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spaces

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COVER STORY

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MANTIS DESIGN & BUILD

MA PETERSON DESIGN BUILD



54 | FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

Good as Gold

These three projects
earned
CotY gold awards

Challenges meet
solutions in these three
2017 CotY winners

TIM LEMKE CONSTRUCTION





Category: Residential Bath \$50,001-\$75,000
 Winner (gold): **Mantis Design & Build**

The objective of this project was a resplendent bathroom, Mantis writes in its submission: “Ready to create a new setting in which to begin and end each day, the homeowner of this urban residence wanted to maximize the usable space of her master bathroom while maintaining the same footprint. Removing a large corner bathtub that was never used and replacing it with a spacious and luxurious shower transformed this oddly configured and inefficient bathroom into one that perfectly fit her rhythm and lifestyle.

“Modern urban chic design elements, with organic touches throughout, help create a serene zen-like setting. A large rain shower set up inside the skylight provides a heav-

ily showering experience. Ambient light, rich tones and textures, and custom touches throughout, add to this truly extraordinary master bath. The original tiny master bath shower was barely large enough for one person. Getting to it required squeezing past the toilet.

“The goal was to strike a nice balance between urban-elegance and industrial-modern styles. Adding ‘wood’ tile to the shower floor, walls and ceiling, gave this space a rich organic feel without the maintenance of real wood. This brings a softer element and some warmth to an otherwise more industrial feel the 2-by-4-foot large format concrete tiles create. The tile layout was carefully planned so that

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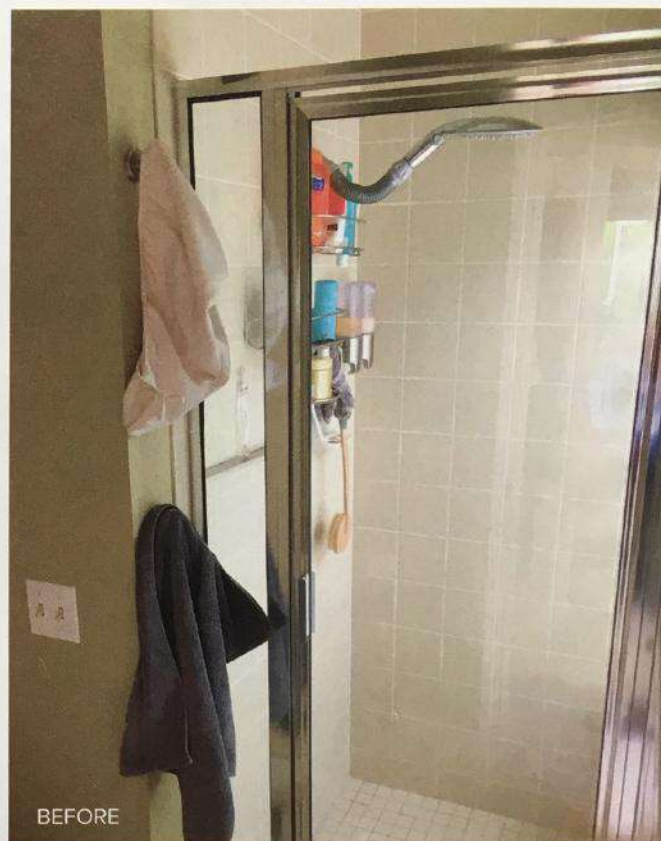
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visual continuity and the impression of real wood could be maintained as best as possible. Applying slender slat-like tile to the floor creates the real wood look of a tatami mat. Wood tiles were carefully placed to make it seem like no two tiles were alike.

“To create a luxurious showering experience and as though you were being bathed by rain from the clouds high above, a large 16-inch rain shower was set up inside the skylight well.”

The challenges were great, Mantis explains: “With a significant tile plan and large format tiles throughout, getting these set right was a challenge. Walls, floors and ceilings had to plane out well, be plumb and level since the larger a tile is, the less forgiving they become. Setting these tiles in place required great skill and lots of patience.

“To keep the shower free of edging, all outside corner tiles were hand mitered to create a beautiful look and maintain consistent grout lines throughout. Working with a ceramic artisan, wall-mounted ceramic planters were custom made for the shower wall to bring some living elements into this light filled space. Specially designed to hold just the right amount of water, these planters can be watered irregularly without the worry of over or under watering. A hidden overflow hole at the bottom front edge keeps drips off the walls.”



As seen on the cover of 2017 Spaces Before & After Issue

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Mantis describes the solutions: “The original bathroom had been cramped and compartmentalized and included a large unused corner bathtub that was taking up significant floor space. A second bathroom adjacent to the master bath had a bathtub so the homeowner felt she would be much happier taking her one bath a year there, while maximizing her master bath to reflect how it would actually be used.

“This opened up the bathroom to create a more expansive and efficient layout. Ditching the bathtub and removing the dividing walls that housed the tiny shower and toilet gave way to creating a luxury experience that actually fit the homeowner’s lifestyle. The new large and open shower was placed right below the skylight and a new linen cabinet filled the space left by the old shower. Seeing the potential for creating an extraordinary showering experience, a large rain shower was set up into the skylight to create the illusion of water falling from the sky above.

“This master bath remodel completes the vision of creating a luxurious and transformational space that not only helps to cleanse the body, but the mind and spirit as well. Filled with the right amount of elegance, playfulness, warmth and modern-urban touches throughout, this space is inviting, nurturing, purifying and is a truly resplendent way to start and end each day.”

Custom Stained Glass

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