



The ultramodern Ernestomeda kitchen features a mix of white lacquer and oak cabinetry and a built-in, movable dining table.

GLOWING REVIEW

European white-oak flooring, stunning perspectives and ultrachic LED lighting turn a dated midcentury ranch house into a modern masterpiece.

By *Tate Gunnerson*
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Lighting is a passion for Laurentiu and Eva Vlad, owners of Luminii, an architectural lighting company that specializes in high-end LED fixtures. It's the first thing that Laurentiu notices when he walks into any space, and the couple wanted it to play a key role in the redesign of their '50s-era ranch-style home in Northfield. "People don't realize how critical lighting is," he explains. "You can build a beautiful space with really nice materials, but you have to light it right."

The house had not been renovated in more than two decades and awkwardly sported an oversize 700-square-foot bedroom with a tiny bathroom and one small closet. To rethink the space, the couple turned to Kevin Toukoumidis and Nick Irmen of dSPACE Studio (dspacestudio.com)—longtime clients who often use their company's lighting in their projects. "The size of the master bedroom was unimaginable," says Toukoumidis, still slack-jawed at the thought of it. "We reconfigured the entire space."

European white-oak flooring runs throughout the **CONTINUED.**



Clockwise from top left: The oak flooring has been carried into the master bath, where it complements the floating cabinetry and wall tile from Transceramica; illuminated wall niches with LED lighting from Luminii make an artful statement in the master bedroom; integrated lighting in the Poliform cabinetry gives a showroom effect to Eva's closet; the seating area of the master suite also features a custom fireplace and built-ins concealing a TV.



...CONTINUED remodeled home and into the bedroom, which is a fraction of its former self but still large enough to accommodate a cozy seating area in front of a linear fireplace mantel made of oak and black porcelain. On the other side of the room, the wall behind the bed has been detailed with a trio of glowing light box niches. "The client wanted to make the LEDs the art above the bed," says Toukoumidis. "It's the first thing you see when you walk into the bedroom."

It's one of several stunning axial views that the architects incorporated into their design. A set of custom steel-and-glass doors, for instance, frames the dark cabinetry in Eva's new closet, which, with its chic island and illuminated shelving, resembles an upscale boutique. And a sculptural soaker tub is the first thing you see in the newly created master bathroom. By day, a skylight allows

sunlight to wash down a recessed niche behind the tub, flooding the room with natural daylight. At night, LEDs give it a soft glow.

"Lighting allows us to accentuate the architectural details and express the detailing," Toukoumidis explains, pointing to the way it highlights the stunning granite slab that they selected for the shower wall. "Having layers of light in a space adds a kind of energy and creates an experience."

The renovation checks all the right boxes, say the Vlads, who still marvel at the transformation, which also includes a brand-new ultramodern Ernestomeda kitchen designed by Luca Lanzetta. "Simple, cleaner forms are more elegant and make us feel more comfortable," says Laurentiu. "Working with dSPACE Studio on this project was a no-brainer, and we are very happy with the way it turned out." ■

