

CLARA'S COLORS

Bubbles of lime and apple greens, power reds and oranges, and brilliant blues and yellows from an abstract artwork spill over into Rob and Robin Perry's Carlsbad kitchen.

"We bought this piece of art for Clara when I was pregnant with her," Robin says. "It was something visual and fun. And when I told our designer, Sol Quintana Wagoner, that we liked bright color, she asked if we liked the colors in the painting. Then she incorporated those colors into the kitchen."

Sol had to tone down the couple's enthusiasm when they suggested painting every wall a different color.

"I said to Robin, 'Let's go in the opposite direction and use the kitchen as a light-colored canvas and introduce all these pops of color, so that when you see it, it looks more like a contemporary art piece.'"

Sol put her spin on the intense colors of the painting, integrating pastel undertones for a floating, Silestone bar top in *Yellow Dream*; a pair of soft, apple green island cabinet doors; and a quadruple set of *Teal Blue* glass inserts for cupboards. The

more vivid colors were brought in with a glass mosaic backsplash, turquoise light switches and matching fuchsia toaster and coffeemaker. Instead of beige being the neutral backdrop, gray was chosen in stainless steel appliances, *Raven Caesarstone* countertops and *Volcanic Ash marmoleum* floors.

"The flooring was based on us having a toddler," Robin says. "We wanted a durable, sturdy material that could handle toys, like trucks and things. The marmoleum is resilient and works well with Clara. If she should fall while playing, at least she'll land on something softer than tile."

Thermal-fused melamine cabinetry that looks like wood brings in another neutral element, adds texture to the space and, because of its frameless styling, a clean-lined appearance appropriate to the home's Mid-century Modern style.

"The existing kitchen's layout neglected the home's incredible water views and felt claustrophobic," Sol says. "The new space is dramatically more open and integrated with the rest of the home. The use of bright color, though very unusual, is not a circus. It still feels organized and calm." ❖



Above: The island is a fresh take on color accents with visual planes of orange, green and gray combined with earthy wood. Turquoise cabinet doors above the ovens add a bright note to the surrounding stainless steel appliances.

Left: The design transitions from the kitchen to the open living area with overhead architectural elements. A retractable, ceiling-mounted hood reflects the island surfaces.

Facing page, bottom: Artwork (left) bought for the homeowners' daughter laid the groundwork for the backsplash colors (right) and sprinkles of color elsewhere in the kitchen.



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