

# GREAT LAKE REMAKE

A historical home's new master bath boasts light, views, verve, and curves—plus ties to tradition.

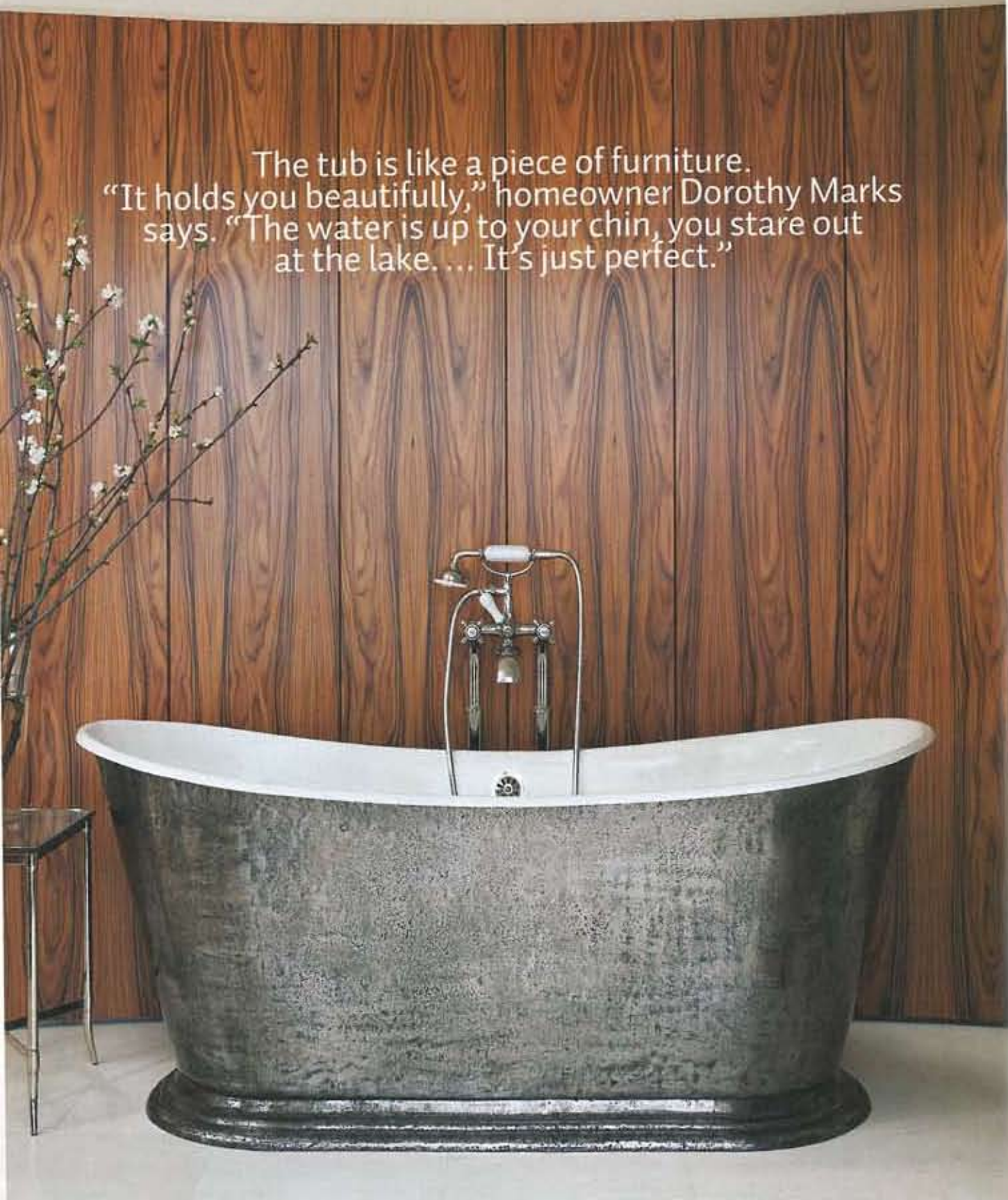


OPPOSITE: Dorothy and Peter Marks wanted a master bath that would embrace their Chicago home's architecture and lakeside setting. "The design of the bathroom was dictated by the vocabulary of the house," Dorothy says. "There are beautiful details, vaulted ceilings, beautiful archways, and the light on the lake. It's really about the light."

THIS PHOTO: For maximum comfort, the chaiselike bench in the steam shower is contoured to fit Dorothy's and Peter's bodies.



The tub is like a piece of furniture. "It holds you beautifully," homeowner Dorothy Marks says. "The water is up to your chin, you stare out at the lake. ... It's just perfect."



**SCENERY AND SECLUSION**

The tub and shower take in lake views. Closets inside the entry boost storage, while two vanities and a toilet room ease sharing. A door by the tub leads to an office.



SEEING THE LIGHT TOOK 16 YEARS for Dorothy and Peter Marks. It's the light that reflects off Lake Michigan and fills the master bath of their 1920s home in Chicago's North Shore area.

Replacing a tacked-on addition with a more thoughtful space tripled the bath's size and opened it to lake views. Though their home is historical, the couple didn't want heavy traditional style in the bath. "So we moved on to a modern look while staying in the right period of the house," architect Jennifer Knapp says. "When we were looking at character for the bathroom, we were looking at styles that were occurring in similar houses in the 1920s," principal architect Gary Beyerl says.

The focal point of the bath is a freestanding antique European tub. Dorothy compares it to a piece of furniture. "It holds you beautifully, the water is up to your chin, you stare out at the lake. ... It's just perfect," she says.

Another pampering space is the steam shower, a glass-doored enclosure with a long bench contoured for comfortable sitting or reclining and a window that looks out on the lake. French doors between the matching vanities offer another lake view.

Curves in the tub and shower echo in the gentle arcs of the vanity fronts and a paneled wall behind the tub. The cabinets and wall are rosewood, an elegant choice that ties the bath to the home's traditional roots.

"That was the important goal," Dorothy says. "Creating casual, useful space in an elegant setting." **KM**

OPPOSITE: Limestone flooring surrounds the nickel-clad tub. "You can fill it with hot water at eight in the morning and at eight at night, it's still warm," Dorothy says. ABOVE LEFT: The tile colors were inspired by Lake Michigan, visible from within the shower. ABOVE RIGHT: Rosewood panels behind the tub conceal doors to the toilet room and an office. BELOW: The vanities, topped with 1920s-look marble, are also rosewood. Stain brings out the wood's beauty. "We were going for the strong verticality in the grain," architect Jennifer Knapp says.

