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WINTER 2024 | DISPLAY UNTIL 3/19/24

BLACK + WHITE DESIGN

FINDING BALANCE



Latter Day Paints

Interior designer Michelle Gerson and architectural firm Mojo Stumer Associates focus their vision for a UES new purchase to exemplify a warm urban vibe

T

hese homeowners, avid modern art collectors, saw a path to play their hand at a gut renovation in their new spacious pied-à-terre in a prewar building that originally felt closed-in, disjointed and out of date.

Mojo Stumer Associates revamped the interior architecture and design, top to bottom. “We wanted to improve the layout of the space, first and foremost,” explains senior associate and director of design Joe Yacobellis. They revamped the entrance foyer, which had doors to multiple bedrooms, and incorporated a main hall for bedroom access.

Step into the apartment now and see a wall of exotic Macassar ebony wood with a floating brass ledge flanked by limestone. On game nights, the wall slides open to the left, revealing a private card room.

“We wanted to create a gorgeous, opulent atmosphere, but done in a modern way. We do plenty of minimalist homes in stainless steel and modern white, but these clients had let us know from the beginning that they liked the balance of contemporary with traditional elements, like the grand foyer,” notes Yacobellis. To show off the couple’s beloved modern art, the team added recessed and art lighting.

“The couple envisioned a home that would be sophisticated but also functional and comfortable for their three daughters, who are elementary school to college age,” adds interior designer Michelle Gerson. Now everyone can kick back in comfort after a night on the town.

In the **FOYER**, artwork by Peter Tunney, whose pieces celebrate the city, and a leather-covered bench from 1stDibs. The man in the house enjoys weekly card games with friends. Hence the bold message greeting guests.



The **KITCHEN** features white lacquered cabinets, lilac veined marble from Artistic Tile and amenities that include double wall ovens and an “appliance garage” to conceal the blender, coffeemaker and other corded machines. “The gorgeous lilac marble still feels neutral in a way,” Gerson notes. “It doesn’t scream purple.” The color plays nicely with black and white tones, so she added pops of lilac throughout the rooms, in accessories and lighting.



What Michelle Gerson brings to the table –

Right
CARD ROOM

This doubles as a dining room. Custom panda marble table, Michelle Gerson. Chairs, Studio Van den Akker. Lighting, Anna Karlin.

Below

BREAKFAST ROOM

Comforts include white leather chairs and a bronze table with stacked base by Anna Karlin. Lilac light, Gabriel Scott.





“Given the complexities of structural and mechanical risers throughout the postwar apartment building, the program was intricately laid out to provide an efficient yet grand use of space.”
 – Joe Yacobellis

Left
DEN ESSENTIALS
 A lilac marble coffee table from Invisible Collection and a soft, plush chair from Pietro Franceschini.

Right
PRIMARY
 The parents can sink their feet into shearing from Stark Carpet and set keys and devices on the sculptural Colina End Table by Kelly Wearstler. Stoneware and porcelain lighting by Crosland & Emmons.

SECONDARY
 These two sisters' bedrooms have modern nightstands from Shine by S.H.O and custom tie-dye carpets from Stark Carpet. Hand-blown glass pendant light by Avram Rusu Studio (pink room). Pendant lighting by Gabriel Scott (blue room).

