

NEW YORK SPACES

APRIL 2012

THE HOME DESIGN MAGAZINE OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK



spring
RENOVATION

EXOTIC WOOD FLOORS

TRIBECA LOFT



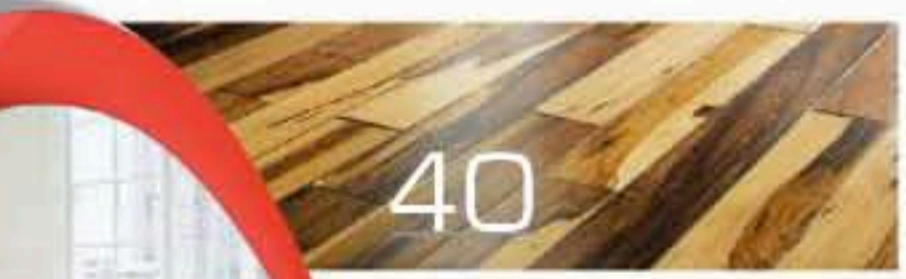
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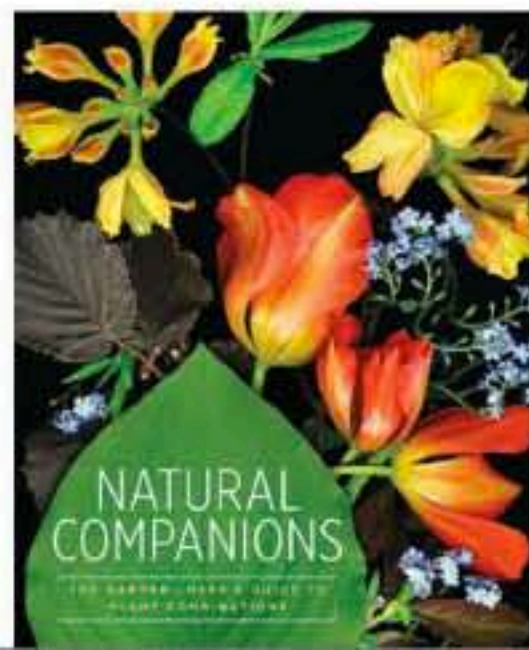


**EDITOR'S
SPACE**

YES, IT'S SPRINGTIME—time to think about the outdoors, gardens, renovations, and all the small-but-powerful things we can do to make living spaces feel fresh and new. In Focus, we've got architectural details that might inspire you to rethink your rooms' lines. We also encourage you to take some time to reflect on how mirrored glass, frescoes, and outdoor furniture can quickly transform spaces. But for homeowners ready to start over from scratch, we've got plenty of big projects to inspire—including a Georgian Revival in Locust Valley, updated and expanded by David Scott, and a Tribeca loft that Damon Liss Design and architect Nancy Nienberg, of wUNDERground, gutted and reconfigured to take advantage of the kinds of views you can't find anywhere else in the world. The city is constantly changing. This month, we head to the outer boroughs in our Neighborhood column to check out the streets of Bed-Stuy, where architecture lovers have been heading in droves recently, with hopes of finding and fixing up an affordable brownstone. We also check out the new visitor's center at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and, in Final Take, talk with French botanist/artist Patrick Blanc, whose vertical gardens are



