

2009 INAUGURATION SPECIAL: YOUR ULTIMATE PASSPORT TO OBAMALAND
A SPOTTERS' GUIDE TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, INAUGURAL BALLS & GALAS,
CELEBRITY SUPPORTERS & CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ED HENRY, ROLAND FLAMINI,
BARRY LANDAU & ANGELA VALDEZ, THE 2009 SOCIAL LIST & PARTIES! PARTIES! PARTIES!

WASHINGTON

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2 **BRET BAIER** is chief White House correspondent for FOX News. He contributes to our inauguration special.

3 **ROLAND FLAMINI** was the Washington-based chief international correspondent at United Press International until 2006. He also worked as a foreign correspondent and World section editor for *Time* magazine. He writes this month on Obama's new administration.

4 **ED HENRY** is CNN's White House correspondent, and previously covered Capitol Hill for the network. Henry joined CNN in April 2004 after having been a columnist and senior editor at *Roll Call* for eight years. He contributes to our inauguration feature.

5 **MORGAN HOWARTH** has owned and operated a full-service commercial photography studio specializing in state-of-the-art digital photography for the catalog, stock, editorial, and advertising industries for the past 25 years. He contributes photographs to *Inside Homes*.

6 **BARRY H. LANDAU** is a presidential historian and one of the country's foremost collectors of presidential memorabilia and artifacts. He has helped plan events for eight presidents. Landau shares memories from past inaugurations in our special feature.

NP **CAROLA MYERS** is a creative artist and founder of Carola Myers Makeup & Hair Artists. Her clients include film and TV productions, magazines, fashion, and live events for royalty, celebrities, designers, politicians, and brides. She contributed her beauty expertise for our Social List and *Inside Homes* shoots.

7 **ANTON PAPICH**, part of the award-winning duo Anton+Prehn, has a passion for creating sensuous images that envelop viewers' senses. He captured the latest holiday fashions for our "Picture Perfect" photo shoot.

8 **LANA ORLOFF** heads the style consulting company "Lana Orloff Style." With many years of experience and a love for shopping and fashion, she offers style and image management, closet and wardrobe organization, and special event styling and makeovers, among other fashion services. She styles this month's fashion shoot.

9 **ERNESTO SANTALLA** is a Cuban-born architect based in Washington. He's worked on several projects in the United States, Puerto

Rico, and Europe, and his work has been widely published and recognized by numerous awards. He lends his eye for design to this month's *Inside Homes*.

10 Washington-area makeup artist and stylist **KIM STEELE** is currently represented by T.H.E. Artist Agency. Her signature style is to make sure her clients are recognizable, but look red-carpet-worthy at the same time. She contributes this month to our fashion shoot.

11 Style writer **KARIN TANABE** blogs weekly for the *Huffington Post* style section on politics and fashion. The Washington native's work has appeared in newspapers and magazines across the nation. She lends her insight in our inauguration feature and Social List shoot.

12 Washington writer **ANGELA VALDEZ** gives readers a "Young and the Guest List" guide to inauguration festivities throughout the city.

Corrections from the November 2008 issue:

On page 52, a line was incorrect in Alexandra DeBorchgrave's poem. It should read "Leads the heart over waves of flaws."

On page 67, the Courage Cup was wrongly named the largest polo tournament on the East Coast. That title belongs to America's Polo Cup.

On page 102, Susan McCorkindale was misidentified. She is the sister-in-law of Douglas McCorkindale, whose wife is named Nancy.

On page 73, Leslie Green was misidentified as Brooke Daley in a picture. The biographical information was correct for Daley.

HOME LIFE

INSIDE HOMES, HISTORICAL LANDSCAPES, ART AND AUCTION | *Inauguration Real Estate Special*

Change

YOU CAN LIVE IN

From their political campaign advertisements to a modern revival of their Potomac home, Marius and Nancy Penczner are all about crafting new beginnings

BY ERNESTO SANTALLA AIA
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MORGAN HOWARTH AND GEOFFREY HODGDON
HAIR AND MAKEUP CAROLA MYERS

As an architect, I'm constantly faced with change, not only in the physical appearance of the properties I work with, but also the change my clients experience in their lives and hope to infuse into their homes. Marius and Nancy Penczner are no different. Following a career renaissance, the couple came to me hoping to transform their Center-Hall Colonial home in Country Glen.

