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FABRIC

Material Girls

Two pros use their antique textile collections to dress up their—and your—homes.



PHOTO: Gridley + Graves



PHOTO: Gridley + Graves

ODE TO JOUY

Sandwiched between glass and acid-free board, framed, late 18th-century toile de Jouy samples enrich the walls of this relaxing dressing room. Sturdier, more recent reprints of these famous fabrics make excellent materials for pillow covers. Arching over the scene is a handcrafted memo board; Mary Jane McCarty makes them to order.

Mary Jane McCarty

Once a costume designer, Mary Jane McCarty credits her love of collecting antique fabric and turning it into something beautiful to her seamstress grandparents and her antiques dealer/decorator mother. Blending the best of each, she's scoured markets here and abroad to amass a collection that launched a business of distinctive pillows, lampshades and other home accessories. Despite her earned appreciation for ages-old fabric, at home she takes a relaxed approach: "If textiles are too fragile to sew," she confesses, "I frame and display my favorites." See Mary Jane's work online at maryjanemccarty.com.