

## WHAT'S NEW WITH SHEILA?

**SHEILA OWNS** Harlem Toile de Jouy, a product line that makes wallpaper, fabrics, glasses, bedding and furniture. "Toiles are decorating patterns with generally, satirical pictorial stories," she says. "I'd always loved toile fabrics, but when it came time to find one for my own home, I couldn't find one that spoke to me as an African-American. So I created a line that tells stories about African-American rural roots and the Great Migration."



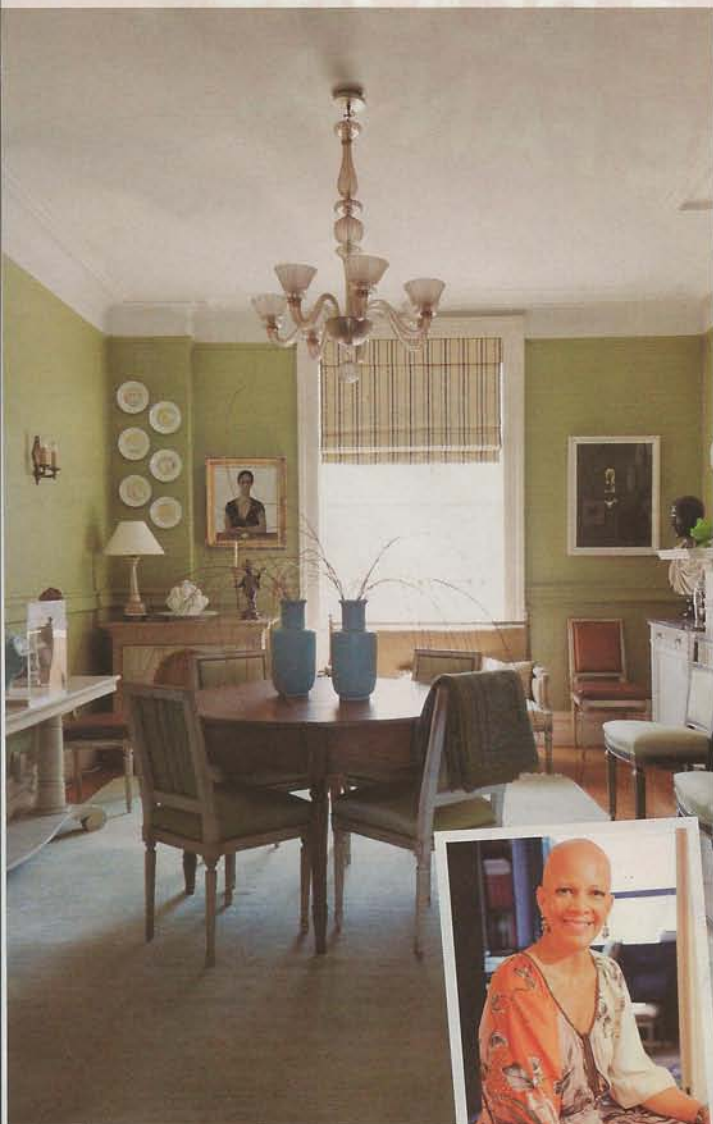
**1. and 2.** Harlem Toile de Jouy and Hopscotch Wallpaper (\$150 per roll, minimum order of four rolls; sheilabridges.com) **3.** High Ball Drinking Glasses (\$62.50 per set of six; sheilabridges.com) **4.** Limited Edition Plates (\$82.50 per set of six; sheilabridges.com)