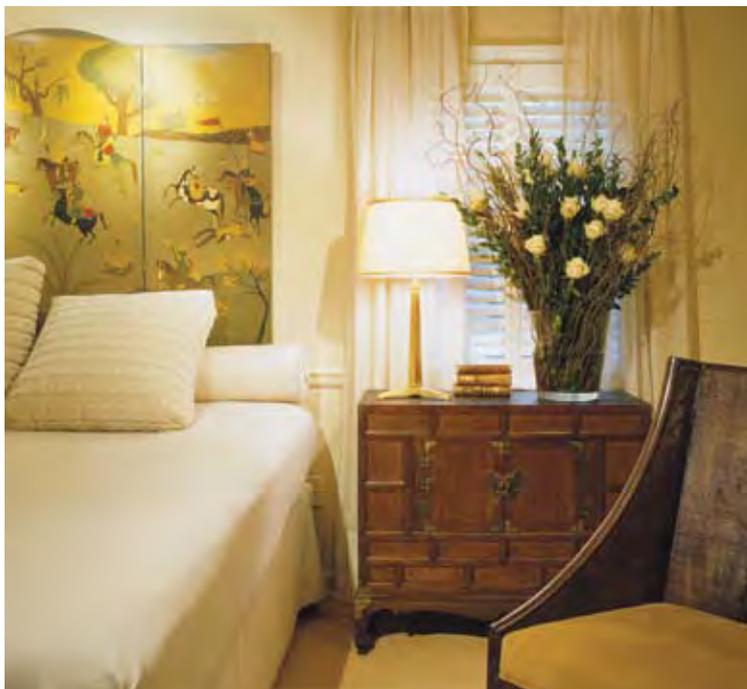
I adhere to the philosophy that a home should be functional yet reflective of the owner's personalities. Getting to know the dynamic couple before I began redesigning their property was a lesson in two intertwined lives lived passionately and creatively.

In the '70s, while on hiatus from touring with his band, Black Oak Arkansas, Marius took a film production class at the University of Memphis. Serendipitously, Nancy, then a violin student, enrolled in a film editing class. Filmmaker meets film editor. A love for music and movies soon coalesced with a love for each other.

They tied the knot three years later and began to apply their passion for film, music, and each other into the Nashville-based music video production business, Penczner Productions. In 1983, just two years after the launch of MTV, Marius directed the ZZ Top music video, "TV Dinners" through Ardent Recording Studios. That success was followed with Travis Tritt's "American Flyer" and "Bible Belt,"



The dining room, previously enclosed and removed from the rest of the house, is seen from the family room and framed by a loggia of square columns. A light fixture by Kevin Reilly for Holly Hunt has a casual elegance. The dining table and chairs are Michael Vanderbyl for Baker. Photo: Geoffrey Hodgdon



Opening Page: In the family room, French doors connect the room to the garden beyond, flanking a custom media center designed by Studio Santalla. Modern classic furniture by Donghia is the perfect place to relax in style. On the coffee table, a kiln-formed glass piece "Reach" by Washington artist Andres Tremols, glows as light filters through it. (Photo by Geoffrey Hodgdon)

Left: Marius and Nancy Penczner. (Photo by Morgan Howarth) / The Pencznors' bed incorporates a Primitive-style folding screen by Tony Palazzo as headboard and antique Korean chests as nightstands. The chair is Barbara Barry for McGuire. (Photo by Geoffrey Hodgdon)

and in 1993, the music documentary “My Old Friend,” with two of the great names in rock’n’roll, Carl Perkins and Paul McCartney. It was then, when Marius was reaching new heights in the music industry, that fate steered him in a different direction.

SCENE 1: GETTING POLITICAL

Producing a political ad for a sheriff’s race led Marius to a work for Don Sundquist’s congressional and gubernatorial bids in Tennessee. With a foot in the political world but still focused on the music industry, the Pencznerns got *the* call. “One day, I answered the phone and was asked, ‘how would you like to create ads for the 1996 Clinton/Gore presidential reelection campaign?’” Marius recalls. “How could we turn that down? We took the job.”

