

MODERN LUXURY

DC

REALTY CHECK 2018

Grand Estates, Prime
Listings, Hot New 'Hoods
& More

Plus
Sarah Pekkanen's
Book of Work
& Matt Shourds'
Culinary Hot Ticket



Wallpaper, \$185, by Cole & Son at Kravet, Washington Design Center; mirror, similar styles at Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com; sink, \$899, similar styles at signaturehardware.com.

DESIGN REDUX

A powder room in Arlington, Va., gets undersea style with interior designer Liz Mearns.

Unexpected (with a splash) might be the best way to describe this powder room interior designer **Liz Mearns** (lizmearns.com) dreamed up for her client, but it's only fitting of the Arlington, Va., home. The custom abode was a collaboration with Mearns, the owners and longtime friend Edward Seroskie of Little City Builders; the couple, originally from India, wanted a cool, organic indoor-outdoor vibe with eye-catching touches throughout, like in this space. They started with the Cole & Son wallpaper: "It is sophisticated, but with some whimsy [from the blowfish] to keep it from being too serious," says Mearns, who is currently working on about 18 projects, including a mod condo in the thriving District Wharf and another in Westlight. "The black background keeps it from being juvenile." The high-gloss door adds drama, while the marble sink with brass faucets and the gold-rimmed oval mirror complete the vibe. And that sink is a work of art in its own right: The bottom came unfinished, and the owner had her friend sand and paint it for her in return for some good Indian food and beer.