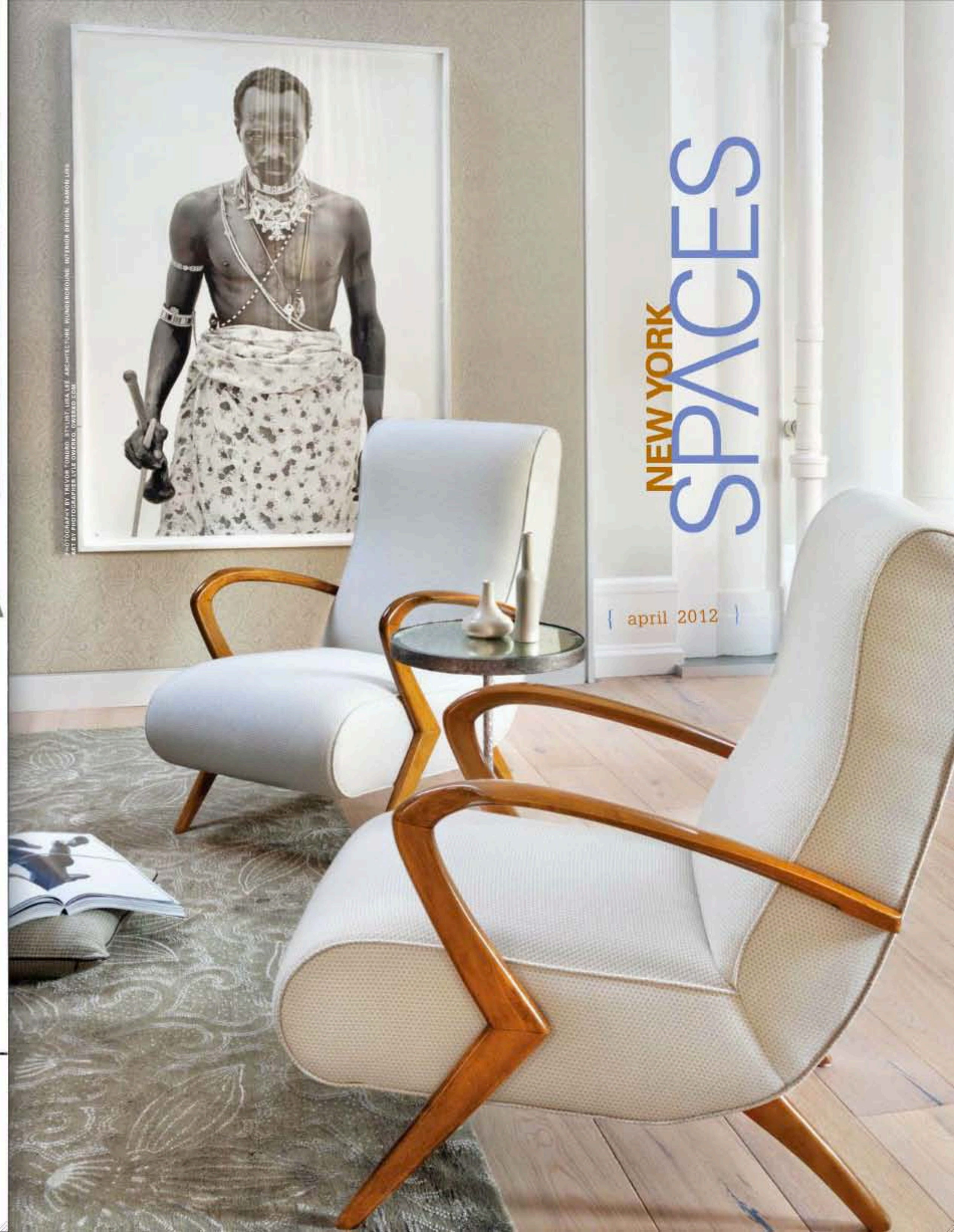
New perspective. Spring has us thinking about changes we can make for the better—whether it's gutting an entire living space, as Damon Liss Design and wUNDERground did in Tribeca (*top and page 122*) or hanging a new mirror (*above and page 32*).



currently on view at the New York Botanical Garden's Orchid Show. Go ahead: Time to renovate.

Jason Kontos

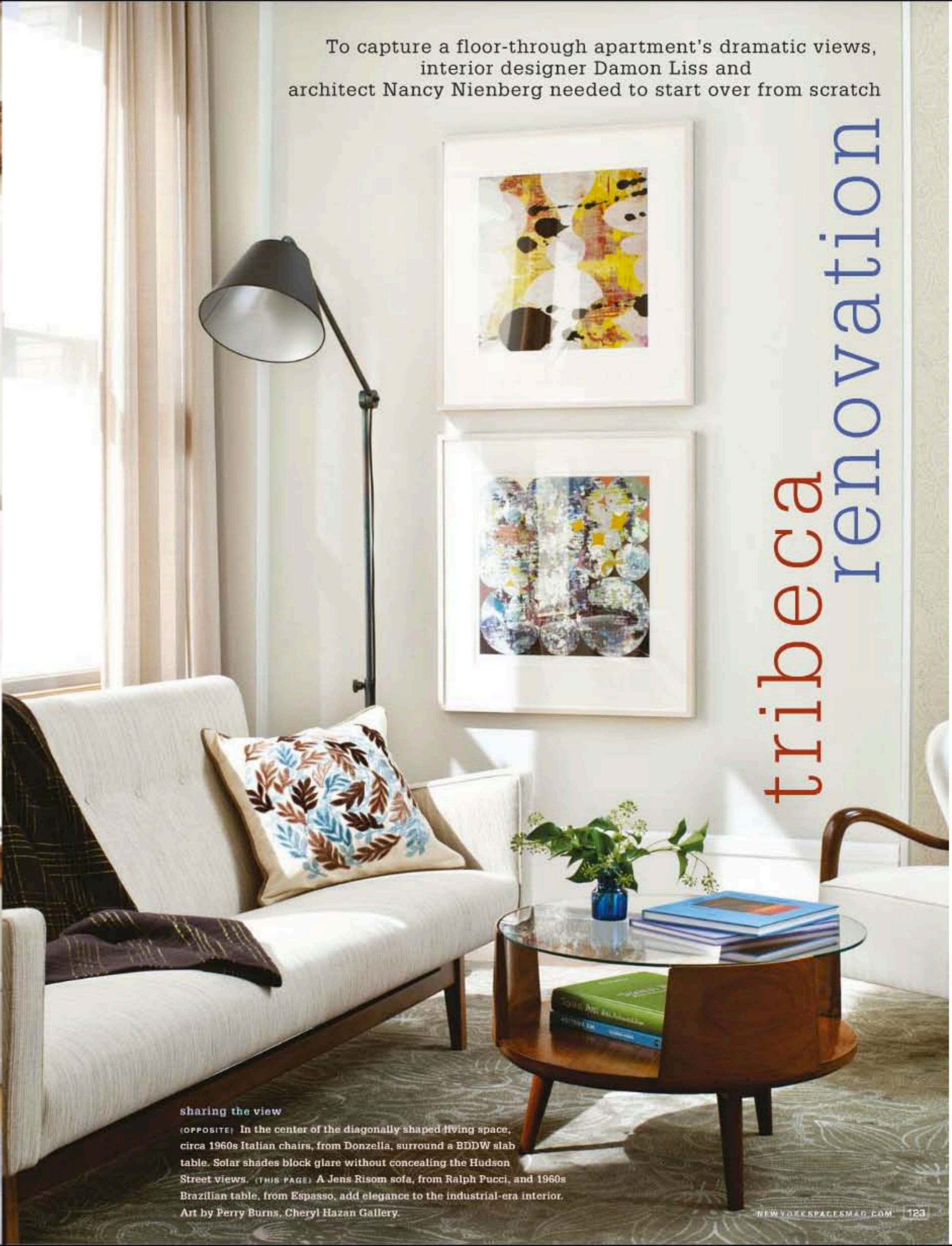
Pick your partners. *Natural Companions*, by Ken Druse, gives garden lovers the dirt on what plants get along best. Find out more in **CLIQUE** (p. 36).



