of a Rent-a-Wreck. That maverick ingenuity was just as strong in

2014 at the third annual Napa Valley Showhouse, which included three separate historic structures: the main house (a remodeled Victorian farmhouse), the property's 1920s cheese barn, and a 1930s water tower that's been reinvented as a living space. Designers drew on the vineyard's rich history to create impactful rooms, some with plotlines equal to the offerings at the Napa Valley Film Festival,



LANDSCAPE TIM O'SHEA



PORCH MIYUKI YAMAGUCHI

In creating a place for the Caldwells to relax and entertain, **Laurie Furber**, designer of the Cheese Barn cellar lounge, preserved the natural, rustic beauty of the building and gave a nod to Caldwell Vineyard's history. "I wanted to give the space the feeling of dining outside," Furber says. So she constructed a living ceiling, built using vintage fruit-drying racks on pulleys. They're covered with live branches and white lights. "It gives the effect of a beautiful canopy of leaves with stars twinkling through," Furber says. The coffee table is a vintage barn door that was covered with lichen. "I preserved it just as it was with a piece of tempered glass on top," she says, "and used a pair of vintage French sawhorses as a base."

### WATER TOWER LOFT

The Water Tower represents an iconic piece of architecture on this property, a place that speaks to the land's time as a working ranch—and an opportunity for designer **Sarah DeWitt** to create a Moroccan-inspired fantasy escape. "The views inspire an exotic, enigmatic sense of soaring over the world—a place out of time," DeWitt says. She used a wallpaper that can inspire visions of either sky or sea to set a joyful mood of celebration that's energized by colorful patterns. "My favorite pieces are the 'birdhouse' porter chairs that lift rather than obscure and the octagonal tête-à-tête seating spot that draws people in to converse, share, laugh, and just enjoy the views," the designer says. "It truly becomes the life of the party!"

For the Water Tower landscaping, designer **Tim O'Shea** called on Canary Island palm trees to flank the entry as guests climb the native volcanic treads through bold drifts of fountain grass and fragrant native plantings. It's part of a series of garden spaces that O'Shea created across the property. Down the hill, his Vista Lawn guides visitors to the main house, shaded by more Canary Island palms. Bold basalt stepping-stones create the entry path to the main house, where a dramatic sweep of soft underplantings reinforces the informal farmhouse mood.

### FARMHOUSE

Stepping up to the porch, guests can lounge in a teak wing chair or on a faux-bois bench, sip a glass of wine, and take in the gorgeous hillside vineyard view. Soft grape-hue textiles, metals, and found objects mingle effortlessly, while an olive tree and other local plants embody the essence of Napa. "Living in beautiful wine country, I wanted to celebrate the natural beauty of Napa, its relaxed lifestyle, and the love story of owners John and Joy Caldwell by creating a serene, yet elegant, romantic space," designer **Miyuki Yamaguchi** says.

Inside, designer **Cathleen Gouveia** played light against dark, rustic against refined to create a living room that's a study in contrasts. "My work is usually formal, but the Farmhouse required a more rustic look in keeping with the architectural vernacular of the

GUEST SUITE TISH MILLS



with a silvery metallic finish. Its strong horizontal pattern provides a perfect counterpoint to the room's angular lines, which are also softened by the wave pattern of an easy-on-the-toes rug and layers of textural bedding. The monochromatic palette creates a restful cocoon energized by a touch of vibrant purple. "It's a reflection of Napa sunsets," Mills says. "I wanted the space to be balanced and peaceful while exciting the senses at the same time." The mood continues in the adjoining bath, where soft marble and chrome finishes pair with beadboard and tile in a light, bright personal space. ❧

For contact information for the designers featured in the 2014 showhouse and for details on the items used in these rooms, see sources on page 144



**Special Thanks** to John and Joy Caldwell of Caldwell Vineyard ([caldwellvineyard.com](http://caldwellvineyard.com)) for hosting the 2014 *Traditional Home* Napa Valley Showhouse to benefit the Napa Valley Film Festival. Our gratitude to the sponsors who made the showhouse possible:



