

By rearranging the floor plan to swap the living and dining spaces, Jessica Davis of Atelier Davis helped homeowners get use out of two unused rooms. Art by Josh Rowell helps anchor the new lounge space, as does a velvet green sofa from ModShop.



By Lauren Finney Harden // Photographed by Heidi Harris

THE FLIP FLIP SIDE

*Atelier Davis spices up
a midcentury modern.*

A painting by Pedro Friedeberg hangs on the entryway wall above a bust by Katrena Griggs, with a sculpture at left by Juan Carlos de la Rosa from Arte Divino in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Opposite page: A variety of paintings and family photographs make up the gallery wall.



It's no secret that some of the best in-town midcentury modern architecture can be found in Buckhead's Margaret Mitchell neighborhood. Residents and homeowners Jeff and Laura Sladkus called on design firm Atelier Davis to create their dream *Mad Men*-style lounge in the unique neighborhood. "They wanted the vibe without making it overly midcentury," says founder Jessica Davis. "Laura is a Los Angeles native, and midcentury homes remind her of her California roots and travels to Palm Springs." Davis is uniquely positioned in Atlanta to take on this sort of project—she herself lives in a midcentury modern home, so it was easy for her to understand and ultimately achieve the clients' look.

Davis says, "Personally, I wanted to live in a midcentury house here in Atlanta because I lived in Los Angeles and never had the opportunity to live in a mid-mod house there, but fell in love with the style. I really

The homeowners had an extensive collection of art that was to be incorporated into the project, including these Mexican antlers and Thai elephants.



The dining room features pieces from City Issue, as well as chairs from Calligaris. Art by Irving Herrera hangs in the dining room alongside a metal sculpture from City Issue.

wanted something bright, open and modern. Interestingly, the Westside has a nice pocket of midcentury homes, despite people saying that there aren't very many in Atlanta. It's a great place to have a midcentury home because it doesn't get too cold; flat roofs and lots of glass are not as ideal in a cold, snowy climate."

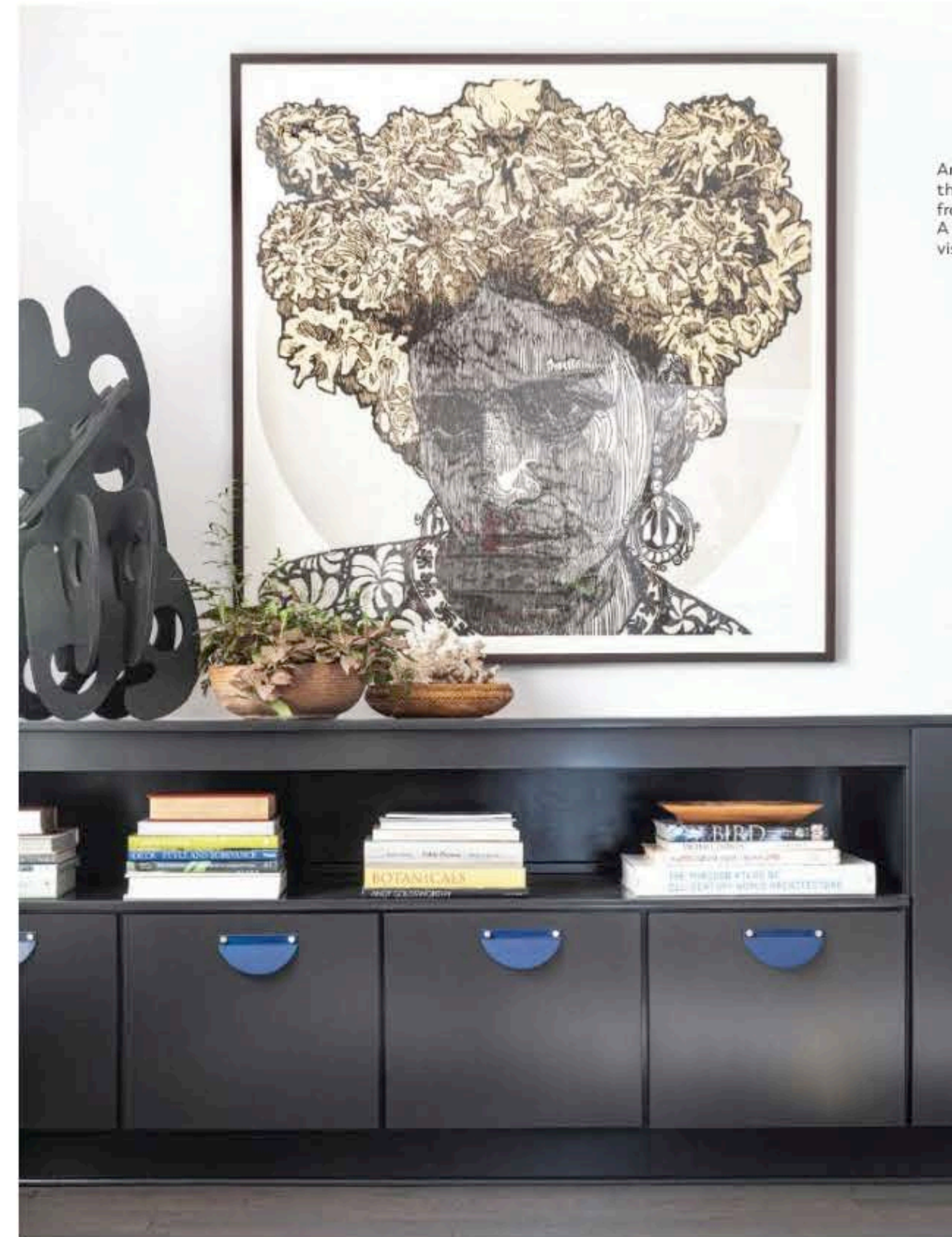
Over eight months, Davis and her assistant designer, Amber Bach, completed the space, including switching the living and dining spaces and "tying the design of those areas in with the foyer," says Davis. "We love that the owners decided to flip these two rooms; they work so

