

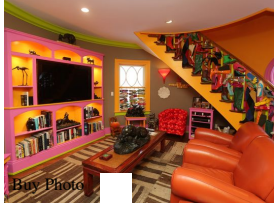
Wildly colorful house in Bronxville for \$4.2M



Bill Cary, wcary@lohud.com

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In very polite and proper Bronxville, there is a wildly colorful, incredibly playful house on the market that feels more like an art gallery or funhouse museum than the expected suburban manse.



(Photo: Mark Vergari/The Journal News)

In the very polite and proper village of Bronxville, there is a wildly colorful, incredibly playful house on the market that feels more like an art gallery or funhouse museum than the expected suburban manse. One step inside the front door and you know right away that two very interesting and talented people live here.

One of them, Elena Agostinis Patterson, is an accomplished artist who adores color and is not afraid of mixing hues in ways you never thought possible. She is also the co-owner of the equally fun and colorful Chaos boutique stores in Bronxville and Manhattan.

Her husband, Mark, is a caricaturist, jazz guitarist and race car driver. He also has a magnificent collection of sculptures that are scattered through the nearly 6,000-square-foot house on Prescott Avenue. (Yes, that was a

Rodin just inside the front door.)

Mark recently retired from Matlin Patterson, the private equity firm he co-founded in New York. With their two sons up and out of the house, it seemed like a good time to go ahead and put the seven-bedroom, six-bath house on the market. It's listed for \$4.25 million with William Dowling of Julia B. Fee Sotheby's International Realty.

"Since we put the listing on the market, we've had nonstop appointments to see it," Dowling says, adding that he has become quite familiar with the 97 light switches in the house.

"The next owner will probably do it as a more traditional Bronxville house, which it will hold because the bones are so good," he says.

"They're fantastic people," Dowling adds, about the Pattersons, who are both from South Africa. "Everything in this house is her creation, all those little details."

"Every couple of years I've seen the house go through various art installations," Dowling says. "She has unbelievable energy."

Along with all the artwork and color, the 1898 house has quite the pedigree. Its architect was William Bates, who designed many of Bronxville's earliest homes, and it sits atop a hill in the tony Lawrence Park neighborhood, originally an artists colony. It was called Valley View House when it was built.

With wide hallways and expansive staircases and landings, the house has a gracious and generous feel to it.

It still contains many of the original architectural details, including Juliet balconies, 17th-century balusters, wooden rosettes, bracketed eaves, embayed windows, and a three-story stone and stucco tower with a cone-shaped roof.

Soon after moving into the house in 1993, the Pattersons undertook a major renovation, adding four new bathrooms, a kitchen extension, two-story turret, new cedar shake roof, new chimneys, and a two-car garage.

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<p>The kitchen might just be the most colorful and creative room in the house</p> (Photo: Mark Vergari/The Journal News)

And what's next for the Pattersons? "We're building a house in Montana and we have a house upstate, in Tannersville, and we're in Mexico some of the time," Elena says.

Twitter: @BillCaryNY (<https://twitter.com/BillCaryNY>)

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Address: 34 Prescott Ave., Bronxville

School district: Bronxville

Price: \$4.25 million, with estimated annual taxes of \$96,093

MLS No.: 4503886

Contact: William Dowling, Julia B. Fee Sotheby's International Realty, 917-837-5037

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