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{ april 2012 }

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TREVOR TONDRO, STYLING: INKA LEE, ARCHITECTURE: HUNTERKOLINE, INTERIOR DESIGN: DAMON LISS
ART BY PHOTOGRAPHIS/LEVE COVERNO, OVERSEED.COM



To capture a floor-through apartment's dramatic views, interior designer Damon Liss and architect Nancy Nienberg needed to start over from scratch

tribeca renovation

ARCHITECTURE NANCY NIENBERG/WUNDERGROUND
INTERIOR DESIGN DAMON LISS DESIGN
TEXT MARJORIE E. GAGE
STYLIST LISA LEE
PHOTOGRAPHY TREVOR TONDRO

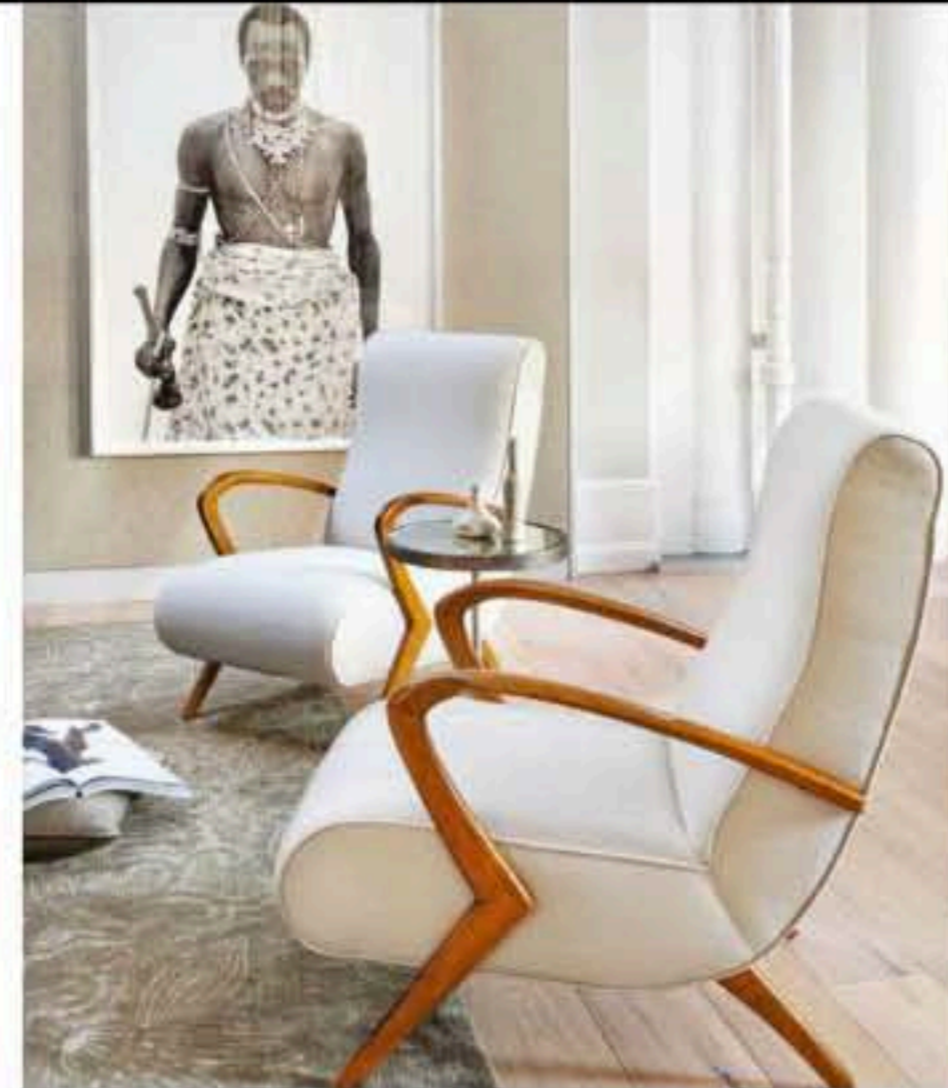
sharing the view
(OPPOSITE) In the center of the diagonally shaped living space, circa 1960s Italian chairs, from Donzella, surround a BDDW slab table. Solar shades block glare without concealing the Hudson Street views. (THIS PAGE) A Jens Risom sofa, from Ralph Pucci, and 1960s Brazilian table, from Espasso, add elegance to the industrial-era interior. Art by Perry Burns, Cheryl Hazan Gallery.



