

(201) HOME

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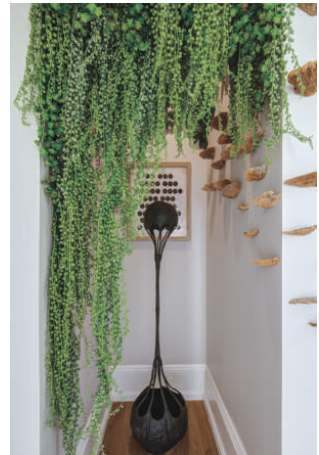
REST EASY
11 SPACES TO HELP YOU RELAX AND UNWIND

PLUS: DECORATIVE PAINTING 101



MARINA UMALI, owner of Marina V Design Studio in Ridgewood, decorated this L-shaped hallway leading to a primary bedroom as part of the 2023 Mansion in May Designer Showhouse and Gardens. It features real preserved mushroom shells on the walls, rose petal papers where visitors could write their intentions, and a “Cabinet of Curiosities” with moss-lined drawers filled with antique garden books, dried flowers, tools and air plants. The sculpture, entitled “Separation Anxiety,” the porcelain head bust beneath the overhanging artificial

flowers and the identical light fixtures made of keys add quirky charm. A hand-painted French country-style mural created by Heather Verrusio Pallotta, owner and founder of Studio Eighteen, covers the original cabinetry, ceiling and walls. Absent on the page: the smell of artificial roses scented with natural oils, and the sound of singing birds activated by motion sensors. The pleasing of multiple senses prompted visitors to tell Umali “This is so soothing and healing,” and “You touched something in me!” >



COURTESY OF THE DESIGNERS