

NEW YORK SPACES

THE HOME DESIGN MAGAZINE OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

APRIL 2012



spring RENOVATION

EXOTIC WOOD FLOORS

TRIBECA LOFT



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POWER

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOSHUA MCHUGH



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EDITOR'S SPACE

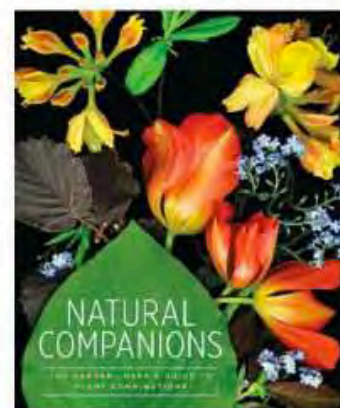
YES, IT'S SPRINGTIME—time to think about the outdoors, gardens, renovations, and all the small-but-powerful things we can do to make living spaces feel fresh and new. In Focus, we've got architectural details that might inspire you to rethink your rooms' lines. We also encourage you to take some time 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

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).



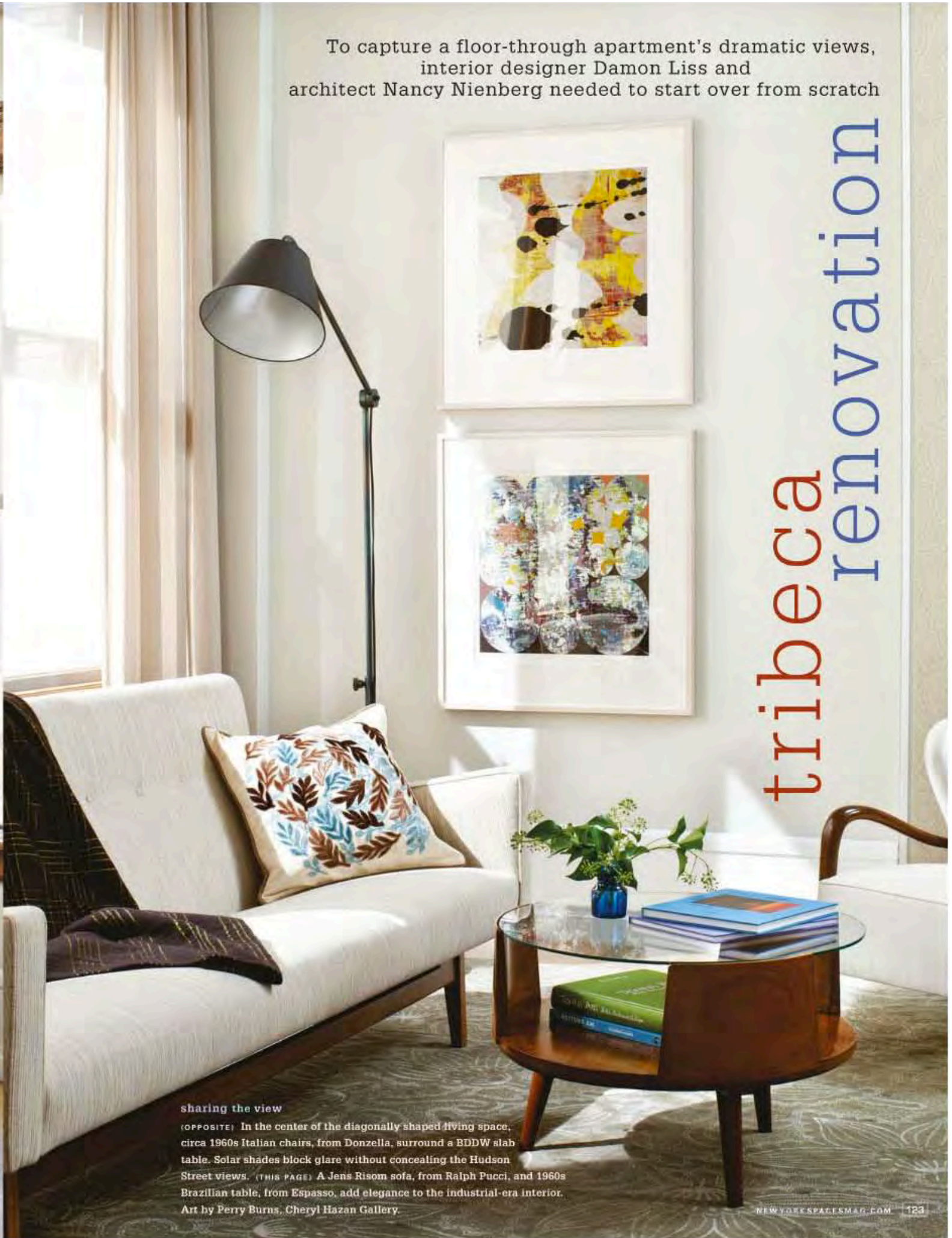
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ARCHITECTURE NANCY NIENBERG/WUNDERGROUND
INTERIOR DESIGN DAMON LISS DESIGN
TEXT MARJORIE E. GAGE
STYLIST LISA LEE
PHOTOGRAPHY TREVOR TONDRO