reshaping space

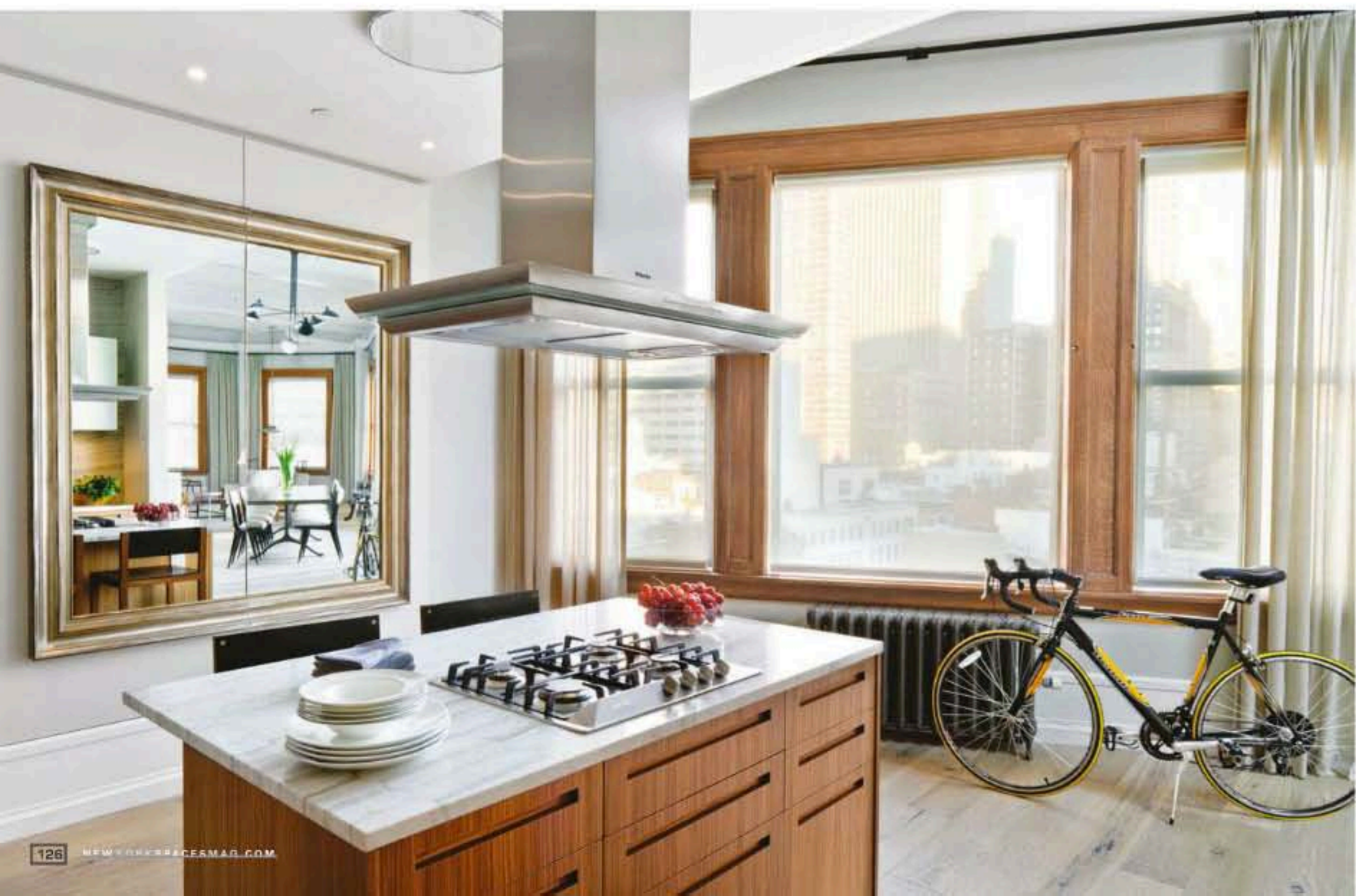
Fourteen-inch baseboards and pronounced cornice moldings create an elegant framework for an international collection of mid-century furniture and contemporary art. Osborne & Little paper defines a feature wall in the main living space, where antique and contemporary furnishings—including a sculptural pair of 1960s Italian easy chairs from Van den Akker Antiques and a velvet-upholstered Holly Hunt sofa—instill a sense of warmth. A portrait of a Samburu warrior from Kenya's Northern Territory is part of an ongoing series by Tribeca-based photographer Lyle Owerko, who has attempted to record African tribes' challenging assimilation into an increasingly global and technology-driven society influenced by Western culture.





