

THE MAGAZINE OF THE MART SHOWROOMS

# DESIGN CHICAGO

**AT HOME  
WITH  
JOHNSON  
HARTIG OF  
LIBERTINE**

**INSPIRED  
BY NATURE**  
BRINGING THE  
OUTDOORS IN

**GLAMOUR WITH  
AN EDGE** WHERE ROCK AND  
FASHION COLLIDE

THE  
MART

INSIDE:  
SHOWROOM  
DIRECTORY



# ROCK "N" ROLL *fantasy*

The family room's wing chairs are covered in hide from **Garrett Leather** available through **Watson Smith**. Sofa upholstery is from **Pindler**; Pillow trim from **Samuel & Sons**; Lantern from **Currey & Co**, through **CAI Designs**. Artwork by Allison Cosmos. Greek & Roman busts line the home.

HEATHER MILLIGAN INFUSES HER LAKE FOREST  
HOME WITH BIG PERSONALITY

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INTERIOR DESIGN BY HEATHER MILLIGAN, HM DESIGN





In the kitchen, a matte black faucet from **Graff**, a custom hood with a three-inch-thick skull design, and leather stools with a hot-pink hide back from **Garrett Leather**, through **Watson Smith**, add a sense of continuity. Tiles from **Artistic Tile**.

**S**kulls, antique portraits, and a predominantly black, white, and hot-pink color palette don't usually factor in with more traditional moldings, tailored wallcoverings, and English-style hardware. But for a designer with a background in fashion and a love for cutting-edge icons like the late Alexander McQueen, realizing the unexpected is vital. In her home and personal design lab, Heather Milligan deftly illustrates how to incorporate explosions of color, texture, pattern in a superb mix of old and new.

"The vibrancy of my house is in part a result of working on homes where the client wants a serene, sophisticated, and neutral palette—which I love. But I often need color and the emotional energy and joy it provides," explains the designer.



The coffee bar's striking black-and-white Panda marble is complemented by artwork by Francine Turk, lighting from **Visual Comfort** through **CAI Designs**, and a brass faucet from **Perrin & Rowe**, through **K&B Galleries** and **House of Rohl**.



A textural rug underfoot grounds the light-filled room. **Christian LaCroix** pillows through **Osborne & Little**, and a black skull pillow add drama.



A Manila Hemp wallpaper in a vibrant honeysuckle colorway forms the perfect backdrop for Milligan's beloved portraits. Slipcovered chairs in fabric from **Kravet**, a chandelier from **Visual Comfort**, and a vintage lacquered console complete the look. A glimpse into the entryway showcases a mesmerizing black-and-white wallpaper by **Phillip Jeffries**.



The light-filled family room—a Milligan revamp—features just such a bold palette, with elegant drapery and a stately Ralph Lauren coffee table to balance out the edgy aesthetic. “It’s in-your-face loud,” she laughs, “but every time you walk in, a new discovery will unfold even though it’s been there all along.” Milligan designed the room’s chic coffee bar—a point of pride—during the pandemic, outfitting it with a dazzling, black-and-

white stone, and custom cabinetry in a brilliant fuchsia-hued paint. Bulky, Classic Brass hardware adds a traditional touch. In the adjacent kitchen, a fresh, clean palette was implemented to combat its small footprint. Countertops from Artistic Tile, stools in white leather contrasted with a hot-pink hide back, and a custom hood with a hand-cast skull add interest.

The dining room—a perfect example of Milligan’s melding of

periods and styles—features portraits the designer inherited from her parents after a move over a vivid, Phillip Jeffries wallpaper, busts, and a vintage dining table embellished with decorative objects. Meanwhile, a previously screened-in porch was given new life as a cozy, family-friendly sunroom with a vented fireplace and a heated marble chevron floor. A graphic Holly Hunt wallpaper on the ceiling creates a “wow” moment.



**Top:** A lounge chair offers the perfect perch in which to take in the room’s quirky artwork—notorious rockstar mugshots included. Wallcovering by **Phillip Jeffries**.

**Above:** A table from **Baker Furniture** was covered in a bright pink fabric from **Schumacher**, and repurposed as an ottoman. Black-and-white artworks by Allison Cosmos. Fabric on lounge chairs from **Osborne & Little**.





A striking, crocodile wallpaper from **Ralph Lauren**, through **Kravet** defines the breakfast room. Lighting from **Visual Comfort** through **CAI Designs**.



The main bedroom features Queen of Spain drapery fabric from **Schumacher**; **Pindler** fabric on the headboard, which the designer gold-leafed; and edgy, yet fun, custom artwork.

“It is incredibly important to me that every room in the house is fully functional,” explains Milligan of her penchant to repurpose rooms to maximize usability. A swanky breakfast room with various other iterations is covered in a black crocodile wallcovering from Ralph Lauren enhanced by compelling neon artwork. Equally rock n’ roll, the main bedroom features provocative artwork, black and white curtains, and a headboard the designer gold-leafed herself. In her husband’s office, Milligan went for a more subdued effect, covering the walls in an Oxford-like wool textile that offers intimacy. Framed mugshots of

famous rock stars and a bust keep to the theme. Milligan likens her home’s design evolution to changing shoes and outfits over and over. “I’ll often ask my husband what he thinks when I have a new idea and his response is usually ‘that’s the dumbest idea of I’ve heard,’” she says. “But I tend to move at the speed of sound, so he drives away having delivered that one liner, then he returns home only to find it’s all done, and begrudgingly changes his tune. It’s a: ‘it’s really cool, you were right’ type of thing. He doesn’t always understand but he always ends up loving it. How cool is that?” ■