

July 9, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

We had acquired a newly-built architectural house and while the interior was finished with construction, the exterior was not landscaped and had a few design difficulties. The original architect had put in an infinity pool but because of setbacks had no choice but to put the pool equipment right underneath it. We kept trying to think of ways to conceal the pool equipment until Velvet came up with the brilliant idea to make it a part of the landscape and designed a small structure with a roof-top herb garden. Velvet continued the thread of rust-colored panels from the original house to the pool shed to give a feeling of unity and the lovely space now looks and feels as if it was all part of the original design.

We also had a small hillside area that was on an elevation that we weren't quite sure how to use. Velvet took the opportunity to design a beautiful and very comfortable sitting area with a gas firepit and water feature. Thanks to Velvet and her staff, what was wasted space is now an inviting and soothing nook--great for entertaining or just relaxing. Velvet was with us every step of the way to design the right outdoor lighting, plant selection, stone and granite selection and now all the neighbors compliment us on our finished landscaping!

On the interior, Velvet and her staff found us some amazing pieces that we love: The D'Imperio light fixture above our dining table, the Cassina Oak desk in my office, and the Armani Casa master bedframe. She also had custom-made some beautiful bureaus and cabinets for the odd-sized spaces. She offered an array of tasty fabrics for different pieces and picked up on our taste quickly. Velvet and her staff also helped invaluablely with the many details, from designing closet and pantry cabinets to the size and shape of throw pillows. We couldn't be happier—or more comfortable—with the end result.

Sincerely,

Lea Russo