



Interior designer Elsa Soyars installed a lavender grasscloth embelliced with silver grommets in this traditional entryway, updating its look with a color similar to Pantone's

RADIANT OKCHID Is This Year's Hot House Color

nterior designer Elsa Soyars stood in the foyer of the Pratt Estate—a nearly 7,000-square-foot Colonial Revival in Glen Cove—with a mission. She would do anything but what was expect-d. This traditional entryway needed some

Inspired by the fashion world, Ms. Sovars dressed the space in a lavender grass cloth embellished with silver grommets, injecting a taste of rock and roll into the late 19th-century estate once built as a wedding present for Standard Oil heiress Lydia Pratt. From October 26 through Decem-her 1, her vision opened up "Home is Where the Heart is," an inaugural Designer Showhouse benefiting the

American Heart Association.
Four days after the Showhouse closed its doors, Ms. Four days after the shownouse closen its goots, Ms. Soyars heard a surprising announcement, Color authority Pantone had just declared Radiant Orchid its Color of the Year—a purple almost identical to the grass cloth she had used in the Glen Cove mansion.



And the esact bige of the flowers anchoring use co-wall niches' which just so happened to be orchids. She had Galled the trend before it even happened. "Fvery designer, you go through moments. And I'm also a woffiagi". Ms. Soyars said last week from her Southamplon-based studio. "And not that I find lav-

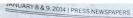
ender or purplesy tones feminine, thats just what I'm into. I was channeling this color. I warned to do something that wasn't so predictable, And there's a certain beauty to this color. All of people, especially out here, they're into grey now. But lawender goes well with that. It's not pin. It's seeign. Following the 2013 reign of emerald—a rich, wideren that symbolized growth, nerowal and prosperity seen everywhere from concept cars and cosmetics to jewelry and fastion—2014 Scolor of the Year selection reaches across the color wheel with furthsia, purple and pink undertones, and uthers in a new school ple and pink undertones, and ushers in a new school

of thought, according to Pantone Color Institute Executive Director Leatrice Eiseman.

This year is all about imagination, creativity, originality and confidence, she explained last week in an email, which can be an empowering presence in a complicated world. Radiant Orchid itself represents a certain degree of

complexity. Ms. Eiseman said, because it descends

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from both blue and red, two diametrically opposed colors, mood-wise. When they result in purple, there is a mystery at-tached to it, she said.

And it is not immediately ob-vious what the color means, she continued.

"Is [it] more calming and collected, like blue, or more ex-citing, like red?" Ms. Eiseman posed. "That is part of the fascination for this color. That is part of the intrigue, as well."

Radiant Orchid has a vibrancy about it, a rosiness and a strength, according to landscape designer Roxine Brown. though she doubts it will trick-le down to her industry. After all, lavenders, pinks and blues are already fixtures in horticulture-from the Fascination dahlia and Nicky phlox to Modern Pink lythrum to Angel Mist Plum angelonia, she said

"I come from the fashion world, where Pantone was one of the major color forecasters we looked at, but I wonder how many landscape designers actually know about Pantone," Ms. Brown, founder of Harmonia in Bridgehampton, said last week during a telephone interview. "Most people don't even know

what Pantone is. In gardens, vou're bound to the colors of the plants that are available. Maybe there will be a stronger empha-sis if they're aware of the color, like I am. It's piqued my interest.



Hints of Radiant Orchid in the rug complement the similarly colored

It's gorgeous.

Because Pantone's announce ment was just last month. Radiant Orchid's impact will remain to be seen, as color trends can sometimes take years to gain traction, explained Hampton Designer Showhouse Producer Tony Manning last week during

a telephone interview. Tangerine Tango from 2012 was huge in fashion this past year, but never quite landed in interiors

He doesn't believe that will be the case this time around though, he said.

In last year's Hamptons De-signer Showhouse, two rooms prematurely hinted at Pantone's newest selection with vibrant pinks and purples mixed with popular neutrals and grays, he Pantone's 2014 Color of the Year, Radiant Orchid, is already being realized in fashion, housewares, interior

"Once it gets to three, it's a trend," he said of the color selection used by the designers this past year. "We didn't quite have three, but we're on our way. This is what's so great about showhouses. You start to see things coming in. This is a color that hasn't been seen in a while."

For an unconventional exotic flair, pair Radiant Orchid with different shades of blue, Pantone suggests, or add pops of

up with sister shades of lavender, purple and pink, according to information provided by the color authority, or couple it with greens to create the feel of a tropical garden indoors.

design and furnishings.

In all of design, to keep things fresh, people are constantly experimenting with color and Mr. Manning said. esting that people are

like how the tangerine was two relate to blue and green and even reds. But not everyone can relate to oranges and pinks. I think that how people will use Radiant Orchid will make it very

soft. In the end, she knew she

years ago. Most everybody can had only one option. "I can't quite explain it. It's

interesting." This past fall, inside the Pratt Estate. Ms. Sovars said she is still unsure what came over

what I felt in my heart," she said of the lavender hue. "When I designed this space, I wanted to walk in and feel the experience. I wanted people to be enchanted by the beauty of the combination of materials I chose and the colors. This was

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not a safe choice as green. It's distinguished, yet playful and