



TRADITIONAL HOME

April 2007

World Class **Style**

Flipping a flat in London

The set of **The Nanny Diaries** with Scarlett Johansson

All you need to know for the perfect bath

Exquisite embroidery, luxe metallics, floral fabrics

BY KRISSA ROSSBUND



Floral finesse

Depicted on textiles, flowers are a favorite way to give a room a beautiful—and romantic—boost. And depending on the portrayal of the flower, designers can take a space from a simple nod to nature to a global garden tour. Take a look at these delightful bedrooms that charm with fresh-for-spring floral decoration with French, Italian, and Asian influences. >



Left: Interior designer Lawrence Boeder used substantial dark furnishings to give the pale yellow-and-green room definition. **Below:** Painted a color slightly lighter than the walls, picture moldings recede into the background, offering depth without insisting on a grand statement.



Lawrence Boeder

LAKE FOREST SHOWCASE HOUSE
LAKE FOREST, ILLINOIS

Silk is coveted for its glamorous sheen, saturated color, and feather-weight properties. Add embroidered flowers to the mix, and you've got a textile with Far Eastern style. Designer Lawrence Boeder fabricated valance-and-panel drapery treatments out of floral-embroidered silk for this master bedroom that relies on subtlety for its elegance and refinement.

"The room had natural light pouring in and needed surfaces that bounced the light around," says Lawrence. "Silk served that purpose and, embellished with flowers in that same quiet tone, added interest and a foreign touch without screaming."

The walls are painted a creamy taupe to produce a serene background for the ethereal fabrics. Not wanting this light-flooded room to be reserved only for sleeping, Lawrence created seating vignettes to make the space multifunctional.

A window seat upholstered and skirted in a silk stripe with coordinating throw pillows extends the length of a generously sized triple window that affords a view of the grounds. In front of the window is another seating option, this time a more formal arrangement that includes a circa-1845 oval breakfast table and a pair of chairs covered in pale aqua mohair velvet.

In this tranquil-toned room that promotes ease, Lawrence wanted to add a contrasting surprise. Painted black, a four-poster bed prevents the room from fading out, while the bed's embellishments of hand-painted vines and flowers still echo the room's femininity. A mélange of pretty linens includes a comforter in another floral silk and skirts for a pair of round bedside tables in a yellow windowpane plaid. ☞

Produced by Hilary Rose Photography by Casey Sills
For more information, see sources on page 222.

Cherry blossoms and chrysanthemums are most commonly executed on high-shine woven silks saturated with vibrant color. Updated versions put Asia's botanicals on natural linen and cotton with crewelwork embroidery—all in subtle, quiet palettes. **Right, clockwise from top:** "Quince" embroidered cotton; Clarence House (800/803-2850). "Dandridge" silk fabric; Chivasso through Stroheim & Romann (718/706-7000). "Katsura" linen; Romo (romofabrics.com).



Orientexpressed