



② **Architecture** Alpine, New Jersey, USA

ELEGANCE & QUALITY, A WINNING FORMULA

SET IN THE PEACEFUL SURROUNDINGS OF AN EXCLUSIVE RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CLOSE TO NEW YORK, THIS VILLA BOLDLY COMBINES TRADITION WITH A MODERN CHOICE OF MATERIALS. THE PROJECT WON THE CERAMICS OF ITALY TILE COMPETITION 2013 AT THE US CERAMIC TILE AND STONE EXHIBITION COVERINGS



by **Laura Ragazzola**, Interni

Alpine, a small town on the Hudson River in Bergen County, New Jersey, is just twenty kilometres from New York. Ranked by Forbes magazine in 2012 as one of the most expensive places to live in America, it boasts properties no less exclusive than those of Beverly Hills on the other side of the country. It is a little-known haven of peace, space and greenery where the New York upper middle classes (including celebrities such as famous singers and American basketball stars) can escape to spend the weekend away from the traffic and bustle of the city. A far cry from the busy streets and luxury stores of the metropolis, it lies on a small road with a church, town hall and small police station. There isn't even a post office. The real stars are the stylish villas peeping out from the greenery of exquisitely manicured avenues, one of which is the residence featured in this article.

Commissioned by local real estate company Alpine Summer, the villa is the work of Anna Marie Fanelli, designer and owner of the Floor & Decor showroom, which for nearly thirty years has been

Right, an exterior view of the villa.

Top, the spacious kitchen with breakfast and lunch counter.

Facing page, the family room, the most private room in the house, and the splendid solarium with window overlooking the greenery.



Private Villa

project

Anna Marie Fanelli
www.annamarietanelli.com

photos

Marisa Pellegrini
<http://marisapellegrini.com>

ceramic surfaces

Casa Dolce Casa
www.casadolcecasa.com

Ragno
www.ragno.it

Ceramica Sant'Agostino
www.ceramicasantagostino.it

Ceramica Rondine
www.rondinegroup.com

Unicom Starker
www.unicomstarker.it

ImolaCeramica
www.imolaceramica.com

year of construction

2012



Top, the solarium floor showing the splendid multicoloured pattern of the tiling.

Right, a detail of the fireplace that dominates the family room, coordinating perfectly with the diagonally-laid floor tiles.

Facing page, three views of the bathrooms in the night quarters for use by the children and guests. Here too, the successful choice of colours of the tiles and the use of different sizes lend personality to the spaces.



building and renovating houses for New York's most discerning customers. The building reinterprets traditional building types and techniques and consists of an elegant volume combining a number of units with 45 degree pitched roofs and red brick walls inspired by the Victorian period.

The elevation is punctuated by a series of bow windows looking out over a beautiful Italian garden. But in spite of its elegance and sophistication, the interior of the house maintains a very simple layout. The ground floor entrance leads into the living room, and from there to the dining room and kitchen, all of which are new, bright and spacious. Completing the first level is the family room, a cosy, intimate space with a large fireplace, and a veranda looking out onto the trees on one side of the building. The first floor, a romantic attic nestled under the sloping roof, houses the night quarters where the master bedrooms alternate with guest rooms in a sequence of spaces that stand out for their elegant choice of furnishings. Here too, small balconies and dormer windows set into the beautiful slate-tiled roof offer spectacular views onto the garden. But it is the choice of surface covering materials, largely Italian ceramic tiles, that gives the villa its distinctive combination of beauty and functionality. In recognition of these qualities, the project won an honourable mention in the Ceramics of Italy Tile Competition 2013 at Coverings 2013, the most important US exhibition of ceramic tile and stone held in Atlanta, Georgia. Tiles created by some of the leading Italian producers vie for attention in the villa's splendid interiors, creating compositions of materials and colours of outstanding visual impact and creativity.

Tiles from Casa Dolce Casa (Velvet, Oyster) enjoy pride of place on the floor of the large kitchen, creating an aesthetically pleasing and highly functional surface dominated by soft, bright tones. The same products are used in the more intimate family room, this time with a diagonal layout. The ground floor also houses the solarium, where the floors are covered with White coloured tiles from the Calabria series by Ragno. Upstairs, the bathrooms feature collections from Ceramica Sant'Agostino (Landscape, Valley), Ceramica Rondine (Silk, in the warm tones of Honey and Desert Sand), Unicom Starker (Natural Slate, Autumn) and ImolaCeramica (Hall White), creating floor and wall covering solutions that strike a delicate balance between tradition and modernity.



spaces
residential

applications
interior and exterior floor coverings

ceramic surfaces
CASA DOLCE CASA
Velvet Oyster
30x60 cm and 40x40 cm
RAGNO
Calabria White
30x60 cm
CERAMICA
SANT'AGOSTINO
Landscape Valley
30x30 cm
CERAMICA RONDINE
Silk
Honey and Desert Sand
7.5x15 cm
UNICOM STARKER
Natural Slate
Autumn
15x15 cm and 30x30 cm
IMOLACERAMICA
Hall White
20x40 cm