much better in their current configuration. Midcentury homes are easy to adapt to open and semi-open floor plans, and they're really conducive to modern-day living. They never used either room, but now live in both daily."

Besides midcentury, the inspiration point was "the clients' collection of modern art, as was their love of Mexican artifacts and tequila," says Davis. The homeowners, who have a second home in San Miguel de Allende, wanted to "pay tribute to their extensive travels in Mexico and their love of color and Mexican art," with many pieces coming from Oaxaca and Mexico City.



Textiles from Atlanta-based Aloka Home help soften the lounge space.



Art by Irving Herrera hangs above the credenza, which features pulls from Davis' Nest Studio collection. A sculpture by Esteban Patino adds visual interest and layering.

DESIGN DETAILS

RESIDENCE
Single-family home

NEIGHBORHOOD
Margaret Mitchell

INTERIOR DESIGN
Jessica Davis and Amber Bach
Atelier Davis
atelierdavis.com

PHOTOGRAPHER
Heidi Harris
heidiharrisphotography.com

SELECT VENDORS

CITY ISSUE
Dining table and mirrors, record cabinet, fireplace wall sculpture
cityissue.com

ALOKA HOME
Throws and pillows
alokahome.com

HANCOCK SURFACE STUDIO
Built-in bar
hancocksurfacestudio.com

MODSHOP
Lounge sofa
modshop1.com

CALLIGARIS
Dining room chairs
calligaris.com

LMODERN LIGHTING
Lounge chandelier
lmodernlighting.com

ARTE
Vinyl wallpaper
arte-international.com

Additionally, "The client brought out a bunch of photographs taken by family members and other paintings that they had collected over the years, which was a bit of a surprise—albeit a pleasant one. These pieces ended up being the items that added a collected, personalized feel to the space," she adds. During the process, Jeff's dad passed away, so it was especially meaningful for the couple to have a place to house his father's photographs.

One of the best parts of the project for Davis was that "the homeowners are not afraid of color. They really wanted the lounge

to feel moody and, well, like a lounge. So we went bold with colors on the walls and the sofa, and really used the artwork to pop more bright and interesting tones and spaces." Special touches such as a built-in bar by Ryan Hancock of Hancock Surface Studio—with a concealed ice maker and sliding drawers for an impressive tequila collection, naturally—and Davis' own hardware from her Nest Studio line help make the space as unique as it is. The resulting aesthetic is at once cool, vibrant and unique, reflecting this young family and their tastes. ■