

# Southern home

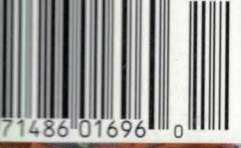
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*a Chat with*  
**James Farmer**



In a neighborhood bursting with Greek Revivals, Creole cottages, and Queen Anne Victorians, Sarah Ott's stately, redbrick Georgian—located just a block off of historic St. Charles Avenue—is a rare commodity. It's not your typical Uptown New Orleans home, but typical is anything but Sarah's style. As an accessory designer, she has always had a flair for color and quirk, but as a born-and-bred Southern girl, she is deeply connected to history and heritage.

"For as long as I can remember, I have loved all things design," says Ott. "I was always admiring my friends' homes and pining over the beautiful rooms that I would see in magazines and catalogs. Although she's a lawyer by profession, my mother is a creative at heart, and she allowed me the freedom to explore and pursue my passion—whether it was decorating my childhood bedroom or dangling Christmas tree ornaments from our chandelier. Everything I've learned, I've learned through observation and a little trial and error."

In 2000, Sarah and husband, Spencer, moved to Fort Worth, Texas, where they embarked on

Previous pages: Modern art and contemporary appointments are sprinkled throughout the house to put a fresh spin on the antiques-filled interiors. An antique French table was sliced down the center to create a pair of matching consoles for the foyer. When their original marbled tops incurred water damage, Ott reenergized them with coats of high-gloss yellow paint. Opposite: A cozy sitting room connects the dining room with the solarium. Above left: A wrought-iron archway and aged copper lantern recall the charm of a French Quarter courtyard. Above: Ott repurposed an unusually long gilt architectural fragment into a one-of-a-kind cornice. Left: An arched pass-through in the foyer and the gentle curve of the staircase soften the sharp lines of the original checkboard-style tiles.

Previous pages: European influence abounds in the facade of the home, which was designed by architect Doug Enoch.  
Opposite: Simple garlands adorn the entry hall's bannister, which was crafted by Robert Johnson of Robert Johnson Furniture.  
Underfoot, reclaimed limestone flooring is reminiscent of cottage style. This page: The covered porch, located off the kitchen, is a favorite year-round hangout for the family and where they often host friends for barbecues and informal get-togethers.