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



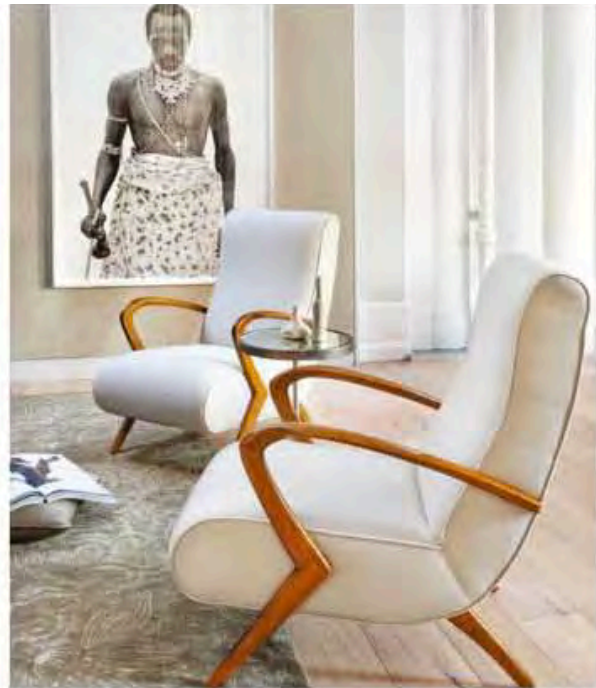
tribeca renovation

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 BDDW 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 Zalsupin 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.



RESOURCES

STATEMENTS (Pages 25–28):

Oasitq, oasitq.com. Essero, essero.com/365. **mobilergarten.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. **BBB Italia**, behhitalia.it. **York Wallcoverings**, yorkwall.com. **Chella Textiles**, chellatextiles.com. **David Sutherland**, davidstutherlandshowroom.com. **Ligne Roset**, ligne-roset.com. **Royal Albert**, royalalbert.com. **Perennials**, perennialsfabrics.com.

FOCUS (Page 30):

Kutken Brothers, 201.652.1000; kutkenbrothers.com. **Brent Hull Companies**, brentullcompanies.com. **Graham & Brown**, gtahambrown.com. **Ann Sacks**, annsacks.com. **Masonite**, masonite.com. **Brent Hull Companies**, brentullcompanies.com.

MATERIALS (Pages 32–34): **Uhuru Design**, uhurudesign.com. **Ochre**, ochre.net. **Studium**, studiumny.com. **Jake Philipp**, jakephilpps.com. **Alessi**, [alessi.com. **West Elm**, \[westelm.com\]\(http://westelm.com\). **Jake Philipp**, \[jakephilpps.com\]\(http://jakephilpps.com\). **Uttermost**, \[uttermost.com\]\(http://uttermost.com\). **Alessi**, \[alessi.com\]\(http://alessi.com\). **Ochre**, \[ochre.net\]\(http://ochre.net\). **West Elm**, \[westelm.com\]\(http://westelm.com\). **Downtown**, \[downtown20.net\]\(http://downtown20.net\).](http://alessi.com)

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 Hogo** (nancyhogo.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 Lewellyn (robertlewellyn.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 Hovetkamp, addresses plant combinations in a wide variety of climates and conditions, organized by theme (color, fragrance, grasses, edible flowers, etc.) within seasons; abramsbooks.com. **Ghazal-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 **Wolfs/Manfredi** (weissmanfredi.com), visit bkg.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% **CAAB** Compliant.

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PORTFOLIO (Page 42): Artist **Judith Luke**, 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: statelyhomeshousesea.com. Although not shown, **Tim Murphy** of **Tim Murphy Decorative Painting** executed the spherograph-style tromp l'oeil dome on the ceiling; timmurphy.com. **Regency chair**, German set of drawers, Art Deco walnut bench and **Esie De Wolf** etageres 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 **Andra Filippone of Tendence Design**, 908.879.4086; tendencedesign.com. **Sources 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. **Floor cloth** was made from sail cloth, groomed by a local sail maker, then consorted together with a vintage grosgrain ribbon from **Etsy**, etsy.com. **Styling and decorative resource**, **Eilon S. Adler**, **Two Birds Design**, 802.375.6898; eliasa111@gmail.com; twobirdsdesign.net. **Lampshades** designed by **Judy Lakes** and **Eilon S. Adler**.

