

PRESS RELEASE

**Jamie Gibbs and Associates Create a Fanciful “Birdcage” for
the Stately Homes by the Sea Show House**

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“Life in a Gilded Cage”

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Rumson, NJ From April 28 until May 31 the Metcalf estate in Rumson New Jersey will be the first ever show house sponsored by Visiting Nurses Association of Central New Jersey. Thirty-five top interior designers have been selected to participant. Jamie Gibbs and Associates has been selected to restore and whimsically decorate the “Lady’s Waiting Room.”

The two-room suite is architecturally significant with plaster and wood mouldings dating from the original 1926 construction. Jamie Gibbs and Associates has restored the configuration and architectural details of the room to reflect the genteel lifestyle of Rumson’s early twentieth century estate history while bringing the conveniences of the 21st century into the setting. Whimsy has been employed to create a fantasy upon entering the anteroom; transporting the guest into a bigger than life birdcage.

Using fantasy rooms from the 18th and 19th century as our examples, the anteroom has had the mouldings antique copper gilt to represent the metalwork of a bird cage. Our talented wallpaper installation team have taken multiple wallpaper patterns and created panels of lattice, faux gilt mouldings and views of the foliage and fauna, also momentarily captivated in the gilded cage.

Colors in the Lady’s Waiting Room reflect the femininity of the space embracing shades of rose pink, soft greens and Dubonnet on a rich antique white and gold gilt field. The gilding is antiqued to reflect the sage elegance of the room. Antique Oriental rugs from Nazmiyal mimic the colors found in the fabrics and wallcoverings, while the furniture and lighting, all supplied by Art and Tradition, in the room make the space not only dance with light and reflection, but add a charm all their own with carved wood foliage, Murano glass and Venetian mirrors.

There is little artwork in the anteroom. The wallpaper panels are a combination of four different papers and borders from Brewster and Thibaut. Lush fabrics from Plumridge Silks and trims from the Jamie Gibbs Vintage Collection for D’Kei at the window carry the small room. A Howard Miller French Banjo clock, Murano glass sconces and chandeliers and Venetian mirrored furnishings from Art and Tradition complete the fantasy birdcage theme and compliment the patterns found in the space. They almost disappear with the chaos of pattern!

The water closet has poor proportions. The original ceiling is much too high for the width and length of the room, thus making it feel close and unwelcoming. Jamie Gibbs and Associates have chosen to correct the ceiling height issue. Shirring yards and yards of silk taffeta from Plumridge Silks on the upper walls of the room and tenting the ceiling in the same silk fabric, will lower the wall height and correct the proportions. A Murano glass chandelier will be hung from the center of the ceiling. Complimentary sconces will flank the large Venetian and Murano glass mirror over the vanity. Antique Limoges accessories, fine monogrammed linens and fresh flowers will complete the look.

A new hammered copper sink from Native Trails and faucets from Rohl will replace the original fixtures. These will reflect the overall lush décor and accent the use of gilt metals in both rooms. The same fabrics will appear in the water closet as at the window of the anteroom. To bridge the original white tile with the shirred fabric walls, we will install a scalloped valance of fabric with decorative trim over the top edge of the tile work. Complimenting the posh décor of the water closet will be high-end accessories such as soaps, scents and lotions. Containers will reflect the fine craftsmanship and detail used in the chandeliers, sconces and decorative accessories.

The show house will be open to the public Tuesday through Sunday, May 1-31, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. A boutique and café will be open on the grounds. Show house tickets will be available at \$35 per person at the door (\$25 if purchased in advance) and \$20 for seniors. For tickets call the VNACJ special events office at 732-224-6791, or order online at www.statelyhomesbythesea.com

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE “LADY’S WAITING ROOM”

Adaptive Textiles
Art and Tradition
Benjamin Moore
Brewster Wallcoverings
C & R custom Window Treatments
D’Kei, Inc.
Hunter Douglas Window Fashions
Modern Masters
Native Trails
Nazmiyal Antique Rugs
Plumridge Silks
Rohl
Thibaut Wallcoverings



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