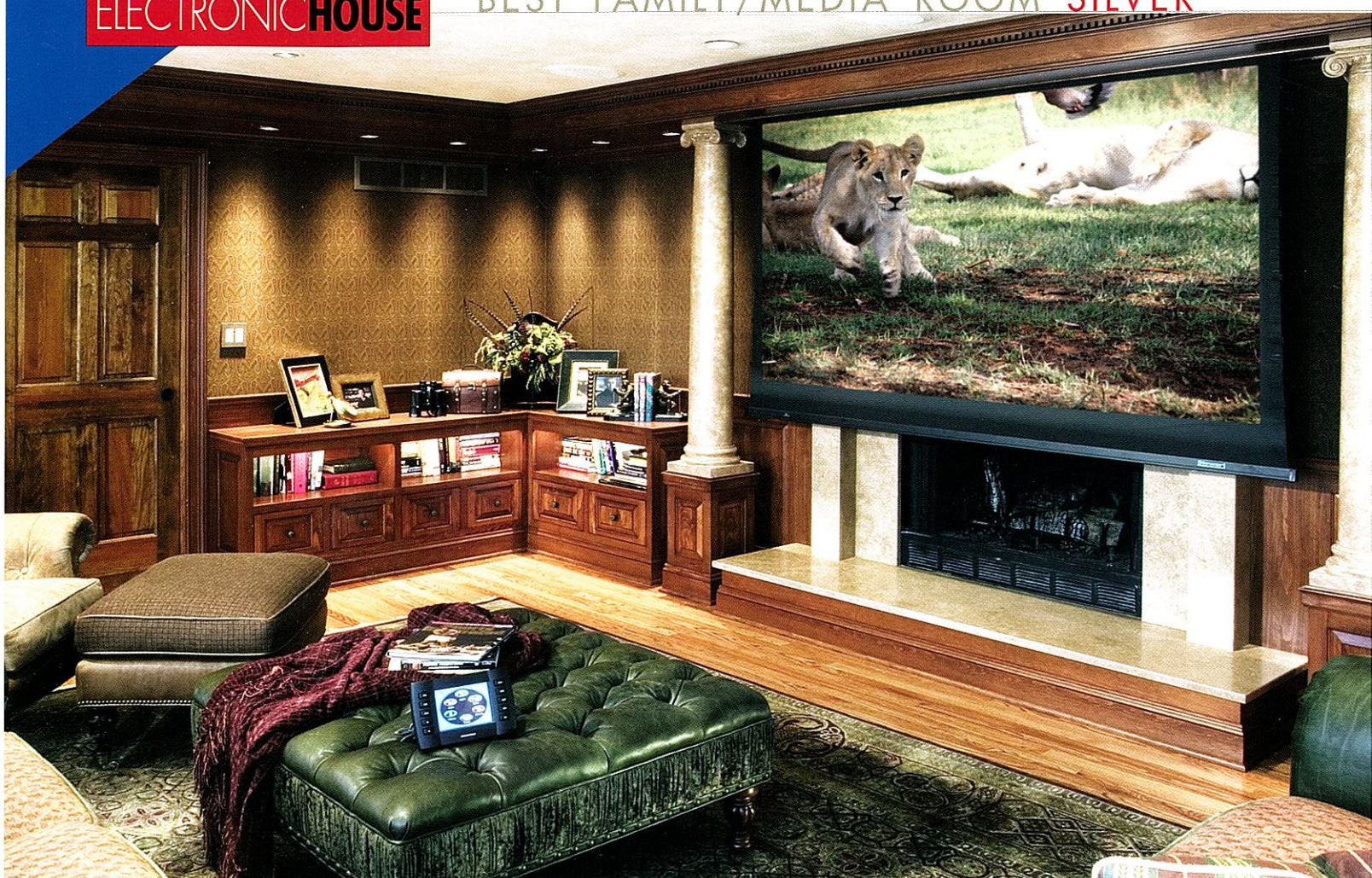


As seen in:

**ELECTRONICHOUSE**

BEST FAMILY/MEDIA ROOM **SILVER**



## VITAL STATS

### SYSTEMS DESIGN & INSTALLATION

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### MILLWORK AND CABINETRY

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### INTERIOR DESIGN, FABRICS AND FURNISHINGS

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# Cozy Confidential

Some new hiding places in a traditional space.

