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TRADITIONAL HOME

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Vernon Applegate & Gioi Tran

SAN FRANCISCO DECORATOR SHOWCASE



art watch The neutral settee makes an easy transition between an exotic Pompeian-inspired bench used as a cocktail table and a contemporary oil painting by designer Gioi Tran.

For a room kissed in copper and rust, a designer might draw inspiration from autumn leaves or a copper metal ceiling aged to a rich patina. But in this family room designed by Vernon Applegate and Gioi Tran, the sole inspiration for the warm palette they selected was San Francisco's architectural wonder, the Golden Gate Bridge. With such magnificent scenery directly outside, the design team wanted the room to pay tribute to its surroundings. The copper tones call to the Marin Hills, the blues beckon to the sky and bay, and the rust and clay tints capture the highlights and shadows of the iconic bridge.

"We envisioned the room for a world traveler," says Tran. "So we introduced an eclectic and artful mix of colors, textures, and styles that make it appear personal and collected."

The arrangement of European and Asian furnishings yields multiple seating groups pulled together with draperies in pomegranate silk. The central seating area, with an ivory-and-beige velvet sofa topped with vibrant peach pillows, anchors the room. Behind it, a corner turns into a cozy nook when a sleek chair in tufted leather is teamed with an ottoman, and a handsome Charles X *bibliothèque* in mahogany references the house's Tudor architecture. Underscoring the period feel of the room is the tufted settee covered in an ivory silk-wool fabric. ▶

Produced by Carla Brer Howard Photographs by Edmund Barr