elegant details

(LEFT) Vintage glass from The End of History, in the West Village, tops BDDW's clean-lined Lake Credenza, fabricated of pale holly wood, lacquer, and metal. The silk-upholstered chair is mid-century Italian, by Giuseppe Scapinelli; from Decoratum, London. (ABOVE) Smoked French oak flooring paves the entire apartment; a silk and wool carpet from EDDW defines the sitting area. (BELOW) A quartz-topped Boffi island floats in the center of the kitchen. Behind the center-split wall mirror, panels open to reveal hidden storage. Lighting design: Kugler Ning.



great escape Outside the master bedroom's three-bay window, a metal fire escape links the elegant interior to the building's industrial roots. The circa-1955 lounge chair is a rare find designed by Gianfranco Frattini for Cassina; from Donzella. Side table by Brazilian artist Jorge Zalszupin for Espasso. A half wall divides sleeping quarters from study. Desk BDDW; 1950s French lamp.

"WE BEGIN EVERY NEW PROJECT BY ASKING OURSELVES THE same two questions," says architect Nancy Nienberg. "What makes this space special—and what will make it more special?" In the case of this 2,000-square-foot Tribeca loft, the answer was multiple views, taking in Hudson Street, the old Woolworth Building, downtown Manhattan, and the Chrysler Building. Located on the top floor of a 10-story, industrial-era building, the floor-through apartment was, says interior designer Damon Liss, "one of a kind, with big windows and views in every direction." Problem was, an awkwardly placed interior wall blocked all the best views and much of the light.

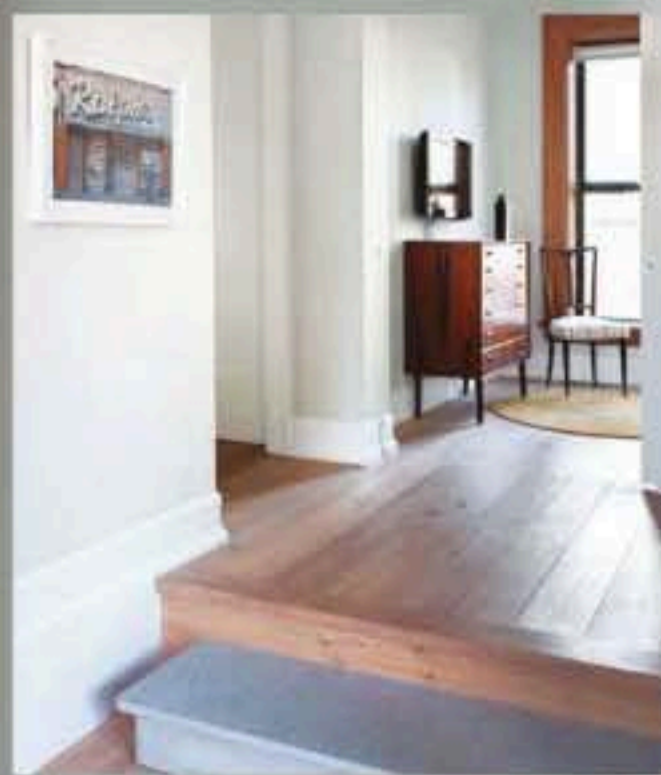
"The five-sided building made the layout a challenge," notes Nienberg, whose firm, wUNDERground, serves as Damon Liss Design's go-to architectural consultant. "The

apartment had windows on all sides. But the best views—from a full east-to-west wall of windows overlooking Hudson Street—were blocked by a diagonally placed interior wall that placed a bathroom and kitchen in the prime location and relegated everything else to cramped quarters on its other side. “It was clear those walls had to come down,” says Liss. “A gut renovation was the only way to go.”

Starting over from scratch, Liss and Nienberg created a subtly layered space that felt intimate and elegant without obliterating the building’s industrial-era roots. “The owner had lived in Europe, where, for fun, he began collecting mid-century furniture and contemporary art. When he came back to New York, he wanted to re-create some of that European elegance here.” The goal, Liss explains, was to instill the apartment with a feeling of intimate formality without losing the building’s signature lofty ceilings and open spaces. “We wanted it to be sophisticated—but not stuffy.”

