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Carleton Varney's Alter Ego?

By Rob Brinkley June 04, 2010

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He grew up in Midland, went to Harvard, then made a *fortune* in New York. Now he's back in Texas, ensconced in a bachelor pad at [The Residences at The Ritz-Carlton, Dallas](#). And ladies, he's looking for The One. Meet Grant Calloway — or rather, Grant Calloway's apartment. I'm just back from the first look at it, courtesy of the dapper whirlwind known as [Carleton Varney, the inimitable decorator and president of Dorothy Draper, Inc.](#) Varney, you see, concocted the whole thing, Calloway included. The fictional Mr. Calloway is the inspiration for

this red-hot model residence, part of the Ritz-Carlton's triple-threat Designer Showcase Homes — one residence each by Varney, glam girl Jan Showers and the dynamic Laura Hunt. Varney just fluffed the last pillow and invited me in, where I discovered lusty red paint splashed everywhere, Dorothy Draper furniture and iconic black-and-white photographs by George Hurrell and Slim Aarons. Bachelor pad, indeed — just witness the Remington horse sculpture (Calloway is an outdoorsman *and* an urbanite) and all the accoutrements a man on the make could want, including good books, a jumbo flat-screen over the fireplace and, of course, glittery views of Dallas from the windows and the balcony. Varney and Brinsley Matthews, his director of design, augmented the Ritz-Carlton's already-luxurious flat with a chocolate-brown chinoiserie chair-rail treatment inspired by Monticello, a laundry-room-turned-wine-cellar paneled in the wood from wine crates and a Matthews-designed banana-leaf wallpaper for the powder room that will knock your bon vivant socks off. The final flourish? "A touch of gilt on the fireplace," Matthew points out, "because this *is* Dallas." [Schedule your look soon](#), before a real Grant Calloway snaps this lair up, crystal goblets, Remington and all.

Click on the thumbnails, below, for my impressions of the "Calloway" place. More to come — about all three Designer Showcase Homes — in our July design issue.



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Cynthia Lee says:

Thanks for sharing....Carleton is a genius!Great idea to create such a dynamic living environment inside the elevated style of the Residences at The Rit-Carlton. What color exactly is that red...something of a rose? Fabulous.

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