

# BATH OF THE MONTH

Design by SARAH LUHTALA Architecture by DAVID KATZ

## New York, New York

Striated marble marches across the floor, over the tub, and up the wall, giving a master bath a graphic punch.

Interview by  
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To balance the drama of the honed Linac marble, designer Sarah Luhtala and architect David Katz kept the background elegantly understated. They chose minimalist fixtures and white Bianco Dolomiti marble tiles for the side walls. The shower curtain hangs from a recessed track in the ceiling to eliminate the visual intrusion of a rod—Luhtala and Katz wanted an uninterrupted flow of striations. >>

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**LISA CREGAN:** *I think this might be the coolest marble I've ever seen.*

**SARAH LUHTALA:** Me too. It's called Linac marble. Our client found it on the Stone Source Web site, and he fell madly in love with it. My first thought was, 'Oh my gosh, this is going to add a lot of drama.' Like, crazy drama if we weren't careful. So my business partner, Dieter Cartwright, and I decided to cover the floor, tub, and back wall in the Linac and balance it by doing the side walls in a simple white tile.

**DAVID KATZ:** That was brilliant because it makes the marbled area feel like a temple with a fountain. The stone, the 12-foot ceilings, and the focal point of the water altar emphasize the linear quality of the room, so it feels much larger than you would expect from the outside.

**SL:** The marble is like a

long carpet that rolls all the way up to the ceiling, drawing your eye up with it and creating the illusion of more space.

**Did you plan an altar wall, or was that a happy accident?**

**SL:** It was originally going to be a shower niche, but we only had room to run pipes for a tub filler. We had a regular old tub filler there at first, but it became evident that this would be the focal point, so we switched it out with a waterfall filler. It's very minimal, with no backplate, and it looks like it just comes out of the wall.

**All of the fixtures are very minimal.**

**SL:** Choosing fixtures is usually driven by pragmatism, but here it was all about the aesthetic. We didn't want them to compete with the marble. And we wanted a toilet, a bidet, and a sink that we could mount on the wall,

so the stone would be continuous on the floor. I designed the sink's base cabinet with integral pulls instead of hardware. The medicine cabinet is frameless and recessed into the wall. The fact that you lift the cabinet door instead of pulling it out and having to step back really helps in this space.

**Why is that a benefit?**

**DK:** This isn't a typical master bathroom. It's long, narrow, and high. It's in an 1890s industrial loft, and we only had a skinny place to build a bathroom. Usually bathrooms are either large celebrations—temples of water—or hidden spaces. This is a combination of the two.

**What's the reaction when people see the room?**

**DK:** You walk in, and it's like, 'Pow!' Nobody's prepared for the drama. ●

### MORE MARBLE

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Ravello, from \$18 per square foot. [annsacks.com](http://annsacks.com).



Verde Amazonia, \$6 per square foot, by MS International. [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com).



Haisa Dark, \$14 per square foot. [countryfloors.com](http://countryfloors.com).



Black and White, \$4 per square foot, by Emser. [lowes.com](http://lowes.com).



Arabescato, from \$21 per square foot. [walkerzanger.com](http://walkerzanger.com).



Verde Dark, \$17 per square foot. [nemotile.com](http://nemotile.com).

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SEBAMED LIQUID FACE & BODY WASH: [COSTCO.COM](http://COSTCO.COM).

**FAR LEFT:** Walnut doors frame a wide-trough sink by Rapsel that's fitted into a wall-mounted, lacquered custom cabinet. Lulu single-lever faucets in polished chrome complete the streamlined look. The medicine cabinet from Robern has a sliding door that lifts up, and interior lighting. **LEFT:** A polished chrome Quarto tub filler gives the niche above the tub a fountain-like effect.

### GET THE LOOK...

Linac marble slabs and Bianco Dolomiti wall tile: [stonesource.com](http://stonesource.com).

Tea-for-Two tub: [kohler.com](http://kohler.com).

Quarto in-wall tub spout: [artos-westover.com](http://artos-westover.com).

Grand Kanal sink: [rapsel.it](http://rapsel.it).

Lulu shower and sink fixtures: [dornbracht.com](http://dornbracht.com).

Uplift medicine cabinet: [robern.com](http://robern.com).

Starck 2 toilet and bidet: [duravit.com](http://duravit.com).

Glance towel bar: [jadousa.com](http://jadousa.com).

Sublime towels: [kassatex.com](http://kassatex.com).

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