

Bathing beauty

Cool, calm and collected best describes this master suite, part of a contemporary remodeling project

It's not always easy to judge the age of a house, especially when it has undergone a succession of modernizing remodels over the years. The contemporary look of this house, both inside and out, is a far cry from its original 1920s Dutch Colonial architecture.

Architect Aaron Mollick, of Stuart Silk Architects, says the latest remodeling was focused mainly on the interior.

"The owners wanted a contemporary spirit, but it needed to be a look that wouldn't date," Mollick says. "White is a color that has been carried right through the house – it offsets the frequently gray weather in Seattle."

The master bedroom consequently features white walls and white-stained rift-cut oak boards similar to the living areas. The existing fireplace was reclad in large slabs of Carrara stone, and a modern cantilevered hearth added.

In remodeling the house, the design team reorganized the layout of the master suite, rearranging and simplifying the order of the closets and the his-and-hers bathrooms. The wife's bathroom, shown on these pages, is now slightly larger than before.

Mollick says the owners requested natural stone, so the Carrara is carried through to the bathroom. Here it is used in various formats – mosaics on the floor, larger subway-style tiles in the shower and slabs on the vanity.

"We allowed the materials to express the detailing, which has been stripped down to the barest minimum. This allows the fixtures to be sculptural elements in their own right. The large freestanding tub, for example, has a very organic form that contrasts with the more linear aspects of the bathroom."

Mollick says the tub is also deep enough to allow full immersion, and is positioned to maximise a spectacular view. The shower, which is essentially a wet area, is also placed so the view can be enjoyed by day and night.

Left: White walls and bed linen, and a white-stained oak floor give this remodeled master bedroom a crisp, contemporary look. The renovation, by Stuart Silk Architects, included recladding the existing fireplace in slabs of Carrara stone. The cantilevered hearth and mantel are also new.



Architect: Stuart Silk Architects (Seattle, WA)
Builder: Schultz Miller, Inc
Vanity: Painted in Benjamin Moore Misty Gray, by Cornerstone Cabinetry
Basin: Carrara marble by Lambert Marble & Tile
Faucets and shower fittings: Dornbracht
Tub: Waterworks Chord
Shower stall: Tara chrome
Walls: Benjamin Moore White Diamond
Tile floors: Carrara marble mosaic from Ann Sacks
Wall tiles: Carrara marble running board from Ann Sacks

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Left: The bathroom is lined with Carrara stone used in a number of different formats, including mosaic tiles on the floor. Because there are two bathrooms in the suite, this room has just one basin, which is integrated into the Carrara stone slab. The organic form of the freestanding Chord tub helps to soften visually the more angular elements in the room. The room opens to a terrace that leads to a roof deck.