



ARTS AND CRAFTS

DESIGNER: **APARNA VIJAYAN, ULRICH, RIDGEWOOD**
 PHOTOGRAPHER: **OZZIE, RVOIII PHOTOGRAPHY**

Always eager to tackle a design challenge, Aparna Vijayan, a longstanding top designer at Ulrich, was excited when her clients gave the green light for a master bath renovation in their unique Englewood home, architecturally inspired by the designs of Frank Lloyd Wright.

"The existing master bathroom was a very challenging space," Vijayan says, "as it had very contemporary lines, tight awkward spaces and was dominated by an under-utilized whirlpool tub platform."

Top on the couple's extensive "wish list" was a performance shower, separate his-and-her vanities, a toilet room, and a whirlpool tub bath.

"The couple loves unique textures and materials and are very open to new concepts and surfaces," she says. "We found a multicolored onyx vessel sink and built the bathroom around that."

Imperative to her client was that the bathroom feature "no maintenance" surfaces, so Vijayan used dark over-sized porcelain floors accentuated with onyx and glass mosaic tiles in various configurations and in subtle earth tones of green, blue and brown. Linear onyx mosaics are blended with glass at the tub platform. The cabinetry is pure craftsman cherry with special walnut inlays reflective of Frank Lloyd Wright's architectural design patterns.

"I had the windows fitted with custom stained-glass inserts which gave the bathroom some added drama while rooting it in the naturalness of the prairie style," adds Vijayan.

Special attention was given to incorporating storage throughout the space. The large performance steam shower, complete with pebble flooring, bench seating, overhead rain head and multiple body sprays, has generous storage niches and continuous sills for holding bath products. A tall linen cabinet sits just outside the shower and is fitted with a laundry hamper. In the toilet room, which has a mirrored door, there's a small counter and a cabinet for extra supplies and magazines. Built-in speakers in the ceiling and shower, lighted magnifying mirrors and medicine cabinets, heated towel racks, black leather and chrome hardware and a cedar plank ceiling surface are just a few of the "cool and utilitarian features of this bathroom," says Vijayan. ■

