

m a r c h / 2 0 0 1

housebeautiful

seductive bedrooms

passionate colors

pretty prints

romance!

\$3.50

08458



03

0 754734 4

[this page]
All upholstered
furnishings are
slipcovered in
washable white
cotton because
two dogs live here.
The wedding-
present blue of
Tiffany boxes is
this young wife's
favorite wall color.
[facing page]
Chassie Post and
her husband Phil
Costello with one
of his ten guitars.



106



HAIR AND MAKEUP: NICKI WANG FOR SALLY HARLOR

romance mod pow



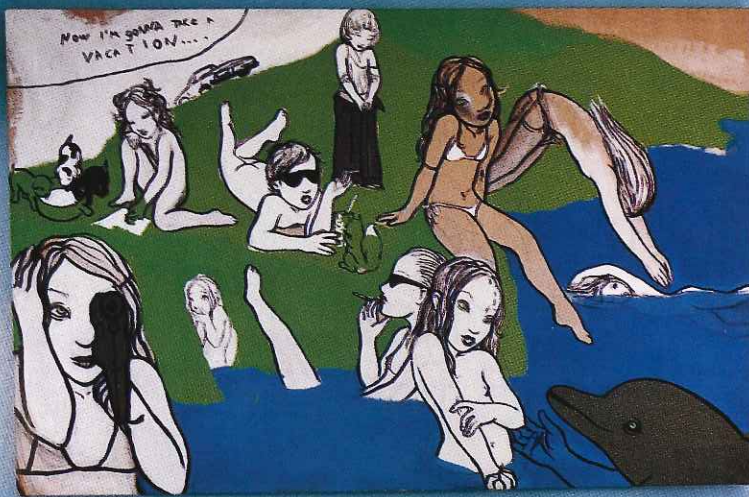
photographer OBERTO GILI

writer JULIA SZABO

producer MIGUEL FLORES-VIANNA

[housebeautiful] 3/2001

107



108

IF ROMANCE WERE A COLOR, IT COULD WELL BE THE Tiffany-box hue of the walls in the East Village apartment shared by Chassie Post and Phil Costello. Post so loves the combination of blue walls and white floor that she has left a trail of apartments from Atlanta (her hometown) to New York swathed in Benjamin Moore urethane high-gloss enamel. "This is my third blue apartment," she says of the two-bedroom flat facing Tompkins Square Park.

With its splendid monogrammed linens, and white shutters supporting a bolt of blue silk moiré that puddles gently on the floor, the bedroom is a focal point—as it should be for those in their first year of marriage; Post and Costello were wed last June.

[this page, from left]
Rita Ackerman's painting, "Now I'm Gonna Take a Vacation," perfectly sums up the apartment's mood, according to Chassie Post. Butterfly wings of cardboard are a street find. Pomeranian is called Stynky.
[facing page]
Mercury-glass lamp was a present from their friend and bandmate Mark Cline. It sits on a small table from Ikea.

"It's home, and it's just a bunch of junk," says Post, who collaborated on the decor with her childhood friend, the sought-after interior designer Miles Redd. "All we did was a paint job; everything else that looks good here is Miles." That's extreme modesty talking, for although she's busy being the lead singer, muse, and lyricist of Daytona, a band fronted by her guitarist husband (the group's self-titled debut album is due this April from Enabler Records), Mary Chastaine Post has style in her blood. She makes the street finds, she picks the art.

As if her knack for making a thrift shop hot-pink dress look Ungaro-sophisticated wasn't enough, she learned plenty from her mother, Lou Post, who is a decorator in Atlanta.

{The couple's witty, modern **sensibility** can be seen in many details, as well as that particular **blue**}



[this page]
In the bedroom, a green faux-suede-covered table with brass nail-heads also came from the street. Painting of a half-rabbit-half-man is by Stephen Vassilakos.
[facing page]
Enormous white table, designed by Miles Redd, supports a festive array of small floral arrangements. Round painting is by Sharon Shapiro.

Still, Post credits Redd with the flowers, the marble-topped coffee table, the perfectly-tailored white slipcovers that unify disparate decorative elements (a Jetsonesque Ikea sofa and a 1930s settee) while protecting the furnishings from the busy paws of Porkchop, a Maltese, and Stynky, a Pomeranian. But what prevents this symphony of nursery colors from becoming a cloying Victorian Valentine is the couple's postmodern sensibility, seen in many details, as well as that particular blue.

Post's cutting-edge art collection (which includes circular canvases by Sharon Shapiro and sugar horse sculptures by Janet Biggs) is matched by Costello's array of electric guitars. "It had been a dream of mine to be in a band," Post says, "so I weaseled my way into Phil's mad genius!" Adds her

tender-eyed husband, clearly in love: "Chassie will take something that happened between us, a private joke, and make a great song out of it."

Redd may be the design star in his milieu, but thanks to an absence of curtains, the apartment is something of a show-house for the neighborhood, and Post is emerging as quite a tastemaker herself. She already has a following among her neighbors, reports Costello: "Walking on this block at night, I've noticed three other apartments painted blue," he says, adding that the place really comes into its own when the lights are turned down low. "It looks like a fish tank," Costello says of the nightly undersea effect. "Aqua shack!" Post chimes in.

Look for that on their next album. ●

FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE RESOURCES

