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DISTINCTIVE SHAPES
AND THE WILD
IMAGINATION
OF ITALIAN DESIGN**

**FEASTING ON
OUR ANNUAL
BLACK +
WHITE
DESIGN
ISSUE**

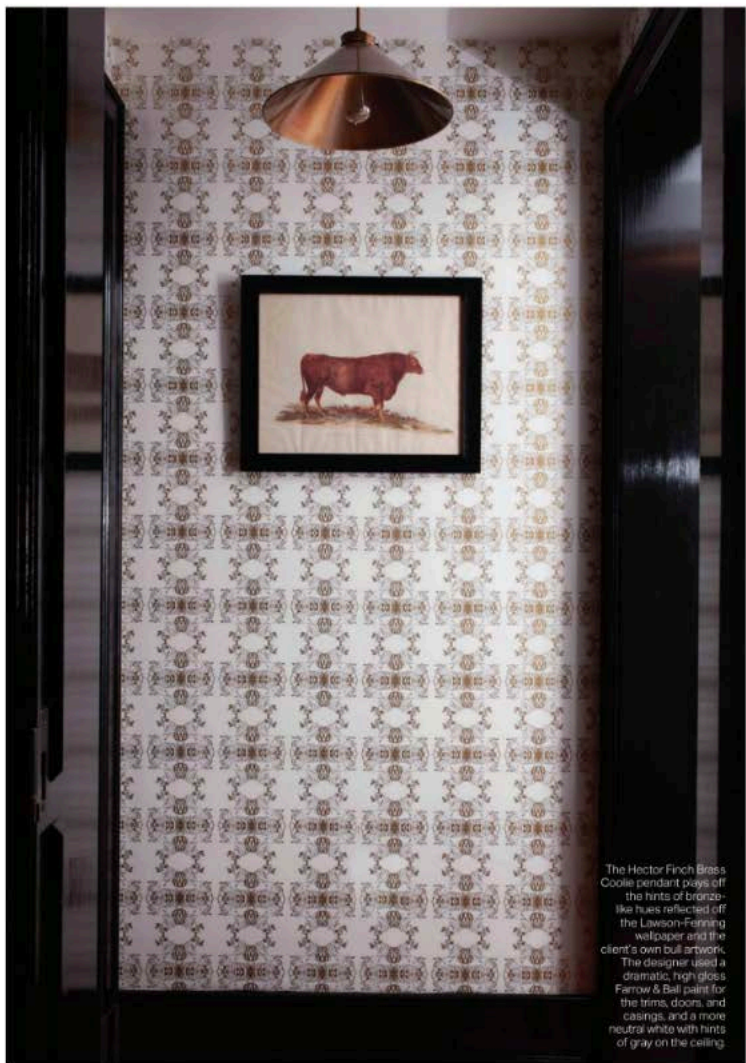


seeking the sublime

WINTER 2023

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DISPLAY UNTIL 3/21/23

MOODY REVIVAL



The Hector Finch Brass Coole pendant pays off the hints of bronze-like hues reflected off the Lawson-Finney wallpaper and the client's own bull artwork. The designer used a dramatic, non-gloss Farrow & Ball paint for the trim, doors, and casings, and a more neutral white with hints of gray on the ceiling.

Jaqui Seerman transforms a Nolita pied-à-terre into a sensuous living experience that reflects the building's character

TEXT: NICOLE HADDAD PHOTOGRAPHY: ISABEL PARRA

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—Jaqui Seerman

the home. A mesmerizing, slightly reflective wallpaper with a repetitive pattern of lions and a sculptural side table from Lawson-Fenning create a gorgeous tableau, but it’s the client’s own framed bull artwork set against this backdrop and a shapely brass pendant that creates a “wow” moment. “That particular artwork influenced a lot of what we did—the colors reflected in it are carried throughout, from the greens to the creams, and the richer kind of caramel tones—so we wanted it in a prominent location,” explains the designer.

The soothing sense of arrival the entryway projects progresses through to a large open space that houses both the living room and kitchen. In the former, a pair of Wormley chairs and side tables by Alfons Bach hold a poignant memory for both—the duo found them in an LA store called Thanks for the Memories, where they had previously purchased items for the client’s West Coast residence. The provocative yet elegant theme endures with Rose Tarlow scones flanking the clients’ artwork over the chic, newly painted fireplace, while a sofa upholstered in a graphite-hued merino wool, a vintage bench-turned-coffee table, throw pillows in a luxurious leopard fabric from Fortuny, and a Gilbert Rohde sideboard in contrasting burl walnut, round out the well-dressed room.



Seerman painted the entrance to the bedroom in the same Farrow & Ball pitch black—creating a perfect frame to the private space. A Hector Firch Tom chandelier, a George Nelson platform bench, and Florencecourt wallpaper from Cole & Son offer both function and whimsy.

The overwhelming desire to emulate the delight of walking into a luxurious, boutique hotel designed with every possible detail and need in mind has overruled the residential market. Designer Jaqui Seerman was tasked with creating just such a turnkey experience for a longtime client in his newly purchased Nolita pied-à-terre—and the results did not disappoint. Situated in a building designed by Roman and Williams—a storied design and architecture firm known for its hip and sexy interiors—Seerman transformed the apartment to reflect the sensual, cozy feeling of its larger structure.

"The previous owners of the space had instituted a very light

interior full of whites and pale blues that felt very out of place with the rest of the building. To bring my client's unit back to our interpretation of the original intent and reflect the fashion-forward vibe of the neighborhood, we injected it with more saturated colors, lush, tactile textiles, and beautiful wallpapers," says Seerman. Since the client tended to lean more traditional, the designer and her client shopped on both coasts, pulling pieces grounded in history.

The dramatic entryway set the tone—Seerman painted the casings, doors, and trim in a striking pitch black, full gloss paint from Farrow & Ball, a design element that continues throughout

A captivating photograph of Manhattan's skyline across the water sits over the fireplace. A Gilbert Rohde for Herman Miller Sideboard, a Nelson four-drawer chest in patsander, and the Edward Wormley bench-turned-coffee table work well with the apartment's herringbone-patterned walnut floor.



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Serving as a perfect foil to the brightly lit living space—nearly full height windows facing the bustling street bring in an abundance of natural light—the kitchen features the apartment's dark-stained, original oak countertops and cabinetry which Seerman also covered in the saturated glossy black paint. For illumination, the designer installed a dark pendant light with white shades and brass tipped light bulbs so that not only does the light never reflect down, but the brass elements tie into the living room's wood and brass Italian chandelier, the entryway's brass pendant, and the bedroom's decorative accents.

To create a sense of separation yet retain a cohesive feeling, Seerman carried the color story into the bedroom in a lighter, more serene manner. A Cole & Son wallpaper depicting foliage in shades of stone and sage—the latter echoed in the living room rug's sage ground—a bed upholstered in a natural linen, an antique abash taupe rug from Mansour, and a black and brass chandelier help create the more handsome, suited vibe reflective of the client's personality. "When you have the luxury of designing a space to rival the finest of Manhattan hotels, it's just a dream," says Seerman.



In the kitchen, an octagonal, charcoal-finished wood dining table from Mexico Gardens serves as a multipurpose island.