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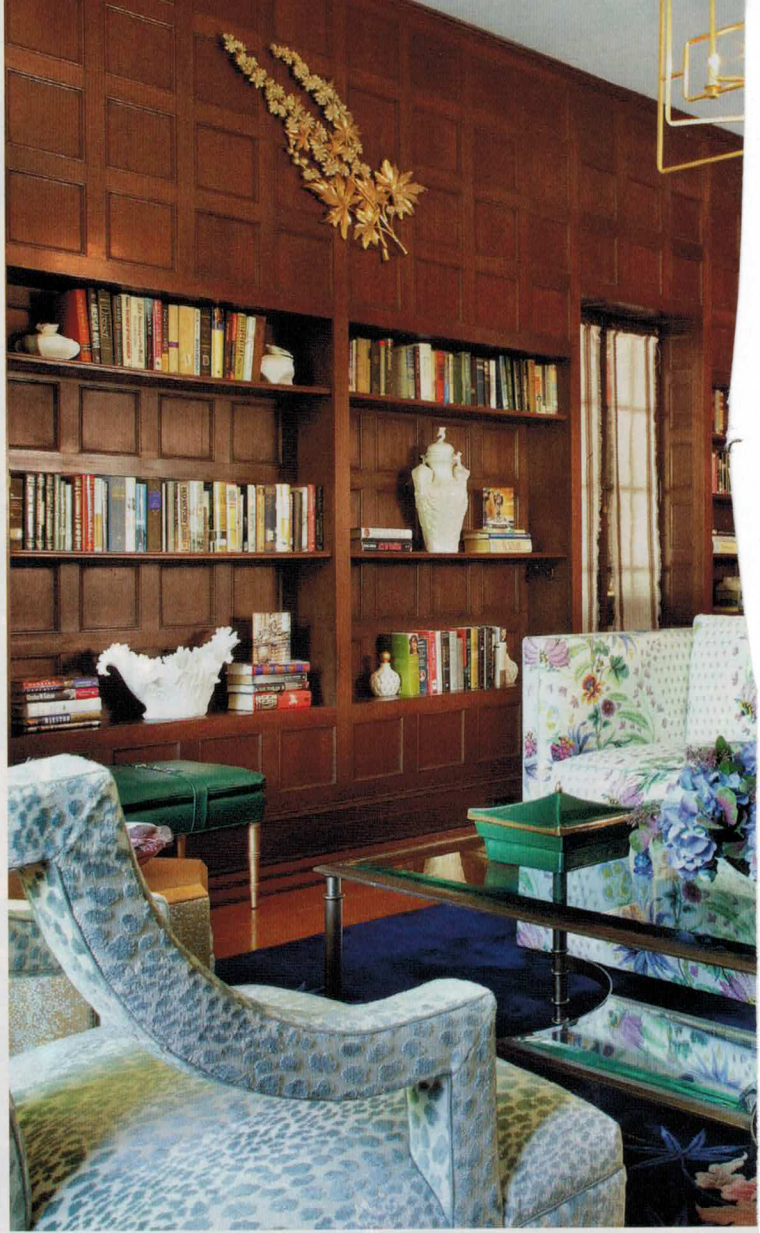
**8a.m. Jayne begins the day** deep in the well-preserved precinct of the French Quarter. Not surprisingly, his apartment boasts great antiques—like a daybed once used by the Duke of Windsor. In the living room, there’s also hand-painted wallpaper depicting a panoramic view of the Mississippi Delta, complete with boats and human figures. The Delta’s allure captured the hearts of both Jayne and Ellis, a noted food stylist, when they visited for a Southern food conference in the early 1990s. “We bought this apartment in an extremely important structure for the price of a parking spot in New York—and for a fraction of the cost of something in almost every historic neighborhood in the country,” says Jayne, who manages a stay here about every six weeks. The building is the smallest Creole townhouse in the French Quarter, but it’s the perfect fit for them, says Jayne, as he tops off his look for the day with a jaunty porkpie hat that was made locally.

**8:30a.m. First he grabs a latte** across the street at Spitfire Coffee, which looks like it would fit well in Brooklyn. “It’s a great example of how the Quarter is becoming less of a T-shirt shop place,” Jayne says. He heads down a few blocks to the banks of the mighty Mississippi, just as a long and noisy freight train lumbers by. The mix of old and new energizes Jayne. “New Orleans is not frozen in time,” he says. “Here there’s perspective on the past, but they are interested in the future. It’s not perfect, but at least it’s real.”

**9:15a.m. Jayne dashes into** Peter Patout’s small shop just a few blocks away in the Quarter, and he looks like a kid in a candy store. He spies an 18th-century porcelain cooler, which once made a treat that was a predecessor to ice cream, and clutches it tight: “I wish I owned this!” Patout, a Louisiana native renowned for his expertise on Southern antiques, has become something of an ambassador for the city. “He’s a tastemaker,” says Jayne, who bought a 19th-century Louisiana bookcase for his apartment from Patout. *Vogue* writer Julia Reed became a Patout disciple after staying in the 1820s guest cottage tucked behind the dealer’s back courtyard. “People stay with him and they get the bug,” says Jayne, who met the same fate. “He’s a great storyteller.”

**9:30a.m. Mixing business and pleasure** is in the DNA of New Orleans, and so Jayne often finds himself buying from his friend Nadine Blake, whose quirky, eponymous shop has all manner of merchandise, from pillows to ▶

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AND POOL ERIC ROSS  
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Designer Lisa Mende totally reorganized and transformed the kitchen, breakfast area, and dog-themed mudroom (below) of the 1912 Terry House for the High Point Showhouse. Her vision included new flooring, cabinets, appliances, counter surfaces, plumbing fixtures, lighting, and amazing new decor more fitting to the vintage structure than the previous 1980s remodeling. To see what Lisa created, turn to "Seeing Black and White" on page 84.



With gratitude to the Junior League of High Point for hosting this showhouse and to the talented designers who made it so fabulous. Our sincere thanks to the generous sponsors (below), as well as to the many contributors who made it possible: Ann Sacks, Carlisle Wide Plank Flooring, Carpet One by Henry, CR Laine, Currey & Company, French Heritage, Kallista, Kohler, Marsh Furniture Company (cabinets), Modern History, Natural Decorations, Inc., and Somerset Bay.



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