

# An Eye For Detail

Luxury and livability cohabit in an apartment in one of Boston's most coveted buildings.

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The living room's material mix combines walls of gold laminate enclosed in glass, a bronze-rubbed fireplace surround, and petrified-wood tiles. **FACING PAGE:** The entry hall rotunda features a site-specific ceramic installation by Bradley Sabin, a Jonathan Browning light fixture, an Ironies table, and a Kyle Bunting hide rug.





Right angles are scarce in the space. A window sitting area features Swaim chairs covered in Holland & Sherry wool, a low-pile velvet ottoman, and a custom rug. **FACING PAGE, TOP:** The living room seating is centered around a John Pomp Tidal cocktail table. **FACING PAGE, BOTTOM:** In the corridor is Bernhardt's silver-clad Flora credenza.



When Tiffany LeBlanc met with new clients who had purchased a unit in One Dalton, the sky-high location of Boston's Four Seasons Hotel and Private Residences, she recalls the husband emphasizing that, despite the building's rarefied pedigree, he didn't want to live in a museum.

"Everything was supposed to be livable, not so precious that you need to be in a starched shirt to live there," says LeBlanc.

For the designer, however, livability by no means translated into rough-and-ready grand-kid-friendly fabrics and furnishings. Architect Anne Snelling-Lee, who worked with LeBlanc to realize and detail her designs, says, "It's the most luxurious project I've ever worked on. It had so many applied finishes."

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*—INTERIOR DESIGNER TIFFANY LEBLANC*



**ABOVE:** The custom Venegas and Company kitchen highlights an Ann Sacks metal-tile backsplash, custom hood, and an island crafted from slices of stone suspended in resin. **FACING PAGE:** Erinn V.'s Barker chairs surround a Keith Fritz table near a Dirk De Bruycker painting and a custom parchment buffet with a hydraulic-lift bar in the dining room.

The first task, recalls LeBlanc, was to combine two units, since her clients decided to buy the next-door apartment to gain square footage, adding 1,450 square feet to the initial 2,800. The team, which also included Tony Salem of Sea-Dar Construction, removed the original entry door and created a long hallway, maximizing the apartment's ample fenestra-

tion. Visitors now enter via a rotunda swathed in luminous Venetian plaster.

The living room telegraphs a luxe vibe with a custom-colored steel fireplace surround. Above it are dramatically grained petrified-wood tiles and, around the whole composition, glass walls sandwiching a metallic sheet of laminate that emanates a rosy-gold glow. The





aubergine rug, notes LeBlanc, “creates a balance between lights and darks.” This, combined with a velvet chenille sofa and a coffee table of rolled amber glass, imparts a jewel-toned richness to the room. “We were conscious of having something that had soul, not another all-gray apartment,” explains LeBlanc.

The room sets the mood for the rest of the home, which, just like the living room, mixes various types of stone (all from Cumar Couture Stone) and metals with custom millwork. “Color is used sparingly,” says LeBlanc. “It’s more moment driven.”

LeBlanc’s ambitious vision called for many unusual finishes. The kitchen island, for example, comprises slices of stone suspended in resin. So as not



