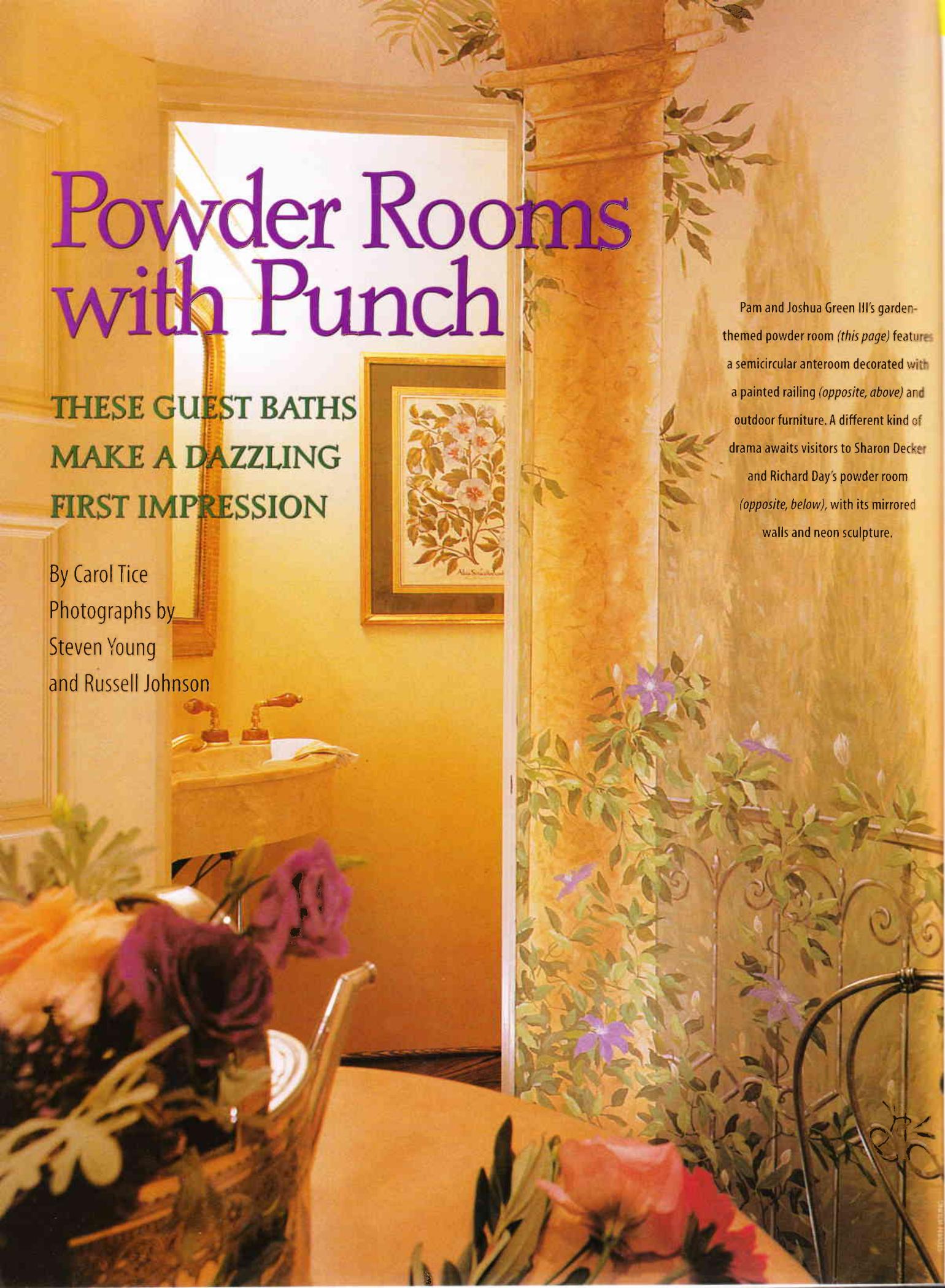


# Powder Rooms with Punch

THESE GUEST BATHS  
MAKE A DAZZLING  
FIRST IMPRESSION

By Carol Tice  
Photographs by  
Steven Young  
and Russell Johnson

Pam and Joshua Green III's garden-themed powder room (*this page*) features a semicircular anteroom decorated with a painted railing (*opposite, above*) and outdoor furniture. A different kind of drama awaits visitors to Sharon Decker and Richard Day's powder room (*opposite, below*), with its mirrored walls and neon sculpture.



