

# Georgia ON MY MIND

INTERIOR DESIGN BY LAURA WALKER BAIRD  
STORY BY MALLORY HAMEL  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREW HORNE

In a leafy Atlanta neighborhood, a stunning classical revamp—the home of Meg Ibrahim—is a story-teller. Full of collections curated over the past several years, and designed by Laura Walker Baird (Laura Walker, Ltd., Verde Home), this house is proof that a good relationship with your creative muse makes a space your own work of art.

This is the third home that Laura has worked on for the Ibrahims. When she first began designing for the couple, she was thrilled that they wanted to purchase good quality furnishings: well-made and strong materials equal a priceless practicality. Over the years, as the Ibrahims have moved about town, so have their sentimental, tried-and-true (often vintage) belongings—giving Laura the pleasure of creating a space that carries the past into the future.

Throughout the house, neutral tones serve as the foundation for dashes of color and complimentary patterns (particularly textiles), found in the furniture, objet d'art and decorative

housewares. In the formal living room, two cream sofas sit adjacent to one another, separated only by a glass-top coffee table, and flanked by two deep sitting chairs. This area definitely conveys a note of sophistication, but the powerful placement of artwork within the room lends a heightened sense of appeal. Green-patterned pillows and chair cushions (by Baker, Knapp, and Tubbs) supply color and texture to this classical space.

In the foyer, a contemporary-meets-classical setting, rectangular and spherical forms fold together without distraction. Perfectly suited with the curvature of a demi-lune chest and the clean lines of its lamp, the area sets the mood for the rest of the home. A long runner with a subtle circular pattern, calls out to the other similar shapes—such as the round mirrors with an arced border of glass squares arranged in line just above the chest. These pieces ask you to pause for a moment, look into your reflection and carry yourself lightly.





In another section of the home, an inviting sitting room is comfortable and quiet. White recessed shelving (Verde Home), holds a variety of literature and assorted items of green hues. Adding companions to the celery-colored, high-backed McCartney reading chair by American Leather; next to which an I-Beam side table by SFMD resides. Long curtains made of fabric by F. Schumacher, dress one of the many windows in the room. Dotted with more circular designs, the curtains help to bring down (ever so slightly) the beaming sunshine coming through and give the ability to adjust to one's presence as the day moves forward. A pinstriped ottoman coffee table can transition around the room as the comfortable alternative to filling the central area with several pieces (and who doesn't love it when ottomans can offer several services?). On the floor lies a large cream-colored rug, with a broken pattern of chocolate lines resembling an organized puzzle that ties the individual orientations together perfectly.

Textured wallpaper rises from the wainscoting to the ceiling to provide a backdrop for the large fireplace with its sleek steel firescreen.



Four dining chairs by McGuire, and two upholstered chairs by Verde Home, group around a pedestal table. Silk drapery, custom-made with Lewis and Sheron Textiles, adds extra color and glamour to the scene.

In the dining room, an array of browns meets the rich tones of red and green, with a sisal rug and pole rattan side chairs. Again, the textured wallpaper meets the wainscoting on the walls, just like in the living room. Capped by two crème brûlée-colored upholstered captain chairs with nailhead detailing, the long dining room table feels simultaneously grand and calm.

The kitchen setting is that of a proverbial conversation between brown, white and black. High ceilings offer ample space for white cabinetry and dark countertops, creating a grounding effect. A domed edge in the ceiling adds extra dimension to the crown molding, and frames the center window and its rich valanced shade (designed with F. Schumacher fabric). A central island, complete with wooden bar stools by Maria Yee, allows for a work space, serving surface, or a place where friends and family can chat while preparing supper. Gothic light fixtures hang above the island and kitchen table, bringing the kitchen experience full-circle.

Laura nestles poppy-colored tulips into a vase on the large island worktop.





An upholstered bench by Cisco Brothers is an embellishment to the end of the bed.



The master bedroom is a perfect place to begin and end the day. The simple forms and clean lines of the furniture define the space. A sleigh bed with upholstered headboard rests in the heart of the room, with accompanying oval side tables. A mixture of similar patterns adorns the curtains, upholstered bench and rug, enlivening the peacefulness of this sleeping quarter with pops of orange accents. A curtained wall of windows behind the Victorian chairs, produces a fresh rejuvenation, flooding the space with morning light.

The master bath is spa-like; simple, calming and beautiful. A large classic, dual plinth freestanding tub is tucked into a nook below a tall window, framed with extended cafe drapery, custom designed by Laura. The diamond-patterned, cream tiles of the floor are accented by tall molded baseboards.

A fun feature of the Ibrahim's home is a basement playroom. A chalkboard acts as one wall, decorated with thoughts and drawings of many colors. A plush sofa sits adjacent to a vibrant armchair and ottoman by American Leather—oh so many options for lounging in this space. Tall lamps on either side of the sofa shed just the right amount of soft light into the room. The combination of low, wide furniture coupled with the chalkboard begs for a game of Pictionary or Charades.

The graceful domicile will soon become full of memories like the others—until, perhaps, the Ibrahims move on once again. For now, it seems as though each piece has arrived in the right place at the right time. ❖

*[laurawalkertd.com](http://laurawalkertd.com)  
[verdehomeinc.com](http://verdehomeinc.com)*

Lamps and Flower Stool by Stray Dog Designs add playful touches to this kid-friendly space.