**RIGHT:** Herrick & White rubbed the bathroom cabinetry with gold powder for a mellow sheen.

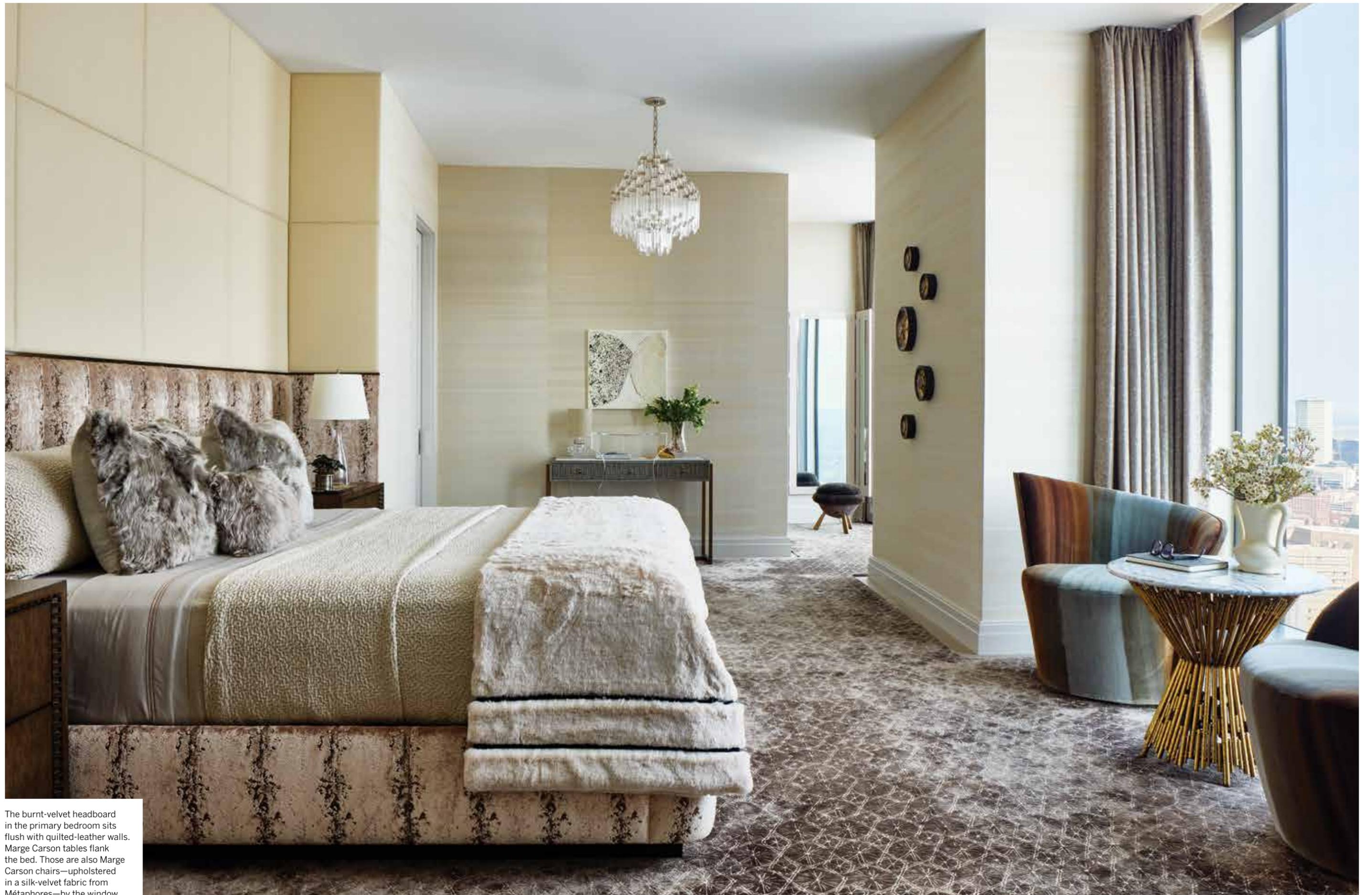
**BELOW:** In a guest room, hand-painted Alpha Workshops wallpaper purchased through Dennis Miller New York, a Rosemary Hallgarten alpaca rug, and crystal pendant sconces lend a luxe yet tranquil vibe. **FACING PAGE:** A Phillip Jeffries wallcovering envelops a bedroom that sleeps six—infant trundles pop out of the lower beds—while a Rosemary Hallgarten alpaca carpet provides a soft landing.



to see cooking implements stored inside through the transparent gaps of resin, Snelling-Lee wrapped the entire underside of the island in bronze. One bathroom’s cabinetry called for cerusing the wood with gold powder. Another bath showcases impressive slabs of onyx.

Upper bunks in a bunk room (the homeowners have four grandchildren) were particularly tricky. LeBlanc’s design cantilevered two of the beds from the wall, suspending the opposite ends from holes drilled into the deck above and anchored in epoxy. The system is concealed within metal pipes with hand-finished surfaces.

Even window treatments were a challenge, observes Julie Murphy, principal of Designer Draperies of Boston. “We needed three layers on almost all the windows to limit sun exposure,” she says. These included roller shades, a second shade made of



The burnt-velvet headboard in the primary bedroom sits flush with quilted-leather walls. Marge Carson tables flank the bed. Those are also Marge Carson chairs—upholstered in a silk-velvet fabric from Métaphores—by the window.

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—ARCHITECT ANNE SNELLING-LEE



**ABOVE:** The primary bedroom’s walk-in closet boasts high-gloss lacquer interiors and cabinetry by Masterpiece Woodworks. **LEFT:** The same company created a carved fluted vanity with onyx countertops, which are illuminated by Jonathan Browning sconces. **FACING PAGE:** The bathroom’s shower features slab onyx walls and an onyx-tile floor.



hand-cultivated, hand-stripped, and hand-woven fibers from Indonesia, and, finally, stationary drapery.

That level of detail reaches every nook of the apartment. “You had to pay attention to so many components,” Salem says. “You had to bring care to the way you handled them.” Of his many One Dalton projects, he concludes, “This one tops them all.”

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** For details, see Resources.

**INTERIOR DESIGN:** Tiffany LeBlanc, LeBlanc Design

**INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE:** Anne Snelling-Lee, a+sl Studios

**BUILDER:** Tony Salem, Sea-Dar Construction

**KITCHEN DESIGN:** Venegas and Company

