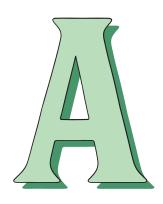


What do you get when a stylish, "maximalist" British expat and a rock star with a passed-down passion for antiques live under one roof? A harmonious medley of velvety finishes and vintage finds that hits a perfectly soulful and storied note. Let 'em show you around.





visit to the Nashville home of Jen and Dan Auerbach is a bit like touring a museum full of highly sought-after folk art and furniture—but instead of velvet ropes, you'll find velvet curtains. "We've very much rebelled against a buttoned-up, hands-

off environment," says Jen, co-founder of Clary Collection (clarycollection.com), an organic skin-care line. As the mother of 31/2-year-old Early, she shirks all pretense, though many of the items in the Auerbach home could, in fact, be in a museum. Her husband, Dan, one half of the rock duo The Black Keys, is a huge collector of tramp art (a subgenre of folk art that includes pieces large and small made from old cigar boxes and shipping crates). He also has a soft spot for unique rustic furniture and primitive Adirondack pieces. These passions predate fame and fortune. As the son of two Akron, Ohio,

antiques dealers, Dan spent his summers learning the trade at big-time shows in Brimfield, MA, and Springfield, OH (about three hours from Akron).

When the couple purchased an early 20th-century Georgian Revival in 2014, they spent a year on renovations. (Fun fact: Minnie Pearl honed her signature tennis serve—"The Pearl Drop"—on the home's tennis court.) The new backdrop set the stage for Dan's personal treasure trove. But Jen, also the daughter of antiques collectors, added her spin to the interiors, too. "I love old things as well, but I lean toward a plush European look with a smidge of industrial and midcentury for good measure," she says. Velvet curtains, along with feminine furniture, faded rugs, and textured wallpapers, add softness to the assortment.

While the decor is ever-evolving (picks and paint colors are on constant rotation), a simple rule keeps their design scheme in harmony: "Everything in our house has to be something that no one else has," says Jen. "We like unique, and we like eccentric. It's maybe a bit nutty, but it's a look that is ours and only ours."



on the kitchen

"THE 1920s **PENDANTS WERE SOURCED FROM** FOUR STATES."

Dan searched far and wide for the 1920s pendant lights. "He found each one separately on the internet, and they match beautifully," says Jen. The couple unearthed the room's original brick during the renovation. While the marble-topped island is new, the couple asked architect Nick Dryden (daad-group.com) to think "old-country style" for the custom base. Dan found the green barstools while on tour. In lieu of upper cabinets, a pair of old signs-"Chicken Dinners," sourced from noted folk art dealer Elizabeth Schaaf (folkartisans.com) and 1930s cantaloupe art advertising an Iowa fruit store-adorn the walls.



on the dining room

"THE CABINET IS A 1900s COUNTRY STORE DISPLAY."

Boasting its original beveledglass fronts, the impressive piece is home to all manner of treasures—both his and hers. Dan fell in love with the circa 1890s leather medical bag at the Brimfield Antique Show. The 1920 fishing creel, crafted from birch and twigs, is another Dan find. The late 1800s gold-framed landscape is a Jen favorite, as it reminds her of the time she lived in Paris. The folk art painted boat, carved from cedar, is marked "January 11, 1941." Its maker is unknown. "Most folk art is anonymous, made by people with an honest impulse to create," says Jen. Striped Lindavist Motala chairs (found on 1stdibs.com) lend midcentury charm to the warm wood table.



Reseda Green





on the music room

"EVEN THE WALLPAPER IS PERIOD APPROPRIATE."

Dan's music room (left) is awash in color thanks to a 1900s Art Nouveau tulip motif wallcovering (a reproduction printed on heavyweight historic paper; aesthetic interiors.com). The vintage parasol light fixture and a bold antique rug reinforce the layered warmth. An 1890s Adirondack mirror complements the home's original fireplace mantel. Dan's antiques dealer father, Chuck, found the MLK painting (below) in the remains of a shuttered psychiatric hospital in northern Ohio. It hangs above an original 1960s Wurlitzer piano (complete with original red paint) found in an Ohio music shop (mikesmusicohio.com). Dan had a stipulation that all the paint colors in the house be "period correct," so after an exhaustive Pinterest search, they chose this soft blue shade.

A 1970s-era school project crafted from bubble-gum wrappers hangs above a prized folk art "twig table" by Rev. Ben Davis (born 1876), an ordained Southern **Baptist minister and** skilled carpenter.











on the master bedroom

"DAN ASKED. 'WHERE ARE YOU **PUTTING THAT?** "

Jen joined Dan on tour years ago and came across the 1930s window [above the bed] during an antiquing excursion. "Dan asked, 'Where are you putting that thing?' I said, 'A wall.' He shook his head, but once it was installed as a pass-through window on the wall separating the bedroom and bath, he apologized kind of," says Jen. She's fond of a folk art shelf that's perfect for flower displays. Dan found the trunk in South America. They also replaced a king-sized bed with a 1900s queen. Says Jen, "Unless you're in the NBA, you don't need a king."



on the master bath

"A FOLK ART **ANGEL KEEPS WATCH OVER THE TUB."**

Dan's dad found the late 19th-century piece in Ohio. Many of the other old pieces, including the needlepoint chair and artwork, were sourced locally from Nashville's GasLamp Antiques (gaslampantiques.com). Jen refers to the gold-footed vintageinspired tub (kennypipe.com) as "Versace" because of "how fancy she is." The graphic tile (Tulum; cement tileshop.com) is one of several tiled floors in the home. A healthy array of plants adds life to the space. "The whole aesthetic of my [skincare] company is about being green, so I'm also drawn to anything green," says Jen, referencing both plants and paint.