With a dream contract in hand, the couple relocated to Washington with their sons Paul and Andrew. Since then, Penczner Media has been a visual force behind political change, having crafted presidential campaign ads for Clinton/Gore in 1996, Gore/Lieberman in 2000 and John Edwards in 2003 and 2007. Still working outside the Beltway, the couple produced work for FedEx, Ford, and dNeXT’s “One Take Georgie,” which received nearly a million views on YouTube and was featured on Broadway’s “Laughing Liberally” comedy program.

SCENE 2: A HOME FOR WASHINGTON

Their move provided a chance to create a home reflective of the couple’s professional and geographical shift. With Nancy’s vote of confidence and her mantra of “let go and let Ernesto,” a door to a creative and long-term collaboration was opened.

The Pencznerns’ home, similar to many in the Washington area, is a Center-Hall Colonial



Above: Mirrored medicine cabinets flanked by glowing light fixtures give the master bathroom the illusion of natural light. A soft, warm color palette imparts a sense of serenity to the space. Purist collection plumbing fixtures by Kohler. (Photo by Geoffrey Hodgdon)

Right: Traditional Royal Worcester Blind Earl “raised” heirloom china and jade collections are displayed on contemporary Bo Concept shelving flanking an armoire from Atmosphere to create a striking contrast. Barbara Barry club chairs for Baker are covered in Donghia fabric. (Photo by Morgan Howarth)



“ONE DAY, I ANSWERED THE PHONE and was asked, ‘how would you like to create ads for the 1996 Clinton/Gore presidential re-election campaign?’ ”

with separate rooms for living and entertaining. In situations where my clients are concerned with space limitation, an addition is often requested. To provide larger living quarters without sacrificing aesthetics, we decided to effectively redesign the existing layout of the home.

The strategy was to open the main rooms to one another and in turn, open the house to the outdoors allowing for unobstructed garden views. The concept seemed simple, but it's a big step to go from renderings to demolition and construction. Seeing a house virtually gutted isn't easy, but I assured the Pencznars that the way they use and think about their home would be transformed.

The redesigned rooms are open, light, and in harmony with the original architecture of the structure. The front and back rooms are connected, allowing naturally filtered light into

the now spacious room all day. In contrast with the compartmentalized former design, the more functional and aesthetically appealing new look allows for more energy efficiency.

The family room, enlarged by incorporating an adjacent space, now serves as a screening room, informal entertaining room, and dining room. An otherwise relegated living room, with an adjacent fireplace, has become Nancy's home office suite.

To further consolidate their unique personal style, the art they've collected over the years – an eclectic mix of contemporary and traditional pieces, heirloom china, and antiques – is now incorporated in their living space.

SCENE 3: THE ART OF PERSONAL SPACE

The Pencznars' uncommon interests also contribute to their strong union. Nancy participates in two to three mini-triathlons a

Above: “Pale Gold Gleams II” by Pauline Ziegen (Donald Sultan school) hangs over an antique chest with an heirloom sterling silver tureen. In the background, paintings by Paul Penczner (Marius' father) hang above custom silverware chests designed by Studio Santalla. The room's traditional and contemporary qualities are enhanced by the Donghia sofa-daybed, stone mantelpiece and custom designed area rug by Studio Santalla. (Photo by Morgan Howarth)

year with her girlfriends. In 2009, they're poised to compete in “The Iron Girl Triathlon” in Las Vegas.

Marius is passionate about experiencing other people's art, particularly film or music. Leisure time is for working on personal photography and writing projects. To balance his artistic bent, he develops the technical side of his trade by keeping up on new technologies and software – his instruments of choice in the 2.0 world.

The Pencznars have invested a lifetime in their team, which has involved a lot of change and open-mindedness. Their new home now supports this philosophy. Not surprisingly, their sons are both film majors, looking no further than home for their ideal mentors. Could there be a family filmmaking dynasty in the future? Either way, the Pencznars will continue to create the change they believe in on a professional and personal level. **WL**