Nienberg set the stage architecturally with plaster-skimmed walls, restored window casements, and wide classical-style moldings. “We kept the sprinkler system exposed, but we painted the dark terra-cotta ceiling bright white and installed a band of frieze molding to make the room feel more intimate.” Up-lighting recessed into the broad cornice makes the room glow at night, bringing drama to rooms that Liss layered with texture—silk, wool, wood, and stone. Contemporary art, mid-century furniture, and period lighting from Italy and Brazil bring the rooms to life. “It still feels like a loft—but not,” says Liss. “It’s one of a kind.”

— See Resources.



architectural innovation (MAIN PHOTOGRAPH) On the bedroom side, the half wall is upholstered, serving as a headboard. The arrangement allows for privacy in the sleeping area as well as in the contiguous study without blocking the flow of light; if a second bedroom or private office is required someday, a full wall can easily be erected. (INSET OPPOSITE PAGE) Nienberg raised the bedroom-area floor by two steps, creating a psychological break from the public rooms, and, by effectively “lowering the ceilings,” a more intimate mood. (INSET RIGHT) The master bath is simple, but luxurious, with Kallista fixtures, Stone Source tiles, and custom American black walnut console.

**STATEMENTS** (Pages 25–28):

Oasiq, oasiq.com. **Espero**, espero.com/g365_mobilegarden.html. **MENU**, menu.as. **Madeaux by Richard Smith**, madeaux.com. **Calligaris**, calligaris.com. **Diane von Furstenberg Home**, dvhhome.com. **FAP Ceramiche**, fapceramiche.com. **Anthropologie**, anthropologie.com. **Jill Rosenwald**, jillrosenwald.com. **B&B Italia**, beitalia.it. **York Wallcoverings**, yorkwall.com. **Chella Textiles**, chellatextiles.com. **David Sutherland**, davidsutherlandshowroom.com. **Ligne Roset**, ligne-roset.com. **Royal Albert**, royalalbert.com. **Perennials**, perennialsfabrics.com.

FOCUS (Page 30): **Kuiken Brothers**, 201.652.1000;

kuikenbrothers.com. **Brent Hull Companies**, brenthullcompanies.com. **Graham & Brown**, grahambrown.com. **Ann Sacks**, annsacks.com. **Masonite**, masonite.com. **Brent Hull Companies**, brenthullcompanies.com.

MATERIALS (Pages 32–34): **Uhuru Design**,

uhurudesign.com. **Ochre**, ochre.net. **Studium**, studiumnyc.com. **Jake Phipps**, jakehipps.com. **Alessi**, alessi.com. **West Elm**, westelm.com. **Jake Phipps**, jakehipps.com. **Uttermost**, uttermost.com. **Alessi**, alessi.com. **Ochre**, ochre.net. **West Elm**, westelm.com. **Downtown**, downtown20.net.

CLIQUE (Pages 36–38): For information about planting,

adopting, maintaining, and donating trees as well as educational workshops and special Arbor Day-related events, visit MillionTreesNYC.org. Naturalist **Nancy Ross Hugo** (nancyhugo.home.comcast.net) writes, lectures, and teaches about trees, native plants, and floral design; her most recent book, *Seeing Trees: Discover the Extraordinary Secrets of Everyday Trees*, illustrated with 175 color photographs by

Robert Llewellyn (robertllewellyn.com), is available from the publisher, Timber Press (timberpress.com). **Jennifer Post: Pure Space**, written by Anna Kasabian, is the first monograph on designer Jennifer Post; available at the **Rizzoli Bookstore**, 31 W. 57th St., NYC, and at rizzoliusa.com. *The Garden Source* (trade paperback format), by **Andrea Jones** (andrea-jones.co.uk), is available at Rizzoli Bookstore and at

rizzoliusa.com. (page 38) *Natural Companions: The Garden Lover's Guide to Plant Combinations* (Stewart, Tabori & Chang), by **Ken Druse**, with photographs by Ellen Hoverkamp, addresses plant combinations in a wide variety of climates and conditions, organized by theme (color, fragrance, grasses, edible flowers, etc.) within seasons; abramsbooks.com. **Glazed-ceramic outdoor lanterns** in a variety of shapes, colors, and sizes are available from the New York Botanical Garden, at nybgshop.org. For more information on the **Brooklyn Botanic Garden** visitor center, designed by Weiss/Manfredi (weissmanfredi.com), visit bbq.org. **Weiss/Manfredi, Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism**, 200 Hudson St., 10th Fl., NYC 10013; 212.760.9002.

