

remodeled bathrooms

In character

Remodeled bathrooms often work best when they respect the era of the house, while introducing every modern convenience





Glory days

1930s Hollywood glamour is recaptured in the lavish tiling and Moorish motifs of this remodeled master suite in a designer's own home

There was a fair amount of serendipity behind the design of this remodeled bathroom in a classic Hollywood house built in 1926.

Architect Linda Brettler, co-owner of the house, says she always wanted a vintage Art Deco bathroom that would reflect the glamour of old Hollywood, and consequently specified a soft lavender-blue custom tile for the walls.

"The tiles in the first batch were rejects – they had been double glazed and were very uneven," Brettler says. "But I opened up the box and loved the variations, which gave the tiles a very handmade look. So the mistake turned out to be a blessing in disguise."

Brettler says the color also was slightly different from what had been specified. But it matched the bluish bark on

a beautiful sycamore tree just outside the window, so that was also serendipitous. The green and yellow shades of the leaves are captured inside as well, in the custom-designed Moorish tile border pattern that encircles the lower walls.

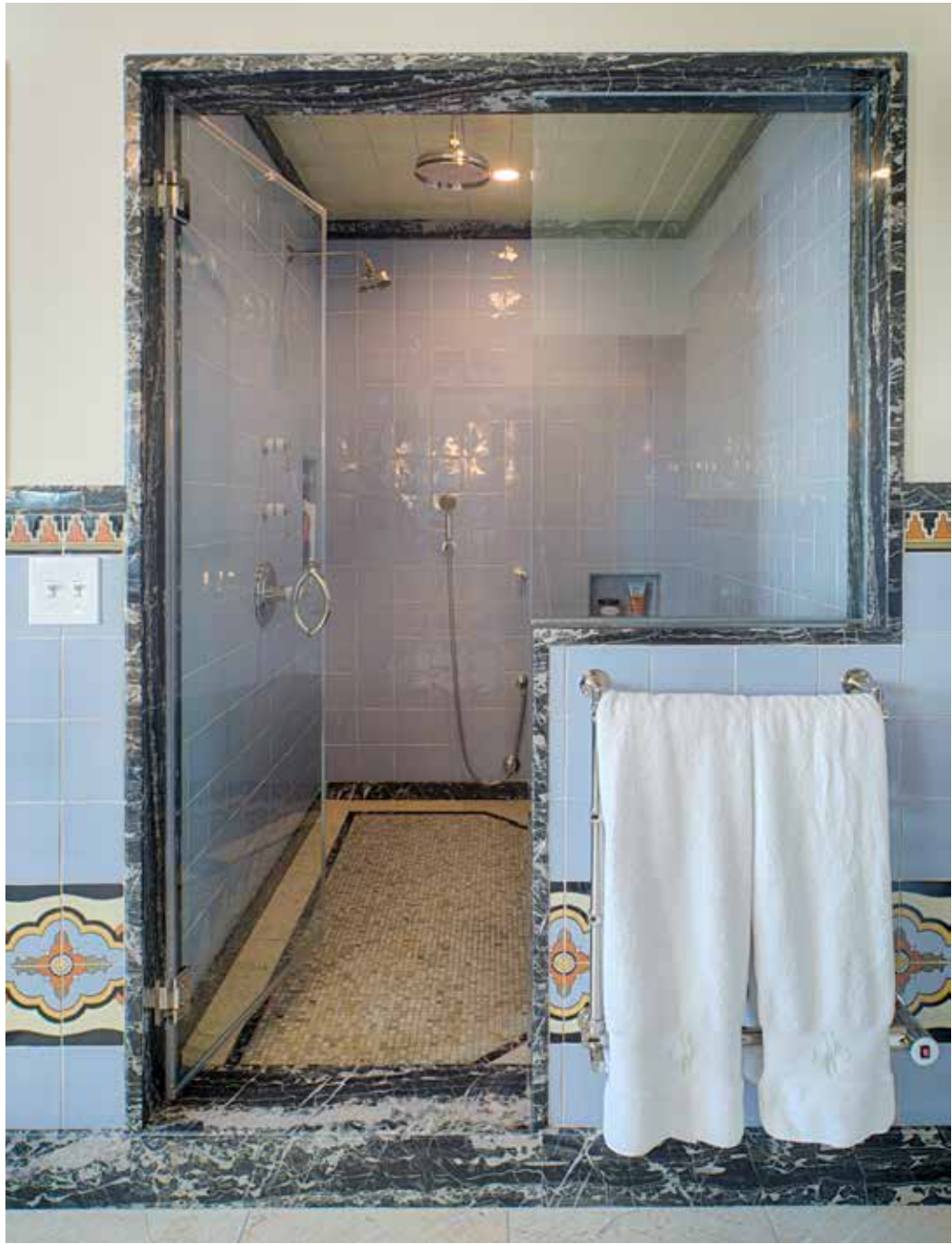
Visual continuity is a key part of the design, and can be seen in the use of materials, and in a stepped Deco motif that features throughout the

suite. The motif frames the opening between the dressing room and bathroom, and can also be seen in the shape of the soffits that enclose the vanity area and tub. Even the mouldings have a similar stepped profile. And the tops of the mirrors and facings on the vanities are also stepped.

"This Art Deco ziggurat detail and the mosaic tiles are often seen in Spanish and

Preceding pages: More than 20 types of tile feature in this Art Deco '30s-style master suite in a heritage home in Hollywood. Architect Linda Brettler chose lavender-blue wall tiles, with decorative custom-designed border patterns.

These pages: A black-and-cream striated marble frames all the fixtures, mirrors and windows. The main window, formerly in a closet, was enlarged to maximize the view. The floor features natural stone tiles.



These pages: Lavender tiles are teamed with cream-colored grouting throughout the bathroom, but the ceiling in the steam shower reverses this. Small mosaics provide a slip-resistant floor for the shower.

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