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STEVEN GAMBREL'S NEW MANHATTAN DIGS
LOOK OLD-FASHIONED FROM THE
OUTSIDE, BUT INDOORS IT'S ALL ABOUT THE HERE AND NOW

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In one guest room, the vintage parchment-covered bed is French, and the custom-made bedding is by Casa Del Bianco. Facing page, from top: The open shower in the master bath is sheathed in travertine; the fittings in the sink and shower are by Lefroy Brooks. The chest of drawers is by René Drouet. See Resources.

house. There, matching fireplaces face off across a hand-loomed carpet Gambrel patterned after a cable-knit sweater Connor wears. This mesmerizing meditation on blue continues in the master bedroom, which shares the third floor with a second guest suite, this one with a pale parchment-clad bed and raw-plaster walls that provide a neutral backdrop for dozens of framed drawings.

Other finishes were chosen for aesthetic reasons, but they turned out to have good-housekeeping side effects. The stairs and halls, for example, are painted glossy dark shades that happen to not show wear and tear. A more pleasurable practicality is the bar, whose refrigerator, icemaker, and scads of audiovisual equipment hidden inside minimalist oak cabinets make it an essential for entertaining. "The people who built these houses knew how to live well in them," Gambrel asserts with a smile. "We hope to follow their example." ■



The small guest room's custom-made bed linens are by Casa Del Bianco, the Roman shades are of a Romo cotton-linen, and the walls are covered in vintage ikat from Uzbekistan. Facing page, from top: Etchings by an unknown French artist hang in the guest bath above custom-made tiles by Urban Archaeology, in the master bedroom, the bed was designed by Gambrel, and the Roman shades are made of a Mokum fabric from Holly Hunt. See Resources.