# Pity the poor powder room.

Generally located just off the entry hall, its design is often treated as an afterthought, even in the grandest of homes. But a pair of eye-catching powder rooms—one in Seattle, another in Issaquah—show that this modest-sized room can be decorated with panache, whether the home is classic or contemporary.

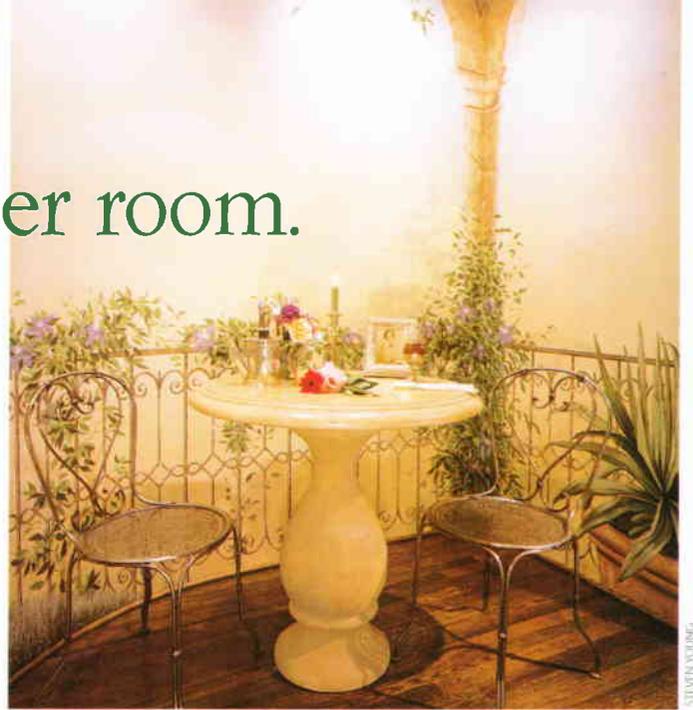
**I**N PAM AND JOSHUA GREEN III'S 1928 Mediterranean-style home in Broadmoor, the guest bath's brown patent-leather wallpaper was out of kilter with the rest of the home's wrought iron and hand-stenciled ceiling beams. Earlier this year, the Greens transformed the small bath near a side door and the semicircular anteroom adjoining it into a graceful mini-retreat.

When a long-awaited wallcovering sample for the anteroom turned out to be a displeasing shade, interior designer Pamela Pearce, ASID, suggested the Greens have local artist Erik Filban create an original floor-to-ceiling artwork for the room instead.

Filban spent two months on the project, crafting the mural in acrylic on canvas mounted to his studio wall. Once completed, the mural was re-mounted in the anteroom.

Because Pam is an avid gardener, she had Filban scan books of vines for inspiration. They settled on a purple-flowering clematis, which twines around a wrought-iron railing against a background of bright dawn sky. At the touch of a dimmer switch, the mood changes to an evening ambience.

The mural is complemented by a faux-stone concrete table flanked by a pair of 19th-century French polished-iron garden chairs. The chairs, found after the mural was completed, have a pattern that



perfectly matches the railing in the mural. At holiday time, the room's finishing touch is a stunning winter flower bouquet displayed in one of the antique watering cans that Pam collects.

A 19th-century French gilt mirror helps create a sense of space in the tiny water closet next door. The small, butterscotch-marble sink and metal fixtures were retained from a 1970s remodel, in part because it was difficult to find a new sink to fit the space, but also because they harmonized with the new look.

"I don't believe in wiping everything out when you redo a room," Pam says. "If it still works, it stays."



**T**HE OPPOSITE PHILOSOPHY guided the decoration of the guest bath at Sharon Decker and Richard Day's Issaquah home. Sharon completely discarded the 1970s ranch-house feel, creating a madcap, otherworldly interior that derives inspiration from cartoons and from the work of contemporary Arizona artist Earl Linderman.

The powder room beside the front door has become a stand-out conversation piece. The talk begins when guests open the glass-paned door. Signaled by a motion sensor set in the bathroom wall, the clear glass suddenly becomes opaque. The effect was created using two layers