

*In a nod to Hollywood
Regency, a Texas bath is
designed with ample glass
and opulent details.*

HOLLYWOOD heyday

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OPPOSITE: A freestanding tub is positioned to take advantage of the above window's natural light. The nearby vanity and swivel chair give the homeowner a place to get ready. THIS PHOTO: Interior designers Nancy Bulhon and Julia B. Collins used rich woods (the vanities and cabinetry) and gold accents (the hardware, mirror, and faucet) to create a sophisticated bath reminiscent of Hollywood's Golden Age.

THIS PHOTO: Candelabra sconces with textured glass and gold accents add to the bath's vintage flair. BELOW: Geometric pulls in a polished-brass finish pop against the dark wood vanity.



THOUGH ROOTED IN AUSTIN, TEXAS, JULIE AND BEN CRENSHAW HAVE A LOVE FOR CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTURE.

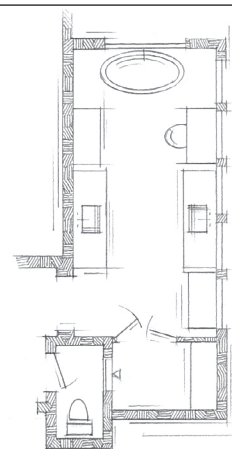
The couple knew they wanted to inject a bit of Hollywood glamour in the South when they decided to build a new home in the Tarrytown neighborhood. Architect Ryan Street and interior designers Nancy Bulhon and Julia B. Collins looked to the influence of renowned architect Paul R. Williams, who artfully blended Hollywood Regency and Georgian styles in the 1930s, in helping the Crenshaws build their new nest.

The first certified African-American architect west of the Mississippi, Williams designed homes mostly in Southern California for celebrity clients such as Frank Sinatra, Lucille Ball, and Desi Arnaz. "His work especially resonated with Julie, who grew up in Los Angeles, surrounded by this architecture," Bulhon says. Julie introduced it to her husband, a professional golfer and two-time Masters Tournament champ, who fell in love with the style, too. "Hollywood Regency is their vibe."

For the primary bathroom, ample amounts of glass and opulent details like unlacquered brass figure prominently. One entire wall overlooks greenery from their home's hillside location while a window above the sculptural tub offers views of a lake. "It was a design challenge working in a mirror and light fixtures around all the windows," Bulhon says. She cleverly placed a gleaming custom geometric mirror, which mimics the shape of the brass hardware found on the walnut vanity and storage cabinet, on the trim in between windows. Motorized shades tuck into the ceiling to minimize visual clutter.

