

### INTROSPECTIVE MAGAZINE

#### **DESIGN STYLES**

#### The 1stDibs Virtual Showhouse: 10 Interior Designers Reimagine Iconic Rooms



Using fabulous finds from dealers and galleries around the world, contemporary architects and decorators put their own fresh spin on spaces that date from 80 B.C. to the 20th century.

by Jorge S. Arango

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# Grand Staircase, Presidential Suite, the Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia

Creator: Dorothy Draper • Built: 1913 • Designed: 1948

## REIMAGINED BY: COURTNEY MCLEOD, OF RIGHT MEETS LEFT INTERIOR DESIGN



"Sometimes she goes a little far," says New York interior designer <u>Courtney McLeod</u>, referring to the <u>maximalist</u> decorator <u>Dorothy Draper</u>, doyenne of modern <u>Baroque</u> style. "She liked a big gesture, and sometimes multiple big gestures in the same space. If I had to boil it down to one word, it would be *fearless*."

Exhibit A: This sweeping staircase at the Greenbrier — the West Virginia hotel that was arguably her most famous commission — with its scarlet carpet runner, über-stuffed and tufted double chaise and exuberant, floor-to-ceiling orchid-patterned wallpaper. McLeod's "a bit over-the-top" addition, she says, is a customized Geo wallpaper from the boutique hand-painted-paper company Porter Teleo. The same idea, McLeod says, underlies what Draper was doing and what she has added: "to overwhelm you in the space with something very beautiful. The palette paired with the mural really sets up that Art Deco vibe I'm going for."

what I was really attracted to with this, to challenge myself to do something different."



The Geo pattern obliquely evokes the era, as well as what came to be known as the signature "Draper touch." So do a contemporary Alexandre Logé Magritte pendant lamp (made of plaster, a favorite Draper material) and a round Ghirò Studio table ("It has an almost Machine Age feel to it, but a very refined and elegant one," says McLeod).

Other furnishings are more literally Deco, such as a round 1920s rug and 1940s armchairs by Jules Leleu and a Jacques Adnet leather room screen. Some are less expected. A Vladimir Kagan