



SENTIMENTAL TUNE-UP

A GEORGIA DESIGNER
REVISITS A PROJECT
15 YEARS LATER TO HELP
USHER IN A FAMILY'S
NEW CHAPTER.

BY Ashley Shaw | PHOTOGRAPHY BY Emily Followill



While smitten with the variegated brick, dormer windows, and asymmetrical curves of her storybook-style bungalow, Linda Booker wanted a fresh start inside the home she shared with her daughter, Anne Clare. She turned to a familiar face, Catherine Wilson, a neighbor in Midtown Atlanta who had spearheaded a previous renovation. Since the first revamp, Linda's husband Chris had unexpectedly passed away, making it all the more meaningful to have Catherine and her eponymous firm on the project. That connection ran both ways. "The first time around,

I got to know Linda and her husband intimately. This time around, it was easy in many ways because I already knew her furniture, her house, her personality. She trusted us implicitly," says Catherine, who expanded the home and layered elements from the first update with au courant finds for Linda and Anne Clare. Catherine worked with local architect Frances Zook to add another bedroom and bathroom, a family room, and a screened porch outfitted for entertaining. "Linda wanted a beautiful, comfortable outdoor living space that connected to her [home's] exterior, which is very manicured," Catherine says.

Opening to the veranda, the new great room features a gallery wall of Linda's art collection and a framed television above a custom bar. "I love to design cabinetry and shelving, and this house is dripping with purposeful and pretty built-ins," Catherine says. Bookshelves in a reading nook along with kitchen cupboards finished with leaded glass impart charm that feels original to the 1930s home. Many of the furnishings Catherine selected for the previous redo were reupholstered to suit Linda's shift from a very traditional sensibility to a more transitional style with classic flair. Antique chandeliers and Persian rugs shine amid contemporary





A new living area flows from the updated kitchen to a porch that overlooks the garden, devised by Ginger Ross of Ginger André Ross Landscape Architecture. Designer Catherine Wilson arranged pieces from homeowner Linda Booker's sizable art collection around a framed television for a focal point above the custom built-in bar.



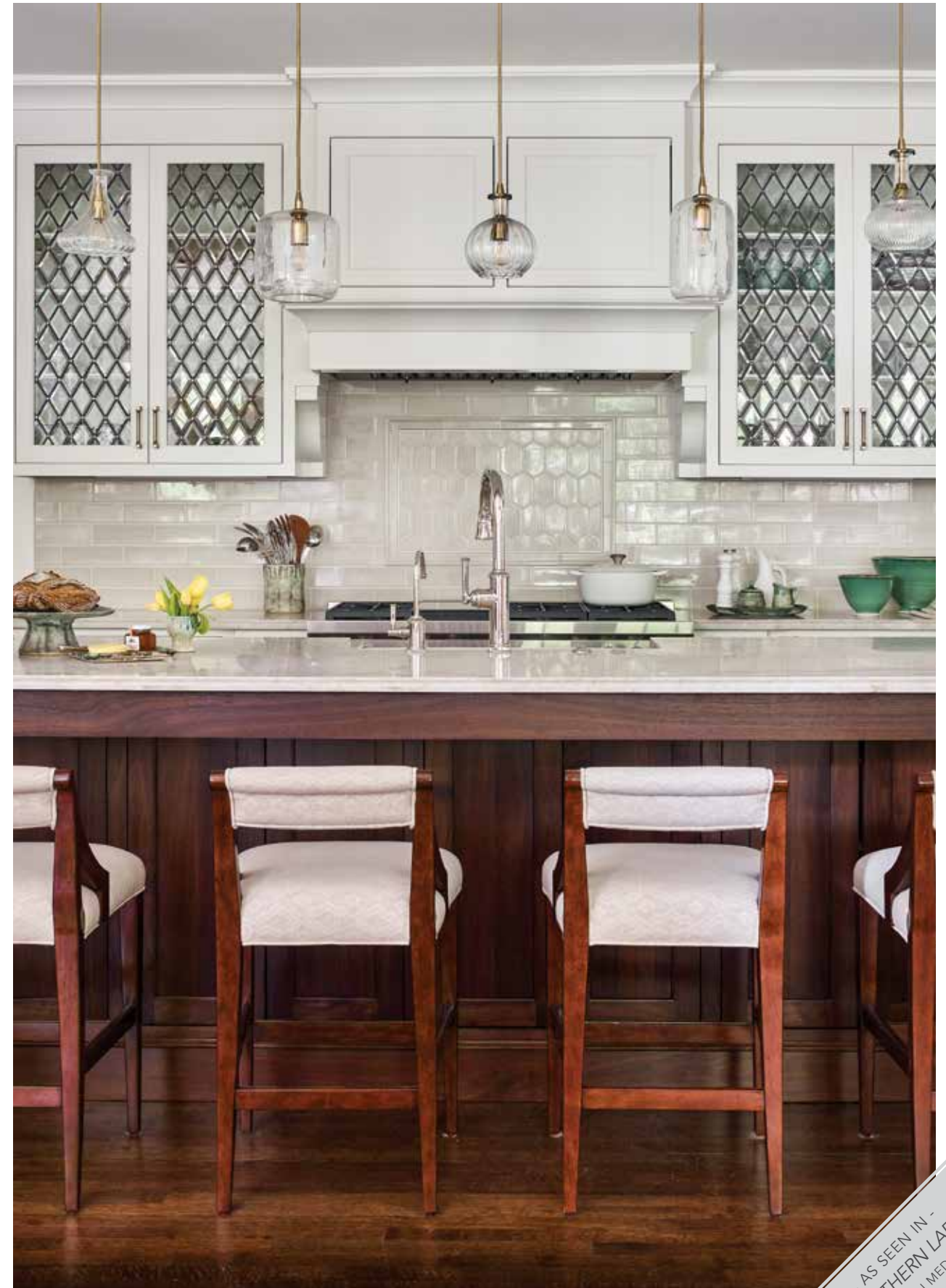
details, such as lively wallpaper and the modish pendant lights hung at varying heights over the kitchen island. In the dining room, Linda's heirloom table and sideboard garner pizzazz from wingback chairs refurbished with a fun faux tie-dye.

Exposed brick and a cozy window seat complement the playfulness of a bedroom inspired by a colorful keepsake guitar above the headboard. The

découpage instrument was a class craft project lead by Anne Clare's late father for a school fundraising auction. "After he passed, the bidder who won the guitar gave it to Linda and Anne Clare," explains Catherine, who emphasized the memento's orange and aqua tones with assorted throw pillows and a large abstract painting.

After wrapping up the refresh, Catherine attended a party at the

Bookers' home, which they now share with Linda's spouse of two years, Rob Whorton. Catherine recalls taking in the great room from the porch, appreciating the rare chance to see a client enjoying the spaces she has touched. "Linda has such a knack for entertaining—there were candles and low lights and flowers—and it was just a beautiful thing," she says. "I could see the house in motion and see that it was working."





A special tribute to Anne Clare's late father, the guitar displayed in a guest room sparked the overall whimsical scheme. (Below) Catherine designed functional yet fanciful cabinetry in the dressing room, which connects the home's primary bedroom and bath. (Opposite) Stylish porch seating makes entertaining a breeze for Linda, a savvy hostess.