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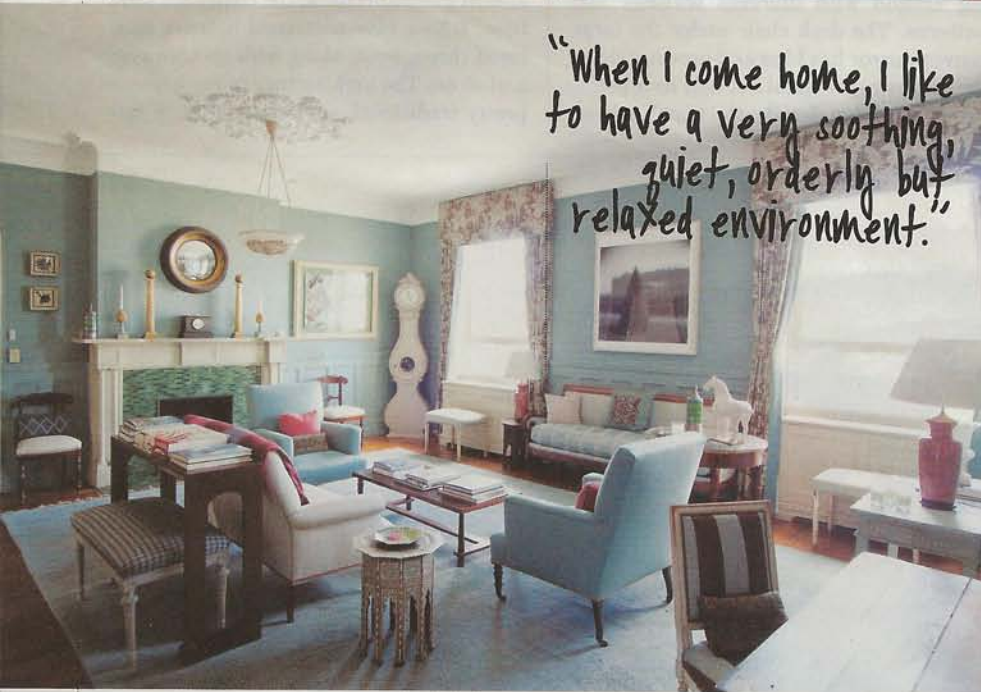
# At Home *with* Sheila and Courtney

TWO OF OUR MOST RENOWNED INTERIOR DESIGNERS SHOWCASE THEIR CONTRASTING DESIGN STYLES *By* TARA ROBERTS

**S**heila Bridges, who was once named by CNN and Time magazine as America's Best Interior Designer, allowed us to take a peek into her classic Harlem home. And Courtney Sloane, who has designed sets for *America's Next Top Model*, an attraction for Disney and homes for entertainers such as Queen Latifah, gave us an all-access pass

to her eclectic Jersey City, N.J., loft. Both prove that design is highly personable—just check out their widely differing design philosophies. But if you read between the lines, you'll also find an underlying complementary idea shared by these two powerhouse designers. They both believe that what you love matters more than any strict design rules. Their ultimate advice: Keep mixing it up until you find and can fully embrace your own unique expression.

Top left: Inside Sheila Bridges' lovely dining room of her Harlem home. Top right: Courtney Sloane's living room wall is filled with old family photos.



"When I come home, I like to have a very soothing, quiet, orderly but relaxed environment."

mality in my living room. But I added the varying textures and patterns to give it that modern feel."

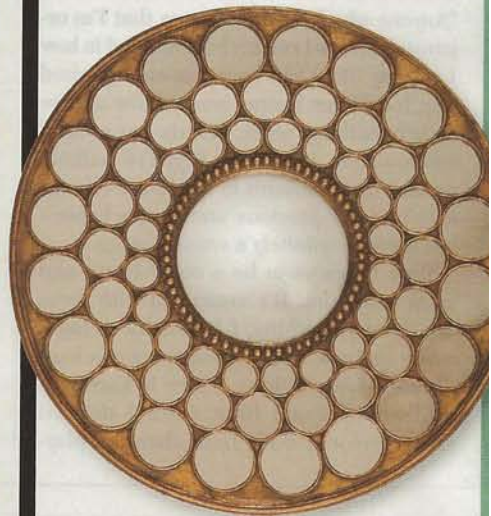
**BEST ADVICE**

"Find key investment pieces that create a stylish signature look. I have quite a few Swedish Gustavian pieces from the 1700s, including my Mora longcase clock. I love that clock. I think it's something people take notice of when they come to my apartment. Same with the large French convex mirror that hangs over the antique desk,

which is also striking. I think it's important to own a few significant pieces that are of really good quality, have superior workmanship and will retain their value. These types of pieces can last for the next 30 years. So even though they may seem expensive now, they will be bargains in the long run. And remember, you can always change color or fabric or some other decorative detail later if you want to punch it up a bit. But right out of the gate, be thoughtful and invest wisely in the bigger, more substantial pieces in your home.

# Get the Look

SHEILA'S EYE-CATCHING ORNAMENTAL PIECES CAN RUN AS MUCH AS \$11,000 EACH, BUT WE FOUND SOME WAYS TO GET HER SIGNATURE ANTIQUE LOOK FOR A FRACTION OF THE COST



Convex Round Mirror (\$278; malleryhall.com)



Antique-White Secretary Desk (\$1,399; neimanmarcus.com)



Howard Miller Hanover Chili Red Quartz Floor Clock (\$1,182; theclockdepot.com)