



Photo: Ngoc Minh Ngo

## SHOW HOUSE

# Take a First Look Inside the 2019 Kips Bay Decorator Show House

AD PRO visits the 22 rooms included to learn about designers' inspirations and the specific pieces used

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MAY 1, 2019 11:32 AM



On May 2, the *47th Annual Kips Bay Decorator Show House* will open to the public. The *event* is arguably the most important show house within the design community, and serves as a rite of passage for new and veteran interior designers. This year, the show house has taken over 36-38 East 74th Street on New York's Upper East Side. The historic Georgian mansion provided the perfect canvas for designers to create their own mise-en-scènes. Inside, 23 design firms tackled 22 rooms, ranging from the backyard space to the house's fifth and final floor.

While each participant brought his or her own unique sense of style to their assigned square footage, a few themes stood out. Many designers chose to highlight a mix of old and new pieces, and contemporary purchases and antique finds are often grouped side by side. A handful of designers opted to create studies dedicated to the fictional woman resident of this house, as opposed to say a bedroom or a more general living space. Lighthearted creations also punctuated the mix, most notably in the form of *Sheila Bridges's* dog-themed room and *Young Huh's* vibrant artist's studio. Below, AD PRO gives a complete tour of the house, showcasing participating designers' varying inspirations and sources.



Gluckstein Design  
Photo: Nickolas Sargent

### *Gluckstein Design*

“This carpet was shipped to Alaska instead of New York.” These are practically the first words to come out of *Brian Gluckstein*’s mouth, when explaining the unexpected journey that the pièce de résistance of his spiral staircase took before ending up on the Upper East Side. However, the custom rug by The Rug Company arrived just in time, magically transforming the space with a fan-inspired design that appears to unfold as it spreads out over four stories.

The walls of the staircase are covered in Schumacher’s grass cloth. Artist Cristina Pepe then carefully and painstakingly added her own Chippendale-inspired touch—a nod to the house’s Georgian origins, and the fact that it had a conspicuously few number of moldings. Gluckstein is quick to emphasize Pepe’s patience, considering the fact that she had to be painting on ladders while all of the other designers’ items were coming up and down the stairs. The archival estate of *Jeremiah Goodman*, the American interior studio portrait painter, supplied the works hung on the walls, whose faux paneling was inspired by that of *Jean-Michel Frank*. Vintage sconces add light, while the pièce de résistance is arguably the central chandelier. Suspended from above, 4,000 brass cherry blossoms hang—each of which is secured by a single crystal.