

I find the best collaborations are with clients who have an open mind and an open spirit. I often learn as much from them as they learn from me. I recall the day the wife brought an image of a peacock-blue room to a meeting and asked me what I thought about it as a color for the dining room. At Parish-Hadley we had an entrance hall nearly that color, and I was immediately taken with her idea. I fine-tuned the concept by selecting an intense lacquer finish and a particularly rich hue. On the floor is a custom-made pony skin rug stitched in patches of gray. Works by Richard Prince and Richter hang on the walls.

The layout of the dining room is structured around the couple's constantly changing schedules. A traditional dining area with one long table wasn't for them. Instead, we designed two round tables and a set of tufted leather chairs. Since a central fixture would not have complemented this arrangement, I suggested we treat the lighting as another work of art. We brought in the artist Sharon Loudon, who works in glass and fiber optics, and she designed a remarkable ceiling of twinkling stalactites. In place of traditional crown molding, the walls curve directly into the light-filled ceiling.



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