

a rousseau as a room

Ideas for interiors can be found anywhere, especially in a masterful work of art—such as surrealist painter Henri Rousseau's *The Dream*, reinterpreted as a colorful, exotic living room.



The "Henri Rousseau: Jungles in Paris" exhibit will be at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., July 16 through October 15. nga.gov

the translation process

tropical influence

A poor, self-taught artist whose work was scorned during his lifetime, Henri Rousseau (1844-1910) never even visited the distant locales that inspired him. Today he's recognized as a genius—and his fantastical 1910 classic *The Dream* moved us to create this otherworldly interior.

a lush mise-en-scène

Scenic wallpapers have been bringing nature indoors since at least the 1700s. This digitally printed mural, based on elegant 19th-century landscape designs, has the punch of any hand-painted original but at a fraction of the cost (look for others at 4walls.com and usawallpaper.com). Mounted above paneling, this wallpaper transforms a blank surface into a verdant lagoon, lending depth to the room.

jungle palette

Potted palms and ficus plants clustered near the wall make it hard to tell where the scene ends and the room begins. Ceramic planters and garden stools in tropical blues introduce another layer of color, while jewel-toned surprises echo the painting's bright moments: Protea blossoms recall the exotic flora, and a woven rug evokes the stripes of the musician's skirt. A hanging lamp stands in for the moon.



Digitally printed scenic wallpapers come in a range of styles, and make a huge impact.

< the room

wallpaper
"Tropical Jungle" in Bright ABOUT \$600/12-FOOT MURAL (CAN BE CUSTOM-SIZED), SONIA'S PLACE (212) 355-5211 FOR INFORMATION

paint
Regal Aqua Glo in Kennebunkport Green BENJAMINMOORE.COM FOR STORES

chaise
Upholstered "Cube" \$499 WESTELM.COM

stools (similar to shown)
Glazed ceramic \$279 EACH, WISTERIA.COM

pendant light
Murano-glass "Globe" \$651.60 YLIGHTING.COM

rug
Cotton "Dorchester #60" \$16.95/SQUARE FOOT, WOODARD & GREENSTEIN (800) 332-7847 FOR STORES

vase
Crystal "Bubble" \$60 SPRUCE FLORIST (212) 414-0588

planter
Ceramic "Fish Tank" \$150 PEARL RIVER MART (800) 878-2446

BTW: We made the paneling ourselves by cutting molding into strips and nailing them to the wall. Dark semigloss paint pulls the look together.