*photography by William Psolka*

The owners of this traditional home wanted to create a cozy family room that could be used for everything from listening to music to reading books to watching TV or movies. So there would be a home theater system, but with one catch: All the technology had to be hidden.

The 15-by-20-foot space appears as a traditional sitting room, but press a button on the Crestron handheld remote, and the work of the home systems designers at Piscataway, NJ-based Electronics Design Group (EDG) appears. If casual TV viewing is on tap, artwork in the picture frame over the fireplace scrolls up to reveal

a 42-inch NEC plasma screen. If more serious viewing is on the agenda, Lutron shades lower over the windows in the back of the room, a 92-inch Stewart Filmscreen screen descends from its hiding place in the crown molding above the fireplace, and a motorized door in the opposite crown molding opens for the Digital Projection DLP projector.

Three oval-shaped Sonance Ellipse speakers with tilted and pointable drivers provide front left, center and right sound from positions in the ceiling, while two more Sonance in-ceiling speakers are used for the surrounds



and augmented with a rear center Canton in-wall speaker to make a 6.1-channel arrangement. The Canton speaker was placed in the area between the windows, and its grille was painted to blend in with the walls. The Canton speaker was chosen for its slim depth, as there were only three inches available to recess it into the wall, says EDG's Bob Gullo. The rear center channel also provides a somewhat directional surround sound, which is great for getting the full impact of fast-moving scenes, such as those with passing vehicles. "It was actually the perfect thing," says Gullo. "With this system you get a fantastic flyover effect."

Two B&W subwoofers are hidden behind the loveseat, and beneath the very traditional-looking sofa there's even a ButtKicker bass transponder that turns low frequencies into vibrations. People are often surprised by that, Gullo says.

Like the Canton speaker, the Digital Projection projector had to be chosen partly for its size: It had to fit into the tight space behind the crown molding. But perhaps the toughest thing in the room was mounting the plasma screen, because it couldn't be recessed into the wood-burning fireplace—and the Media Decor art frame would make it stick out from the wall even further. The solution: Cut away  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch of sheetrock to create a little space, hang the plasma in the art frame there, and have the wall fabric cover the sides of the enclosure behind the frame to create the illusion of the TV and frame being flush mounted. The depth provided from the columns also helps disguise the protruding frame.

And the equipment running all this? That's hidden, too. The only components nearby are a DVD player and VCR in an adjacent hi-fi audio room.—SC EH

## EQUIPMENT LIST

### DISPLAY

NEC PX-42 42-inch plasma  
Media Décor Motorized art frame  
Digital Projection I-Vision-HD projector  
ETA motorized actuator  
Stewart Filmscreen 16:9 Electrascreen

### AUDIO/VIDEO COMPONENTS

ADA PTM-6150 amplifier  
DirecTV HR-10-250 HDTV/TiVo  
Lexicon MC-4 sound processor  
Pioneer DV-47ai DVD player  
Sony SLV-998 VCR

### SPEAKERS

Sonance Ellipse 2.0 LCR channels (3)  
Sonance Cinema .5 surround channels (2)  
Canton Plus-F surround back channel  
B&W ASW2500 subwoofers (2)  
Buttkicker LFE linear motor  
Buttkicker BKA-1000-4A amplifier

### CONTROL

Crestron AV2 control processor  
Crestron STX1700CXP touchpanel  
Crestron TPS-RFGWX RF receiver

### LIGHTING

Iris MR16 recess lights (18)  
Lutron HRD10D dimmer  
Lutron HRT3LD table lamp dimmer  
Lutron STRD6DRL keypad  
Middle Atlantic ERK35 rack system

### ACCESSORIES

Extron RGB464xi  
Channel Master 9537 motorized  
antenna rotor  
Channel Master HDTV antenna  
Lutron motorized shading system

When it's movie time, a 92-inch screen descends from its hiding place in the soffit. For more casual viewing there's a 42-inch plasma display. When there's nothing to watch, artwork scrolls into the frame to conceal the plasma. It's all controlled via a Crestron touchpanel.