PROFILE (Page 40): **Ricardo Moraes and Daniel Pagano, BR-111 Hardwood Flooring**, 800.525.2711; br111.com. **BR-111** designs and manufactures durable, exotic hardwood flooring. The company is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council and is FSC-certified. Additionally, all **BR-111** flooring products qualify for LEED points and are 100% CARB Compliant.

PORTFOLIO (Page 42): Artist Judith Luke, **Judith Luke:**

Decorative Arts, 973.723.6666; judithluke.com. Proceeds from the **Stately Homes By-The-Sea Designer Show House** benefit the Visiting Nurse Association of Central New Jersey—the largest voluntary, nonprofit home care agency in New Jersey. For more information on the next show house, please visit: statelyhomesbythesea.com. Although not shown, **Tim Murphy of Tim Murphy Decorative Painting** executed the spirograph-style tromp l'oeil dome on the ceiling; timmurphypaint.com. Regency chair, German set of drawers, Art Deco walnut bench and Elsie De Wolf etagere from **Frederick P. Victoria & Son**, 2107 Borden Ave., 3rd Fl., Long Island City, NY 11101; 718.392.9651; fpvictoria.com. Antique blue watering can, plants, mirror, large scallop shell, hanging bell cloche, gilded plant stand and various decorative objects from **Andrea Filippone of Tendenze Design**, 908.879.4066; tendenzedesign.com. Sconces from **Lake's Lampshades**, 802.325.6308; [lakeslampshades.com. Custom floor cloth by artist Judith Luke, **Judith Luke: Decorative Arts**, 973.723.6666; \[judithluke.com\]\(http://judithluke.com\). Floor cloth was made from sail cloth, grommeted by a local sail maker, then corseted together with a vintage grosgrain ribbon from **Etsy**, \[etsy.com\]\(http://etsy.com\). Styling and decorative resource, **Ellen S. Adler, Two Birds Design**, 802.375.6898; \[alessa111@gmail.com\]\(mailto:alessa111@gmail.com\); \[twobirdsdesign.net\]\(http://twobirdsdesign.net\). Lampshades designed by **Judy Lakes and Ellen S. Adler**.](http://lakeslampshades.com)

IN WITH THE NEW (Pages 112–121): **Architect:**

Rosamund A. Young, AIA, The Young Company, 6 Norwood Rd., Scarsdale, NY 10583; rozyoung@optonline.net. **Interior design: Eve Robinson, Eve Robinson Associates**, 2091 Broadway, 3rd Fl., NYC 10023; 212.595.0661; everobinson.net. **Contractor: Rick Schappach, D and R Schappach**, 74 Mountain Rd., Brookfield, CT 06804; 203.775.2691; info@dandrschappach.com. **Landscape Architect: Carl Monte, RLA, Carl Monte, Landscape Architects** 111 Pelham Dr., Cornwall, NY 12518; 914.474.3514. (pages 112–113) **Palmer sofa from Roman Thomas, romanthomas.com**. Pillows from **Judy Ross, judyross.com**. **Madeline Weinrib "Climbers and Ramblers" rug from Ralph Pucci International, ralphpucci.net**. (pages 114–115) **David Weeks three-tier mobile from Ralph Pucci International, ralphpucci.net**. Dining table, bench with leather top and Lake Credenza from **BDDW, bddw.com**. **Saariinen Visitors Chair from Knoll (T), knoll.com**. Pair of floor lamps from **John Lyle, johnlyledesign.com**. Dining room: Sconce in background from **Profiles (T), profilesny.com**. (pages 116–117) **Ameico Acquainta Pendants from Karkula, karkula.com**. **Varena stools and Groundpiece sectional with Donghia Espadrille upholstery from Poliform, poliform.it**. Custom floating shelf by **Eve Robinson Associates**, 2091 Broadway, 3rd Fl., NYC 10023; 212.595.0661; everobinson.net. **Womb chair from Knoll (T), knoll.com**. **Rover side table from Dune, dune-ny.com**. **Nesting tables from Ted Boerner (T), tedboerner.com**. Custom drum ceiling fixture from **Bone Simple, bonesimple.com**. (pages 118–119) **Sectional sofa and Equinox Extension table from Barlow Tyrie, gloster.com**. **Gloster Geneva Stacking chairs from Walters Wicker, walterswicker.com**. Bathroom: Japanese soaking tub from **William Garvey, williamgarvey.co.uk**. (page 120) **Vintage Pierre Guariche Brass Chandelier from Pascal Boyer, pascalboyergallery.com**. **Paul Mathieu Bianca Club Chairs, Ralph Pucci International, ralphpucci.net**.

