



# Classical story

This major remodel has seen a neglected office and pool pavilion changing room transformed into a magical, light-filled spa

After enjoying some of the world's most exclusive spas, the owner of this house was inspired to create a luxurious retreat of her own.

Valerie Foster Hoffman of Pasadena, CA had the ideal spot for a spa – a neglected area between her bedroom and an outdoor pool. The space had been taken up by an office that was no longer used, and a pool pavilion changing room.

Elina Katsioula-Beall of De Witt Designer Kitchens was subsequently commissioned to design a light and airy spa bathroom with classical Greek and Roman influences.

"I wanted something quite elegant and feminine, with a lot of statuary and mirrors," says Hoffman. "It needed to look like a fabulous spa retreat you might visit on vacation."

Katsioula-Beall was also

asked to maximize a leafy view of a private garden, which is dedicated to the concept of spirituality, with a variety of settings paying homage to different religions.

"The existing space was very dark, so we opened up a window to the west, which has a view through to a Buddha fountain," the designer says. "We also introduced a large skylight, with fully directional

**Facing page:** A classical, yet feminine, interior was designed for this new spa bathroom, which features Carrara marble and Grass wallpaper with a metallic silver thread.

**Above:** Mirrors were added to the flat panels on all the cabinets to provide a sparkling, reflective surface. The glass features gold veining, which gives the mirrors an antique Venetian look.





**Bathroom designer:**  
Elina Katsioulas-Beall, De Witt Designer  
Kitchens (Pasadena, CA)  
**Builder:** AMS Construction  
**Vanity tops, wall and floor tiles:**  
Carrara marble from Empire Marble &  
Granite; Walker Zanger Tribeca Classic  
White tiles in steam shower  
**Cabinets:** Maple, lined with Polar White  
by Columbia Cabinets  
**Basin:** Kohler Thoreau  
**Faucets:** Kohler Kelston  
**Shower fittings and toilet:**  
Kohler Memoirs  
**Wallcoverings:** Grass wallpaper with  
metallic silver from Candice Olson Fine  
Wallpapers  
**Lighting:** Liton from Lamps Plus  
**Cabinetry hardware:** Iridescent  
Diamond Knob from Cal Crystal  
**Towel warmer:** Myson  
**Cabinetry mirrors:** Venetian Gold Vein  
from Antique Mirror Glass Company  
**Skylights:** Velux America Inc

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lights within the shaft. And we moved a door to incorporate the stairs to the pool area inside the bathroom. The room is now more spacious and there is a better flow through the pool.

“To enhance the sense of a traditional Roman bath and courtyard, we chose a simple palette of soft white and gray, with sparkling blue mosaic tile accents. The floors and lower

part of the walls are lined with Carrara marble tiles, which are acid washed and won’t show wet footprints. The steam shower features Carrara petit-brick tiles with a trim in the classic Greek key pattern. The blue mosaic tile accents appear within wall niches and as a rug pattern on the floor.”

Mirrored panels on doors effectively double the apparent size of the room and reflect the

light and leafy views. Mirrors on all the flat panels within the vanity, makeup and storage cabinets feature gold veining, which gives them an antique Venetian look that complements the marble and vintage statuary.

The spa analogy extends to the functionality – the bathroom has a high-performance steam shower with a variety of showerheads.

**Facing page:** Mirrored cabinets flank the entry to the steam shower. This is lined with Carrara marble petit-brick tiles with a border trim in a Greek key pattern.

**Above left:** Vintage statuary and artworks collected by the owner provide decorative focal points.

**Above:** A sparkling chandelier and Hollywood lights around the mirror create an inviting makeup area near the door to the pool area.