IN WITH THE NEW (Pages 112–121): **Architect:** **Rosamund A. Young**, **AIA**, **The Young Company**, 6 Norwood Rd., Scarsdale, NY 10583; rozzyoung@oxfordline.net. **Interior design:** **Eve Robinson**, **Eve Robinson Associates**, 2091 Broadway, 3rd Fl., NYC 10023; 212.595.0661; eve-robinson.net. **Contractor:** **Rick Schappach**, **D and R Schappach**, 74 Mountain Rd., Brookfield, CT 06804; 203.775.2691; info@dandrschappach.com. **Landscape Architect:** **Carl Monte**, **R/A**, **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**, [judyrossartexiles.com. **Madeine Wehrh**, **"Climbers and Ramblers"** rug from **Ralph Pucci International**, \[ralphpucci.net\]\(http://ralphpucci.net\). \(**Pages 114–115**\) **David Weeks** three-tier mobile from **Ralph Pucci International**, \[ralphpucci.net\]\(http://ralphpucci.net\). **Dining table, bench with leather top** and **Lake Credenza** from **BDDW**, \[bddw.com\]\(http://bddw.com\). **Saathen Visitors Chair** from **Knoll** \(T\), \[knoll.com\]\(http://knoll.com\). **Pair of floor lamps** from **John Lyle**, \[johnlyledesign.com\]\(http://johnlyledesign.com\). **Dining room:** **Scenes in background** from **Proffles** \(T\), \[profflesny.com. \\(**Pages 116–117**\\) **Ameico Acquistanza** Pendants from **Karkula**, \\[karkula.com\\]\\(http://karkula.com\\). **Varena stools** and **Groundhose** sectional with **Douglas Espadrille** upholstery by **Eve Robinson**, \\[poliform.it\\]\\(http://poliform.it\\). **Custom floating shelf** by **Eve Robinson Associates**, 2091 Broadway, 3rd Fl., NYC 10023; 212.595.0661; \\[eve-robinson.net\\]\\(http://eve-robinson.net\\). **Womb chair** from **Knoll** \\(T\\), \\[knoll.com\\]\\(http://knoll.com\\). **Rover side table** from **Dune**, \\[dune-ny.com\\]\\(http://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 **Bartow Tyne**, \\\\[waleswicker.com\\\\]\\\\(http://waleswicker.com\\\\). **Bathroom:** **Japanese soaking tub** from **William Garvey**, \\\\[williamgarvey.co.uk. \\\\\(**Page 120**\\\\\) **Vintage Pierre Guarche Brass Chandelier** from **Pascal Boyer**, \\\\\[pascalboyergallery.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://pascalboyergallery.com\\\\\). **Paul Mathieu Bianca Club Chairs**, **Ralph Pucci International**, \\\\\[ralphpucci.net\\\\\]\\\\\(http://ralphpucci.net\\\\\).\\\\]\\\\(http://williamgarvey.co.uk\\\\)\\\]\\\(http://bonesimple.com\\\)\\]\\(http://tedboerner.com\\)\]\(http://profflesny.com\)](http://judyrossartexiles.com)

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; lled19@mac.com. **Interiorstylist.com/** (**Pages 122–123**) **Dining room:** **Dining table** from **BDDW**, bddw.com. **1960s side chairs** from **Donzella**, donzella.com. **Window sheers** and **Great Plains** at **Holly Hunt** (T), hollyhunt.com. **Sitting area:** **Jens Risson sofa** and **Christophe Delcourt floor lamp** from **Ralph Pucci**,



