

Home decor trends classic, elegant

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the dignified Country French to the whimsical Eurostyles."

DESPITE THE enormous proliferation in color lines, the marketing cycle makes itself known through a change in hues from the rose and mauve shades that dominated the 1980s, into the warm and coral reds.

Reds, in fact, are being combined with green in a significant way, for the first time since the 1950s.

"More than half of the designs in Hudson's interior design studio have some combination of red and green in them," Zinger said.

ONE CAN'T HELP but observing that nearly all of the 10 model houses in Homorama featured

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red and green, or green in various combinations.

Various shades of greens, but particularly dark green, called "hunter" is prevailing. They preview the much greater acceptance of dark, lily saturated colors across the board.

Undoubtedly, Hudson's will help accelerate this acceptance by featuring dark colors in some of their model rooms, coming up later in the season.

There is some indication of the re-emergence of golds and yellows, said David Mukiten, regional manager of Stark Carpet.

SINCE GOLD is an excellent foil for reds and greens, it is due to return, eventually bringing with it the brightening of the overall home furnishings palette.

Browns are decidedly warm in cast, and the paler version heralds the return of rose-beiges, and the widening of color variations among neutrals.

Blues are not as focused in their cast and will vacillate between the green-cast teal and the red-cast hyacinth.

There's much less inhibition about using violet, and it is becoming a mainstream color.

Black will continue, especially in black-and-white combinations and as a solid color because it is the consummate dark color.

IF THESE observations represent the mainstream of color and style, then the resources at the Troy-based Michigan Design Center, available only through an interior designer, could be regarded as a fountainhead.

Here is where options multiply, pointing to where the current trends could lead us.

• An opulence that reaches for new heights as shown in Schumacher's documentary textiles, Brunschwig and Fils cut vel-



all about color

Helen Diane Vincent

vels, or in real lapis or jade-embossed glazed tiles shown in the Genesee Ceramic Tile showroom.

• A subtlety that only an antique rug can achieve, dramatized by the collection at the Ghiordes Knot.

• And a selection of textiles as broad as an international trade fair shown at the Stroheim and Romann showroom, a company now affiliated with JAB, the largest distributor of decorative fabrics in Europe.

Between the retailers and the

specialty showrooms, it all adds up to having a greater variety of color and products than we've ever had before.

There's no better time than now to express oneself through an elegant interior.

Helen Vincent's experience in the color design field spans 20 years. Her column, "All About Color," is a bi-monthly feature in the Creative Living section of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Mix of periods form look

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traditional in style. The painted, crackle finish of the custom sideboard picks up some of the chair fabric tones.

Because the couple have one small child and another on the way, O'Hanlon took a practical, but far from ordinary, approach to the family room.

The sofas are covered in a

darker (less fragile) shade of dusty rose than that used in the rest of the home. One large chair and ottoman are off-white, (easily cleaned) leather. Another chair is done in a practical, attractive, multi-color chintz. The coffee table is easily cleaned travertine.

A prized Moroccan antique wedding shawl is safely encased in plexiglass. This room doesn't

shout that it's practical because there are little ones in the family — nothing of the kind. It just has the look of a comfortable, well-appointed family gathering place and entertainment area.

This home clearly reflects the owners. It has the desired, light look, the colors they like, the continental mix of periods and the many beautiful accessories that are part of their heritage.

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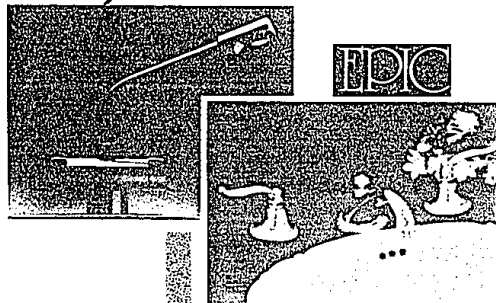
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