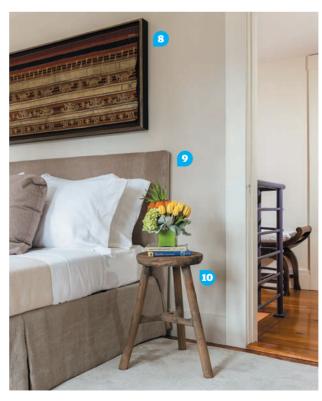


## **Tribal Treasures**

**BY JACI CONRY** 

interior, Jan Luchetti faced an intriguing challenge: to choose furnishings and colors that complemented the owner's substantial collection of tribal artifacts. Most of it relates to the Plains Indians and dates to the 1870s, but it includes some pieces from Amazon tribes, as well as Asian works. Luchetti selected a neutral palette that wouldn't compete with the art and the furniture, which has a masculine sensibility without overdoing it—it was important that the owner's two daughters feel comfortable in their dad's house. The Weston-based designer was also careful not to overload any room with native artifacts—their presence is intriguing rather than heavy-handed.

"An old collection like this can be combined with new things to create a casual elegance," says Luchetti. "The key is finding balance."



- 1 > A CARPENTER'S WORKBENCH from the early 20th century displays feathers from the Amazon Indians and armbands from the
- 2 > A LAKOTA SIOUX CRADLE crafted of beadwork hangs on one wall.

Arapaho.

- 3 > THE COFFEE TABLE
  of distressed dark-stained
  oak was made by Merz
  Construction, based in
  Carlisle, specifically to
  suit the narrow space in
  front of the sofa.
- 4 > A HENRY BEGUELIN POUF crafted of leather serves as display area for books and a basket made by the Washoe Tribe – it can also be used as seating.
- 5 > THE CHAIRS AND SOFA are upholstered in beige linen. "While we wanted neutral, we didn't want stark white," says Luchetti, who used throw pillows that incorporate colors found in the room's tribal pieces.
- 6 > A RED LACQUER LADDER from late 19th-century Asia pops against the neutral wall.
- 7 > A HEAVY ANTIQUE LAMP from Charles Spada at the Boston Design Center was chosen for its masculine appeal and "because the dark metal complements the tribal pieces," says Luchetti.
- 8 > A JAVANESE WEDDING SHAWL, about 100 years old, that Luchetti had framed is the master bedroom's focal point.
- 9> THE VELVET HEADBOARD
  was custom made by
  Eliot Wright Workroom in
  Boston. "You should splurge
  on beds and couches,
  things that really need to
  be comfortable and long
  lasting," says Luchetti.
- 10 > A MODEST STOOL, an American antique, serves as a bedside table.