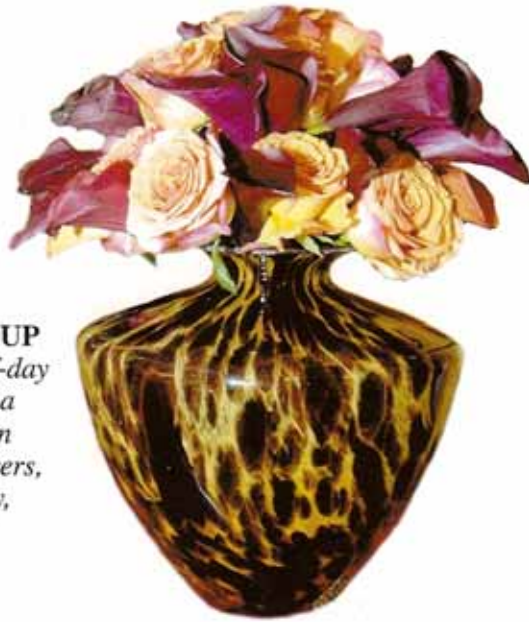




ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL
Gentlemen prefer Baccarat in this elm wood burl campaign box circa 1890 with brass inlay, four decanters, matching cordials and a unique silver plate handled tray with the holders for the glasses. \$5,600. Available at Elise Abrams Antiques, 11 Stockbridge Rd., Rte. 7 Great Barrington, Mass.; 413-528-3201; www.eliseabrams.com.



THE BLOOMSBURY GROUP
Fresh cut flowers in an end-of-day glass vase breathe air into a study. Prices available upon request. Available at Wildflowers, 15 Hollow Road, Woodbury, Conn.; 203-263-0234.



STORYTELLING

Litchfield County artist Karen LaFleur combines digital imagery and "sudden fiction," the art of telling short stories on her images. "Terry" (2004) is a reflection on motherhood. Prices start at \$400. Available at www.piepergallery.com.



Designer's Tip

"The private library is the sum of all we are—what it contains, what it presents is the repository of what we have learned, what we care about, what we know, what we delight in: our taste, our knowledge, our humor, our obsessions. And that "we" and "our" includes not only the people in whose house the library is, but the history and culture and achievements of our civilization," said library designer and rare book dealer Helen Selzer of Farshaw's Fine Old Books & Vintage Toys in South Egremont, Mass. No project is too big or too small for Ms. Selzer, who keeps her client list under wraps. Here, she offers tips on how to personalize your study and make it the ideal respite from the outside world:

- Don't be afraid to put your feet up—choose furniture that reflects your taste and preferred level of formality, but avoid letting your library feel like a museum.
- Create a visually complex space with different shapes, textures and colors that will stimulate your creativity.
- Fine paintings and prints work perfectly alongside playful items like vintage toys or a rock you found on a hike.
- Family photos, children's finger paintings and other heirlooms will help soothe an unquiet mind and put you in a comfortable and familiar mindset to enjoy a good read.

Library design, rare books and more available at Farshaw's Fine Old Books & Vintage Toys, 43 Main Street, South Egremont, Mass.; 413-528-1890.