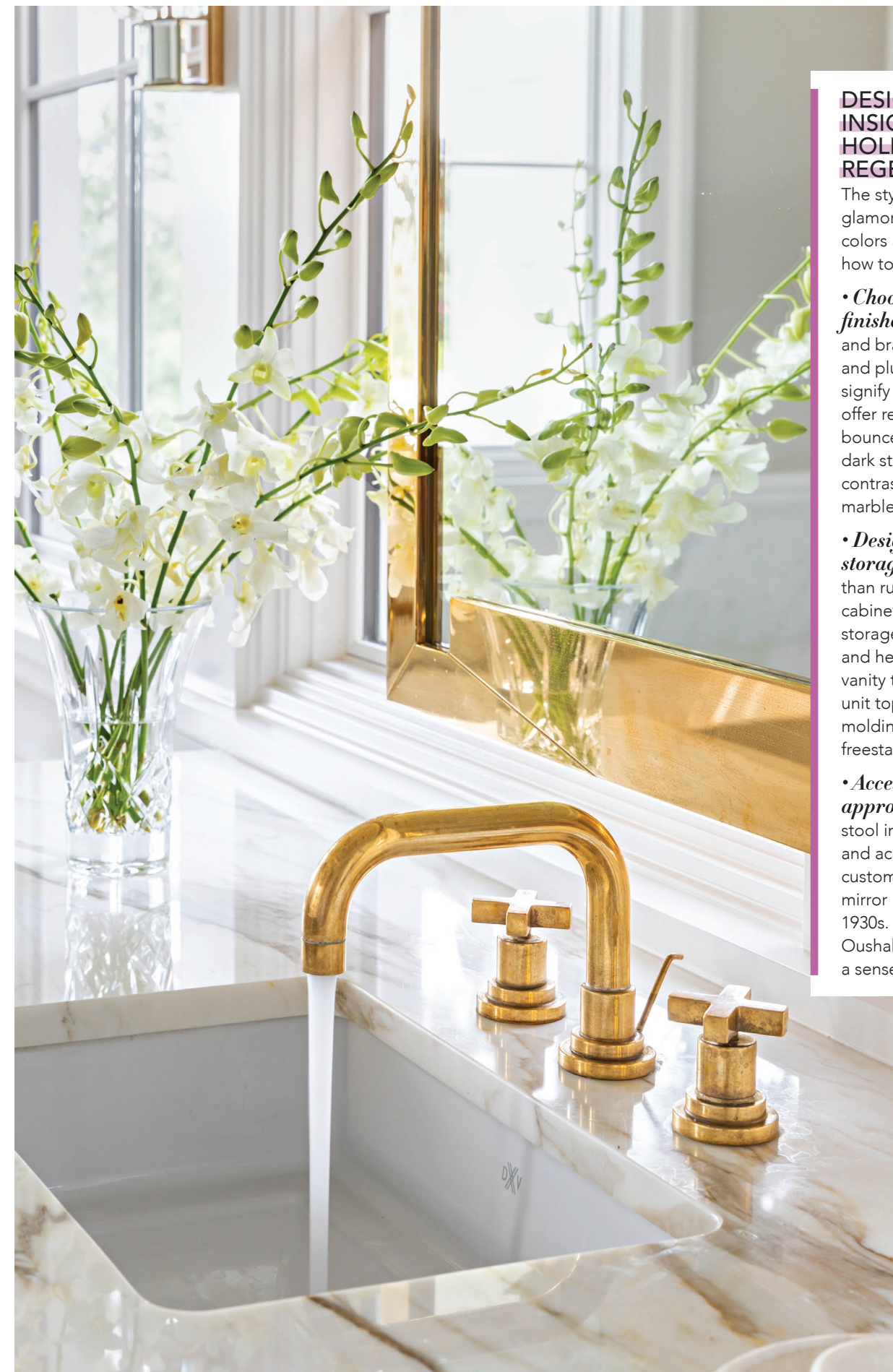
Marble countertops in Calacatta Borghini pick up the warm tones of the brass accents and contrast with the cool tones of the white marble flooring. That same white marble repeats in the frameless glass shower, which boasts both a rain showerhead and wall-mount fixtures for a truly luxurious experience. As a finishing touch, Bulhon dressed up one wall with a panel of polished mosaic marble tiles that effortlessly bridge the gap between past and present. Paul R. Williams would surely approve.

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the plan

Custom vanities sit parallel, flush against the wall and flanked by an armoire on one side and a vanity on the other. A freestanding tub sits at one end; the water closet and a walk-in shower are at the other.



DESIGNER INSIGHTS: HOLLYWOOD REGENCY

The style is eclectic and glamorous with contrasting colors and textures. Here's how to capture the look.

- **Choose the right finishes.** Crystal sconces and brass cabinet hardware and plumbing fixtures signify opulence and offer reflective surfaces to bounce light around. The dark stain on the cabinets contrasts with the white marble and pale walls.

- **Design various storage options.** Rather than running same-height cabinetry, add interest with storage units of varied sizes and heights. Here, a low vanity table and tall storage unit topped with crown molding mimic the look of freestanding furniture.

- **Accessorize appropriately.** A vanity stool in white leather and acrylic plastic and a custom geometric brass mirror hark back to the 1930s. Underfoot, a vintage Oushak rug adds color and a sense of history.

LEFT: This bath's grandeur is in its details: The countertops are dressed in Calacatta Borghini marble, and the U-spout faucet and cross knobs have brass patina.