

Better than ‘Sex’ Long Island wife gets own Carrie walk-in

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It’s a closet that will inspire a shoe-gasm.

A retired Long Island businessman hired the “Sex and the City” set designer to build a replica of Carrie Bradshaw’s fantasy walk-in closet for his label-loving wife.

“Sex and the City” designer Lydia Marks and business partner Lisa Frantz transformed a 400-square-foot guest bedroom into the famous closet that made movie audiences gasp.



ANGEL CHEVRETT

BIG SHOES TO FILL: Lisa Frantz (left) and Lydia Marks, a “Sex and the City” movie-set decorator, show off their prize creation—a replica of the dream closet Mr. Big bought Carrie in the first film.

Like Carrie’s clothing shrine, the closet holds more than 400 pairs of designer shoes, dozens of handbags, racks of clothes organized by label, as well as drawers full of oversized sunglasses and bling.

The closet features the same strips of hand-beveled mirrored glass from the movie closet.

“They add a bit of glitz into the glossy white closet, while maintaining the charm of a Park Avenue penthouse,” Marks said.

“The shoe cabinet is very similar to Carrie’s, although our client’s is much bigger.”

Before building the closet, Marks and Frantz had measured and inventoried every item of the client’s wardrobe to create an individual space for it.

“Sunglasses have their own drawers with specially sized compartments, and even the vanity was designed to accommodate specific hair dryers, curling irons and flat irons,” Marks said.

The closet doors are made of frosted glass, etched with an Art Deco flower-and-butterfly pattern.

The closet cost \$175,000 to build—and it was worth every penny, said the real-life Carrie Bradshaw, a North Shore suburbanite who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

“They made my dream come true,” the lucky lady said.

In the movie, clotheshorse Carrie (played by Sarah Jessica Parker) receives her dream closet as a gift from her fiancée, Mr. Big (Chris Noth).

In this case, life imitated art.

“It was a gift from her husband, who led the charge to get this closet built for his wife because he knew how happy it would make her,” Marks said. “His wife, like Carrie, is a smart and successful career woman in her own right.”

Last year, Marks and Frantz for the first time started taking on residential clients.

“With private clients, you want to consider the quality and longevity of everything you bring in,” said Marks, who also designed sets for the Anne Hathaway movie “The Devil Wears Prada.”

Their next challenge: building a matching closet for their client’s husband.

“We found the lighting for Mr. Big’s side of the closet at a lighting supplier who works with yachts,” Marks said, recalling the making of the movie set. “It needed to be sleek and really low profile.”