TRIBECA RENOVATION (Pages 122–129):

Architecture: Nancy Nienberg, wUNDERground Architecture, 20 Jay St. Studio 514, Brooklyn, NY 11201; 718.797.2508; info@wundergroundnyc.com; wundergroundnyc.com. **Interior Design: Damon Liss, Damon Liss Design**, 51a Hudson St., NYC 10013; 212.307.0430; damonliss.com. **Stylist: Lisa Lee**, 917.513.3562; lee19@mac.com; lisaleepropstylist.com/. (pages 122–123) **Dining room: Dining table from BDDW, bddw.com**. 1960s side chairs from **Donzella, donzella.com**. Window sheers are **Great Plains at Holly Hunt (T), hollyhunt.com**. **Sitting area: Jens Risom sofa and Christophe Delcourt floor lamp from Ralph Pucci**



International, ralphpucci.net. Table from **Espasso, espasso.com**. Art by Perry Burns at **Cheryl Hazan Gallery, cherylhazan.com**. (pages 124–125) **Italian armchairs from Van den Akker Antiques, vandenakkerantiques.com**. **Wool and silk rug from BDDW, bddw.com**. **Sofa from Holly Hunt (T), hollyhunt.com**. **Wallpaper from Osborne & Little (T), osborneandlittle.com**. **Vintage magazine stand and Fontana Arte Pendant light from Donzella, donzella.com**. **Gio Ponte table from eBay.com**. **Photograph by Lyle Owerko, owerko.com**. (pages 126–127) **Giuseppe Scapinelli armchair from Decoratum, decoratum.com**. **Credenza from BDDW, bddw.com**. **Blue glass collection from The End of History, theendofhistoryshop.blogspot.com/**. **Kitchen: Lighting design by Kugler Ning, 212.382.2100; contact@kuglerning.com; kuglerning.com**. **Floating island from Boffi, boffi.com**. **Range hood and cooktop from Miele, miele.com**. **Desk area: Gianfranco Frattini slipper chair for Cassina; from Donzella, donzella.com**. **Jorge Zalsupin side table from Espasso, espasso.com**. **Desk chair from a set of four by Gianfranco Frattini from Donzella, donzella.com**. **Desk from BDDW, bddw.com**. (pages 128–129) **Rug from Madeline Weinrib, madelineweinrib.com**. **Platform bed from Room & Board, roomandboard.com**. **Stilnovo floor lamp from Donzella, donzella.com**. **Custom headboard fabric from Maharam (T), maharam.com**. **Bathroom: Mosaic tile from Stone Source, stonessource.com**. **Fixtures from Kallista, kallista.com**.

THE READING ROOM (Pages 130–133): **Fairfax & Sammons**

is an internationally recognized firm of classical architects specializing in residential architectural design informed by classical tradition and creative problem solving; principals, **Anne Fairfax and Richard Sammons**. The firm's New York office is located at 67 Gansevoort St., NYC 10014; 212.255.0704; fairfaxandsammons.com. A collection of the firm's work is the subject of *American Houses: The Architecture of Fairfax & Sammons*, written by Mary Miers, published by Rizzoli Books; rizzoliusa.com.

A BALANCED PERSPECTIVE (Pages 134–139):

Interior Design & Interior Architecture: Hariri & Hariri, 39 W. 29th St., 12th Fl., NYC 10001; 212.727.0338; haririandhariri.com. **Interior Design Team: Gisue Hariri and Bieinna Ham of Hariri & Hariri**. **Interior Architecture Design Team: Gisue Hariri, Mojgan Hariri, Jenny Shoukimas and Bieinna Ham of Hariri & Hariri**. **Landscape Design by Janice Parker of Janice Parker Landscape Design (janiceparker.com) and Declan Keane of Lifesource Irrigation, 212.633.2827; lifesourceirrigation.com**. **General contractor + custom woodwork by J&J Johnson, 42-25 12th St., Long Island City, NY 11101; 718.392.3033; jandjjohnson.com**. **Audio Visual by RBK New York Corp., rbkny.com**. (pages 134–135) **Mesh curtain from Knoll (T), knoll.com**. **Fabrication by Distinctive Window Treatment Plus, distinctivewindows.com**. **Pillows from Maharam (T), maharam.com**. **Sofa by Christian Liaigre at Holly Hunt (T), hollyhunt.com**. **Metal chair from Design Workshop at ABC Carpet & Home, abchome.com**. **Coffee table from Hudson Furniture, hudsonfurnitureinc.com**. **Clodagh metal side table and resin side table from Dennis Miller Associates (T), dennismiller.com**. **Rug from Odegard (T), odegardinc.com**. **Bertoia stools from Knoll (T), knoll.com**. **Shell from Baker, bakerfurniture.com**. (pages 136–137) **Colored-glass sculptures by Jamie Harris, jamieharris.com**. **Lattice sculpture and Bloom chair by Kenneth Cobonpue, kennethcobonpue.com**. **Rug from Odegard (T), odegardinc.com**. **Mirrored-ball pendant lights by Tom Dixon**. **Walnut table from Hudson Furniture, hudsonfurnitureinc.com**. **Dining chairs from Ligne Roset, ligne-roset.com**. **Entry photograph, "Endless Flow" by Peter Lik, lik.com**. **Metal figures from Phillips Collection**