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HOME+DESIGN

# 2009

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This Woodside  
residence by  
Charles De Lisle  
was a natural  
winner, p. 106



2009 CH+D AWARD FOR  
SHOWCASE  
HOUSE DESIGN



CANDACE BARNES  
CANDACE BARNES, SAN FRANCISCO  
SALON



Candace Barnes' affinity for opulent European design is expressed in the late 19th-century Baltic chandelier and smaller vignettes on the wall featuring intaglio seals.

**I**nspired by a series of 18th-century French and Austrian royal portraits, Candace Barnes used a regal palette, sparkling silver accessories and classical furnishings of her own design in her salon for the 2008 San Francisco Decorator Showcase. "When I went to the Marie Antoinette exhibit at the Legion of Honor, I thought, 'I want to create a space that would be suitable for Marie Antoinette in the present day.'"

For last year's Decorator Showcase, Barnes was assigned the enormous second-floor salon, with its massive marble fireplace, original moldings, parquet floors and wall of French doors. Choosing furnishings that would sparkle in the sun-filled room, Barnes upholstered a pair of her own Origami sofas in gleaming silk denim and covered the French doors with silk shantung draperies by DK Design. "I always look at design in terms of light," says Barnes. "In this room, it's really about transformation and changing light."

Barnes also preserved the room's classical molding, repainting it with pearlescent glazes, and applied silver leaf to the ceiling by hand for a smooth, shimmering quality.



Candace Barnes

Throughout the space, she juxtaposed opulent antiques with elements of nature—rare books stacked next to rock crystals, a giant piece of coral atop an Italian neoclassical commode. A custom table has a handwrought iron base that resembles entwined branches, and intaglio seals were framed for an elegant wall display. Mirrors and crystal accents—including a 19th-century Baltic chandelier—are repeated at every turn for an overall effect that is luminous yet earthy.

To accent the room's oyster-inspired color scheme, brilliant butterflies in Prussian blue and regal crimson are attached to the walls and ceiling and appear to flutter across the mirrors. Barnes purchased the butterflies from a Costa Rican harvester who farms them sustainably in a rainforest preserve. "The butterfly idea came from the fact that Marie Antoinette was an incredible gardener, and it conveys a sense of transformation." —Alicia Sabuncuoglu

PATRIC JARLES