

“Faux finishes infuse a space with style through the artful symmetry of color and texture. Some of the more popular finishes are ones that are understated yet effective”



**DESIGNER**  
Sheri Zeman

**FIRM**  
Faux Design Studio

**LOCATION**  
Addison

## DRAMATIC ELEGANCE

# FAUX EFFECTS

Suitable for every room in the house, interesting and intricate faux finishes create a certain mystique. One of the more popular faux treatments, labor-intensive Venetian plaster adds interest to a space through color, texture and sheen. “Thanks to its remarkable versatility, highly polished Venetian plaster can be employed in either a traditional or ultra-modern home. In rich, deep colors, it makes a statement, adding instant glamour,” explains Sheri Zeman, director of Faux Design Studio in Addison, Illinois. The finished product relies heavily on the creativity of the artist’s application technique, since the decorative plaster is spread across the wall using a variety of strokes with very small spatulas, resulting in different angles and shades. “The myriad of products available allow for unlimited options and durability,” Zeman says.

Murals have always been responsible for telling a story. Due largely to their customizable characteristics, these hand-painted masterpieces are being integrated into the home more and more, even in the most minimalist of settings. “Usually a focal point in a dining or powder room, or even on a ceiling, murals provide the perfect opportunity for personal expression,” notes Zeman. “Taking cues from a favorite place or time, individualized and custom murals complement the composition of a room.”

Often considered to be the most versatile of the faux finishes, glazes are admired for their smooth surfaces that create the illusion of sumptuous textures like suede, linen, silk, wood, stone and even metal. The use of glazes not only adds character to otherwise ordinary walls, it also conveys the feeling of timeless elegance, according to Zeman. “Glaze has the ability to cause a softening effect on even the harshest of surfaces. It provides a space with unparalleled color and great depth,” she says.



### STYLE SELECTION

The perfect light fixture for a grand foyer, this lantern-style chandelier features hand-blown glass, antiqued candles and a bronze finish. *Louvre Outdoor Lantern*, \$1,565; [fineartlamps.com](http://fineartlamps.com)