

ON THE COVER

By Sophia Voight



Stunning mansion weave parquet transforms entryway

Like many wood flooring pros, Eric Herman, owner of New York-based State of the Art Wood Floor Gallery, notices the floors first when entering a home. When he and his family were searching for a new home, he was focused on the possibility of installing exquisite wood flooring. “We looked at many different houses, and I was just dreaming about what I could create,” Herman says. When the family toured this house, they fell in love with it, and Herman relished the idea of incorporating a mansion weave pattern into the foyer. “Walking straight through the entry foyer, it just seemed like the perfect place to use this pattern that I had been thinking about for many years,” he says. Herman says the pattern is too overwhelming to put throughout the house, so the rest of the rooms have 8-inch plank.

One of the first things Herman did was have a crew remove the existing floors so he could start installing his dream floors. He selected engineered prefinished European oak flooring to be installed throughout the house. The boards were wire-brushed and thermo-treated, which darkened the wood. To lighten them and achieve his desired light tan color, a light

stain and hardwax oil finish were applied. The pieces in the mansion weave pattern were pre-cut, but Herman says installation still required patience, as the intricate angles of the pattern proved time-consuming to lay out.

A border was installed around the foyer and staircase to enclose the mansion weave pattern. Even at the base of the steps, the border has a continuous grain appearance, as they glued three riftsawn boards together to make the appearance of a 24-inch board, which was then cut for the radius. Then a ¼-inch brass inlay was routed in between the mansion weave and the wooden border.

It’s now been a couple of years since the foyer was installed, and Herman says he is still pleased with the result and proud to have a unique pattern in his home. “I was always looking for the perfect place to use this design,” Herman explains. “To me, the floor is the defining feature of the entryway.” ■

SUPPLIERS: Adhesive: **Bona** | Finish: Osmo | Moisture meter: **Lignomat** | Router: DeWalt | Saw: DeWalt, Festool | Underlayment: Pliteq | Interior Designer: Richard A. Baquero Interior Design Inc.