

Designer



Siblings and Plaza Towers neighbors Andrea and Jason Moattar strike a pose in Jason's dramatic Indonesian stacked-stone foyer. The rug is from Moattar, Ltd.

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WHEN NEIGHBORS AT PLAZA TOWERS BORROW SUGAR FROM ONE ANOTHER, WE'RE SURE THEY DO SO WITH ALESSI SUGAR POTS AND PHILIPPE STARCK SPOONS. THIS HIGH-RISE IS A NESTING SPOT FOR MORE A-LIST DESIGNERS THAN WE CAN NAME. *PAPERCITY* VISITS THE URBAN-CHIC AERIES OF BROTHER-AND-SISTER FINE-RUG DEALERS JASON AND ANDREA MOATTAR AND ANTIQUARIAN DOTTY TRAVIS' ORANGE-CRUSH APARTMENT.

Individually, Jason and Andrea Moattar are enviably young, urbane and effortlessly stylish, but as a brother-sister pair, their combined powers are irresistible. These sophisticated siblings not only work side-by-side at Moattar, Ltd., the family business of exotic rugs founded by their Persian father and Russian-descent mother, but they have taken up dual residence in the twin towers of the suddenly cool Plaza Towers on Peachtree, built circa 1968.

Despite the siblings' shared genetics and dark, good looks, Jason's and Andrea's domestic spaces are radically different. Andrea's place has a serene, Zen-Miami vibe washed in turquoise blues, greens, taupes and chocolate browns. The mood is chilled out, relaxed glam. Jason's apartment is all about punchy graphics, shots of dramatic crimson and primitive artifacts, a nod to a very urban boutique hotel. The common threads shared between the two apartments? Lushly patterned carpets, courtesy of their business, and the feline grace of their beloved cats — Jason's gray tabby is Mister and Andrea's midnight-black cat answers to Bela ("as in Lugosi, not the Italian word for beautiful," says Andrea).

Right: Jason's Asian-meets-modern kitchen is covered in individual sheets of Oriental paper from Pierce Martin. The groovy Bombo table and stools are from Canton, and the textured leather rug is from Moattar, Ltd. Bamboo painting by Atlanta artist Clint Bearden.

Far right: Bombshell or muse, a blown-up photo of Pamela Anderson on 16 canvases, which Jason had custom-made at a local print shop, holds court in his dining room.

BY NANCY STAAB

PHOTOGRAPHY LAUREN RUBINSTEIN



Jason Moattar's aesthetic begins with his dramatic foyer: a rugged Indonesian stacked-stone wall, inset with carved figural relics that he refers to as "my little voodoo dolls." The earthy feel continues in the living room with its rich, one-of-a-kind Bamyan rug from Moattar, Ltd. Another prized piece is a beloved circle painting in eight pieces, created as a birthday present by friends Randy and Courtney Tlinski of Bangalore. The graphic artwork, which hangs above Jason's living room sofa, draws the eye like a target and adds a jolt of high-voltage red to Jason's otherwise neutral living room. The red color punch is repeated in a modern bench from Baker



Knapp & Tubbs, upholstered in cherry-red Coach leather, and a stylized black secretary with glossy red interiors. The piece, paired with a Philippe Starck Ghost chair, is a handsome launchpad for Jason's laptop. When friends gather in the evening, it's usually around a low-slung opium table in rattan and wood that holds vintage blown-glass wine carafes. "I would say my apartment is a mix of modern and primitive," says Jason. "I love primitive, tribal stuff but also sleek, clean lines." A circular, wrought-iron Eternity chandelier (again, the circle theme) by Paul Ferrante and a stately black screen, carved with pointed spires like a cathedral, are Gothic-like,

particularly at night when the steeples of three prominent Atlanta churches can be seen, illuminated, from Jason's terrace. His apartment, like Andrea's, has stunning skyline views suited for nighttime entertaining. The sultry mink-brown walls, the high-back banquettes in the dining room, a floor-to-ceiling mirror that bounces light from a second terrace, and two round dining tables, paired with suspended lights with circular lampshades, are drama itself. But the pièce de résistance has to be the blown-up black-and-white photo of bombshell Pamela Anderson, mounted on canvas and writ large in 16 pieces on a dining-room wall.

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Top left: Jason's sultry dining room, painted Benjamin Moore Mink Brown, has tufted banquettes custom-made by Techno-Sedia, a pair of dining tables from West Elm, rope chairs from Logan Gardens and cylindrical lamps and fused glass bottles from Pollen. The Tibetan warm stripe rug is from Moattar, Ltd. Top center: Shots of high-voltage red and intriguing art add punch to Jason's living room. The painting was a birthday present from the owners of Bangalore; the wrought-iron Eternity chandelier and opium table are from Ainsworth-Noah. The bench, covered in red Coach leather, is from Baker Knapp & Tubbs, and the rare Bamyan rug is from Moattar, Ltd. Top right: A black-and-red secretary from Williams-Sonoma Home, mirror from DRTC Studio and Philippe Starck Ghost chair.

Jason Moattar





Above: Andrea's seductive, tight-filled living room has a striking palette of chocolate brown and turquoise and sleek modern furnishings. The Zanotta leather sofa is from Domus, Lucite coffee table from Pacific Showrooms West and a Thai carved wood Dragon Temple relic from Allan Knight & Associates. The Grand Lily rug is from Moattar, Ltd., and the artwork above the sofa is by Tommy Moss.

Andrea Moattar

Ambient music and a hypnotic screen saver of shifting parabolas on a large flat-screen set a meditative mood in Andrea's sleekly modern refuge. Sure, the scored concrete floors, the light-filled terraces off the dining and living rooms, and the killer views of the Atlanta skyline were inherited, but the soothing color palette was created entirely by Andrea. "I've always loved the rich warmth of chocolate browns," she says. "When I brought in the 36 miniature paintings by artist Tommy Moss that hang over my living-room sofa, I was then able to pull in the blues from the artwork."

Asian notes abound in the form of a hallway Buddha votive, potted green specimens from Boxwoods Gardens & Gifts, miniature antique ginger jars and a mounted Thai Dragon Temple relic of carved wood that acts as a textural sculpture. Andrea mixes her modern with a few seasoned antiques, such as an 18th-century English secretary displaying her collections of antique English corkscrews and burlwood boxes or an assemblage of Russian impressionistic landscape paintings from Scott Antique Market — an ode to her art-history studies at American University.

A built-in banquette for two, covered in slate-gray silk, converts a tiny breakfast nook into something stylish, dominated by a large-scale abstract painting by Alabama artist Dixie Taylor Purvis. Lastly, Andrea's bedroom represents the ultimate in grown-up glam with a Pierre Frey mohair headboard, by designer Charlotte Herndon, with nail-head trim. "I work all day in the showroom with color and pattern, so at the end of the day, I like to come home to a Zen-like refuge," Andrea says.

Above: Bela reclines on crisp hotel sheets from Restoration Hardware. The serpentine mirrored table by Ironies is from Ainsworth-Noah. The lamp, constructed of an 18th-century floor tile, is from Jerry Pair & Associates, and the artwork is from Travis. The Pierre Frey mohair headboard was designed by Charlotte Herndon, and the wall color is Victoria Falls by Duron.

Right: The petite banquette in Andrea's kitchen is covered in a Shangri La slate-gray silk from Doughia. Above it hangs a painterly work by Dixie Taylor Purvis.

