1. Sharp Seating
   Inspired by glaciers and jagged canyon walls, Brooklyn-based designer Fernando Marangoni crafted this sofa made of inset sand and upholstered in silk velour. $80,000 at Artsy Grand, 45 E. 66th St, NYC, 212-674-5851, marangoniart.com

2. Boulder Than Ever
   This natural rock-crystal table lamp stands 12 inches tall. $900 for a pair (flush kits not included), at House Gallery, 209 E. 58th St, NYC, 212-799-1011, photogalleriesnym.com

3. Gem Quality
   The faceted gemstone by Ontario-based designer Paolo Ferrino is hand-crafted in Canada and available in two sizes, 3.25 (11.2 ct) and 3.39 (16 ct), at Colby, 324 Canal St, 2nd fl, NYC, 212-314-1888, geodesny.com

4. Plate Tectonics
   Designed by Netherlands-based Lex & Lu and made of Belgian bluestone, the Fragments side table features a natural base and a polished tray. $1,940 at The New Project, 13 Grant Ave St, NYC, 212-495-2590, thenewproject.com

5. All Pieced Together
   Made of beveled tea paper, Promontory’s Resolute wall covering is reminiscent of leather bookbindings designed by late-English craftsmen Ivar Robinson. Comes in four colors, as well as customizable options. Available at the trade at Harlequin, New York, NY, 200 Lexington Ave, 6th fl, NYC, 646-757-7900, harlequin.com

6. Sedimental Journey
   Hand-knit by South African textile designer Reon Joubert, these micro-wool rock cushions come in three sizes and colors: forest, dark grey, and light grey, shown. From $95 (small) to $350 (large), at ABC Carpet & Home, 888 Broadway, NYC, 212-475-5000, abcd.com
Deluxe Duplex

A stylish Tribeca pied-à-terre dazzles from every angle

BY KELLY VELOCCI
PHOTOGRAPHS BY GIEVES ANDERSON

Quiet Glamour
The living room is furnished with a Recontour tete-a-tete sofa by Amy Somerville, vintage Edward Wormley 467 chairs re-covered in Zinc Teak's Joel Ilmen, and a Hervé Van der Straeten-designed side table and accessories. The stone plinth and circa-1975 sculpture are from Fair Home Collection. See Resources.
Luxurious Lairs

Luxurious Lairs (see note) in the dining area, a chandelier by Lindsey Adelman hangs above velvet-covered Little Black Dress armchairs by Nanae Hatakeyama and a custom African St. Laurent marble table, (source for more) A carved-oak bookcase, an untitled canvas by Luis Urribarri, a bench upholstered in Zinco Textile’s Shimmerasse in Mercury, an Achilles Salviati marble mirror, and a Harvey Van der Straeten copper gracing the entry. See Resources.
At the outset, the project appeared straightforward and likely to proceed swiftly. Decorator Jordan Carlyle beat out other firms with his sophisticated, serpentine, and streamlined vision for a Saudi Arabia–based couple’s new Tribeca pad—terr, which they had purchased sight unseen in a landmark 181 building. Featuring interiors by Pritzker Prize–winning architect Shigeru Ban, the structure was being converted into condominiums.

Upon landing the job, Carlyle conducted two design meetings during the course of a weekend when the globe-trotting pair were in town, settling on most of the three-bedroom duplex’s furnishings, lighting, and fabrics. “We moved full steam ahead because they wanted the apartment to be ready in six months,” recalls Carlyle, who promptly placed furniture orders and commissioned custom pieces for the 2800 square-foot space.

But they soon found themselves at the mercy of New York City’s famously slow-moving and mercurial real estate gods. Restoring the historic building was no small task, and unexplained construction snags dragged on for nearly three years. “I had never experienced delays to that extent before,” says Carlyle, an Alabama native who opened his eponymous decorating firm in 2007. “The clients couldn’t just give up and find a new apartment because we had designed everything down to the square inch. So anything we had already acquired had to sit in storage.”
Stirring Settings
cheeseboard room left
The building's architect, Shigeru Ban, designed the custom kitchen cabinetry. The faucets by Dornbracht and the barstools are from Fornaroli. Decorator Jordan Carlyle designed many of the furnishings in the master bedroom opposite and this page (on left and more), including the dresser, tufted bench, bed frame, and mirror above the lacquer vanity. The blue sculpture is from Jonathan Adler. See Resources.
High Notes: On the second-floor landing (the main room here), Saporito’s 10-10 brass and leather-sling chairs sit at a desk fabricated by Lempira Interiors. The girl’s bedroom includes a touch of Grace: A new pair of nightstands, a Made Goods desk, and a chinoiserie mirror from Interlude Home. See Resources.

During the long wait, Carlyle convinced the couple to remain patient and “kept them focused on their beautiful purchases and the special elements we had laid out.” Among these: a chic black-and-white-lacquer vanity designed to fit snugly in a master bedroom niche, plus radium and sculptural furnishings from a range of sources, including Hervé Van der Straeten and Edward Wormley, all carefully curated to balance the proportions of the soaring living room. For the entry, Carlyle had dreamed up an L-shaped built-in curio bookcase for displaying artwork and accessories, alongside a stand-alone upholstered bench.

As the months passed by, the clients received numerous move-in dates, only to find them canceled without reason. These “false starts,” however, afforded Carlyle the opportunity to reassess a few of his original design decisions. “Ordinarily, I wouldn’t have let the luxury of changing things out, but this project went on for so long that I found new pieces that improved on my initial plans,” he says. Wornout that the television he intended to mount on a living room wall would “look lost” in an area with 25-foot-tall ceilings, he switched gears and bought a round eight-foot-wide mirror “television instead. And metallic drapery fabric earmarked for the room’s window treatments gave way to a sheer chintz textile. ‘I’ve always been drawn to shiny things, but over the course of this project I ultimately decided to tone them down.’

Carlyle’s edgy and sophisticated design scheme also extended to the apartment’s three bedrooms, two of which would be home to the clients’ four children. For the shared boys’ room, he fashioned a mature space that doesn’t sacrifice fun. Here, a pair of pillow-topped benches at the edge of each bed look polished, but they also double as extra seating for video game tournaments. Carlyle transformed the diminutive girls’ bedroom into a jewel-box-like retreat, sporting for a black and blush-pink geometric wall covering, meadowlark lamps, and a velvet-and-lamb-fur ottoman. ‘These clients aren’t the type who get overly concerned about the combination of kids and fabrics,’ the designer says. ‘The ultimate goal was to create a place that’s both stylish and family-friendly.’ And just as their apartment evolved over time, ‘I also winced myself as a designer evolving and changing. It was very inspiring.’

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