International, ralphpucci.net. **Table** from **Espasso**, esspresso.com. **Art** by **Perry Burns** at **Cheryl Hazan Gallery**, cherylhazan.com. (**Pages 124–126**) **Italian armchairs** from **Van den Akker Antiques**, yandenakkercanhuysen.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 **gBay.com**. **Photograph** by **Lyle Owerko**, owerkco.com. (**Pages 126–127**) **Giuseppe Scopelliti armchair** from **Decoratum**, decoratum.com. **Credenza** from **BDDW**, [bddw.com. **Blue glass collection** from **The End of History**, \[theendofhistoryshop.blogspot.com/\]\(http://theendofhistoryshop.blogspot.com/\). **Kitchen:** **Lighting design** by **Kugler Ming**, 212.382.2100; \[contract@kuglerming.com\]\(http://contract@kuglerming.com\); \[kuglerming.com\]\(http://kuglerming.com\). **Floating island** from **Bofl**, \[bofl.com\]\(http://bofl.com\). **Range hood** and **cooktop** from **Miele**, \[miele.com\]\(http://miele.com\). **Desk area:** **Chantreco Frattini slipper chair** for **Cassita**; from **Donzella**, \[donzella.com\]\(http://donzella.com\). **Jorge Zalszupin side table** from **Espasso**, \[esspresso.com\]\(http://esspresso.com\). **Desk chair** from a set of four by **Chantreco Frattini** from **Donzella**, \[donzella.com\]\(http://donzella.com\). **Desk** from **BDDW**, \[bddw.com\]\(http://bddw.com\). \(**Pages 128–129**\) **Rug** from **Madeine Wehrh**, \[madeinewehrh.com\]\(http://madeinewehrh.com\). **Platform bed** from **Room & Board**, \[roomandboard.com. **Silhuvo floor lamp** from **Donzella**, \\[donzella.com\\]\\(http://donzella.com\\). **Custom headboard fabric** from **Maharam** \\(T\\), \\[maharam.com. **Bathroom:** **Mosaic tile** from **Stone Source**, \\\[stonesource.com. **Fixtures** from **Kallista**, \\\\[kallista.com\\\\]\\\\(http://kallista.com\\\\).\\\]\\\(http://stonesource.com\\\)\\]\\(http://maharam.com\\)\]\(http://roomandboard.com\)](http://bddw.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; princeps.com. **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 Architects of Fairfax & Sammons*, written by **Mary Miets**, 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; harriandhariri.com. **Interior Design Team:** **Gisue Hariri** and **Bleinna Ham of Hariri & Hariri**, **Interior Architecture Design Team**. **Gisue Hariri**, **Mojgan Hariri**, **Jenny Shookimas** and **Bleinna Ham of Hariri & Hariri**, **Landscape Design** by **Janice Parker of Janice Parker Landscape Design** (janiceparker.com) and **Declan Keane of Lifesource Interqation**, 212.633.2827; lifesourceinterqation.com. **General contractor** – custom woodwork by **J&J Johnson**, 42-25 12th St., Long Island City, NY 11101; 718.392.3033; jandj.com. (**Pages 134–135**) **Mesh curtain** from **Knoll** (T), knoll.com. (**Pages 134–135**) **Mesh curtain** from **Knoll** (T), knoll.com. **Fabrication** by **Distinctive Window Treatment Plus**, distinctivewindowtreatments.com. **Pillows** from **Maharam** (T), [maharam.com. **Sofa** by **Christian Lalique** at **Holly Hunt** \(T\), \[hollyhunt.com. **Metal chair** from **Design Workshop** at **ABC Carpet & Home**, \\[abchome.com. **Coffee table** from **Hudson Furniture**, \\\[hudsonfurniture.com\\\]\\\(http://hudsonfurniture.com\\\). **Cloclagh metal side table** and **resin side table** from **Dennis Miller Associates** \\\(T\\\), \\\[denismiller.com. **Rug** from **Odegard** \\\\(T\\\\), \\\\[odegardinc.com\\\\]\\\\(http://odegardinc.com\\\\). **Bertora stools** from **Knoll** \\\\(T\\\\), \\\\[knoll.com\\\\]\\\\(http://knoll.com\\\\). **Shell** from **Baker**, \\\\[bakermurniture.com\\\\]\\\\(http://bakermurniture.com\\\\). \\\\(**Pages 136–137**\\\\) **Colored-glass sculptures** by **Jamie Harris**, \\\\[jamieharris.com\\\\]\\\\(http://jamieharris.com\\\\). **Lathco sculpture** and **Bloom chair** by **Kenneth Cobonpue**, \\\\[kennethcobonpue.com\\\\]\\\\(http://kennethcobonpue.com\\\\). **Rug** from **Odegard** \\\\(T\\\\), \\\\[odegardinc.com. **Mirror** and **ball pendant lights** by **Tom Dixon**, **Walnut table** from **Hudson Furniture**, \\\\\[hudsonfurniture.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://hudsonfurniture.com\\\\\). **Dining chairs** from **Ligne Roset**, \\\\\[ligne-roset.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://ligne-roset.com\\\\\). **Entry photograph**, "Endless Flow" by **Peter Lik**, \\\\\[lik.com\\\\\]\\\\\(http://lik.com\\\\\). **Metal figures** from **Phillips Collection**\\\\]\\\\(http://odegardinc.com\\\\)\\\]\\\(http://denismiller.com\\\)\\]\\(http://abchome.com\\)\]\(http://hollyhunt.com\)](http://maharam.com)