

# interiors





## WEST *Meets* EAST

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE: PLATT DANA ARCHITECTS

INTERIOR DESIGN: KATHERINE NORTH CARROLL

TEXT: ERIKA HEET

PHOTOGRAPHY: AARON LEITZ





IF THERE EXISTS ANYTHING MORE DESIRABLE than grand city views in New York, it's unobstructed water views. It is a rarity, if not nearly impossible, for an apartment to possess both. So when designer Katherine North Carroll, principal of Northbrook Design in California, was asked by a longstanding client to update her West Village apartment—boasting perfect cityscapes on one side and dizzying vistas of the Hudson River on the other—she knew immediately that “the furnishings, artwork and layout would all be a backdrop for the views.”

The clients, a couple with three children, were seeking a permanent home in New York after spending years in a traditional house in the Pacific Heights neighborhood of San Francisco. They found two side-by-side apartments in a prominent building by Robert A. M. Stern with interiors by Yabu Pushelberg, and called upon Hope Dana of New York-based Platt Dana Architects to combine the two apartments into one, doubling the size but keeping a flow that matches the rhythms of family life as well as those of the city outside.

As for the interiors, the client's directive was simple: “I wanted it to be a warm, happy, comfortable place,” she says. “She loves color,” Carroll says of the client, who, to Carroll's delight, was deeply involved in the home's design choices. During the design process, Carroll traveled to New York often to keep the project on track and to collaborate with the homeowner. “We spent hours shopping in New York together,” she says.

Carroll introduced a sense of calm for the entrance hall, sheathed in a warm elm veneer and grounded by an elegant, amber-hued Lucite console from A. Rudin. “After racing around Manhattan, the residents need a quiet and serene entrance, with no visual overload,” Carroll notes. “It's like a little break.” The hall leads to the apartment's great reveal: the open living room, with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the water and the Hudson River Park. Here, a custom sofa and settee wrap around a kinetic glass Self-Winding cocktail table designed in 1978, all from Dakota Jackson. Nearby, a Poltrona Frau Mamy Blue armchair by Roberto Lazzeroni joins the room's showpiece: a curvy La Mamma chair designed by Gaetano Pesce, its vibrant stripes echoing those of the carpet from The Rug Company. John Boone floor lamps and smaller tables from Sandback for Dennis Miller Associates, Troscan for Holly Hunt, Thomas Sellars and A. Rudin round out the space.

The living room flows into the adjacent dining room, which is open to the kitchen (a hidden pantry kitchen is used for parties). The homeowner favors blue; Carroll infused the tone throughout to connect the room with the water beyond. The use of color is subtle, found in the slate-blue leather Poltrona Frau dining chairs surrounding a custom, modern patchwork table from Dune, and in the handcrafted blown-glass chandelier from jGoodDesign. “We chose that fixture because its blue and amber glass give it a presence at night during dinner,” says Carroll. “The brass core makes it feel really warm.”





**CARROLL CONTINUED THE BLUE INTO THE BREAKFAST NOOK** just off the kitchen, tucked behind a structural beam. It is here that the resident starts her workday with coffee at the Eero Saarinen table, taking in the street-level activity. Barstools from Dennis Miller Associates, covered in geometric fabrics from Romo and Fabricut, cozy up to a counter space for casual meals in the elm-clad kitchen. The three seamless rooms—living, dining and kitchen—were kept open to allow a purposeful flow and unencumbered panoramas on the entire west side of the apartment. It is in this space that the family watches the views change with the seasons: the ice forming atop the Hudson in winter, and on warm summer evenings, couples dancing the tango on the pier below.

The opposite side of the apartment looks onto the eclectic old buildings of nearby neighborhoods, giving the spaces therein—the bedrooms, dressing room, the family room and the study—a more urban feel and a deeper connection to the city. The study's décor is restrained, allowing the Antonio Citterio for Vitra office chairs to stand out. The nearby dressing room adds a bit of glamour, with a Lucite bench from Lorin Marsh resting atop a white shag rug by Rug Art from Sloan Miyasato—this white is repeated in the delicate side chair in the master bedroom, from DDC. A floor lamp from Flos arcs over the family room, situated at eye level with a nearby building whose copper roof has patinaed to the exact shade of the Dezza chair from Poltrona Frau and the Tai Ping rug. The glass end table from the Bright Group reflects the room's expansive windows, while the gold base of the Diva ottoman by Azadeh Shladovsky balances with the copper threads woven into the master bedroom sheers that keep the city at bay, but not shut out. "I wanted the bedroom to be romantic," says Carroll. "In the morning, the couple will just have sheers closed, and with the sun coming through, this creates a warm, rosy glow, making it a true sanctuary." ■ Platt Dana Architects, 646 336 6270, plattdana.com; Northbrook Design, 650 257 3229, northbrookdesign.com

