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"A well-proportioned coffee table is your pebble in the pond everything else ripples out from there." JEFF LINCOLN











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BATH OF THE MONTH

Design by KARIN EDWARDS

Des Moines, Iowa

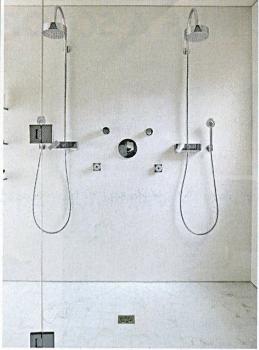
Rich walnut paneling envelops a master bath, giving it the polished air of a gentleman's dressing room. Interview by LISA CREGAN

Photographs by JASON DONNELLY



BATH OF THE MONTH







LISA CREGAN: Now this is a bathroom a man wouldn't mind sharing!

KARIN EDWARDS: My husband loves it. It's handsome and kind of clubby. I wanted a little bit of a gentleman's dressing room feel, hence the wood paneling and a vanity styled like a bureau. But it has girly, glimmery elements, too, like the beaded chandelier. It's very romantic, much more than a white room would have been.

That tub niche certainly adds to the romance.

It's the focal point. The ceiling is very highly polished—skim-coated and sanded and painted in high gloss. At night when the chandelier is on, it glows like poured milk.

That's a very sexy tub.

And you sit up so comfortably because of the tall back. It's a modern take on an old-fashioned Victorian slipper tub.

Do you worry about hav-

ing fine art over the tub?

No. It might get a little more wear and tear than in another room, but not significantly. If you have art, you should enjoy it. This is an extremely bold graphic, and it's one of those things that has the power to hold a room all by itself.

Is the floor marble?

It's ceramic tile that looks like marble. It won't stain or scratch, and it's easier to clean. I did the shower floor in smaller squares. When you're doing a shower without a threshold, the floor has to be sloped for the water to drain, and smaller tile works better. Plus, the extra grout helps it to be more slip-resistant.

The fixtures look almost industrial.

I love that! Yes! Love shiny chrome. I have an unnatural love of plumbing, in fact. These shower pipes are objects of lust for me. They remind me of a primitive outdoor shower, which is so refreshing. And the sink faucets! They're so beautiful, so minimal—perfect working machines. If they were cars, they'd be Maseratis. Let's get back to those double showerheads.

When my late father-inlaw saw the room, he said, 'Why do you need two showers?' And we said, 'If you have to ask...'

That glass wall—what's the privacy factor?

It's opaque. The window on the opposite wall lets light through to the toilet room, but that's all. You can't see into it from the shower!

What's your favorite thing in the room?

I think it's the way the door to the toilet is disguised. It folds. But that's a cute little toilet, isn't it? I really don't mind looking at it.

FOR MORE DETAILS, GO TO HOUSEBEAUTIFUL.COM/ RESOURCES SHE LIKES

"This perfume is soft and citrusy, but also woody and spicy. It's a unisex fragrance, but I think a woman wears it better."



GYPSY WATER EAU DE PARFUM; BYREDO.COM.

ABOVE LEFT: A folding door opens to reveal the toilet room, which is discreetly separated from the shower by an opaque glass wall. ABOVE **CENTER:** Ceramic wall tiles with a metallic sheen set off chrome his-andhers shower pipes with seven-inch rain showerheads. ABOVE RIGHT: Kohler sinks transition seamlessly into the Corian countertop framing the custom walnut vanity.

GET THE LOOK...

Amalfitub: vandabaths.com. Opera tub filler: artos-westover.com.

Evi Style Fall chandelier:

Axor Citterio shower pipes and faucets: hansgrohe-usa.com.

Carrara Blanco Brillo floor tile, Cubica Blanco wall tile: porcelanosa-usa.com.

Eco Nexus toilet: totousa.com.

Kathryn sinks: kohler.com. Medicine cabinets:

robern.com.

Tulip sconces: vibialight.com.