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Deep window seats create one of several sanctuaries in this New York City loft



TWO SUITE



AWARD-WINNING SPA
DESIGNER **CLODAGH** CREATED
A SOOTHING RETREAT IN
A GREENWICH VILLAGE LOFT.

ing room, pairs of sofas,
and chairs provide sooth-
netry, while a single flea
amp adds an element of
The *T-Shirt* chairs are
dagh's furniture collec-
she designed the coffee
st for this space. Oppo-
quettes can be used as
ds "when absolutely nec-
one of the apartment's
ate owners jokes.





his spacious loft could seat a few dozen people quite comfortably. But it was created for only two.

"We're not party people," says the artist who shares this Greenwich Village apartment with her partner, who is a certified fitness trainer and a master barber. "We wanted this place to be somewhere to just relax, maybe have a few friends over for dinner."

So the window seats that line much of the 2,700-square-foot apartment aren't actually for people, the artist explains; they're for paintings and photographs. Thanks to grooves in the bench tops, art can be moved around on a whim and can lean against walls without being knocked over by the women's two large dogs.

"The dogs have run of the house," says Clodagh, the designer whose signature neutral colors suit the home's canines and their human companions perfectly. "The rugs and the upholstery are the same color the dogs are, so it doesn't matter where they shed."

While the palette is indeed pooch-friendly, the apartment was designed not only for color but for comfort. "It's all about easy living," explains Clodagh. For the trainer, easy living includes the very un-Manhattan-like habit of cooking dinner almost nightly, so Clodagh designed the kitchen with deep drawers for pots, pans and appliances; there's even pullout storage for dog food. A half-wall of polished concrete keeps the living room visible but also prevents dinner guests from getting underfoot.

"We wanted one space to flow into another visually," says the trainer, "but when I cook, I need to have some boundaries."

PRODUCED BY LINDA O'KEEFE. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEFF McNAMARA.
WRITTEN BY SUSAN KLEINMAN.



Though the kitchen itself is small, open views to the living room—and to the city beyond—make it feel expansive. Cabinets that stop two feet below the 11-foot ceilings add a sense of openness as well. Hanging lamps by Irish lighting designer Peter O’Kennedy (who happens to be Clodagh’s son) illuminate the custom dining table and stools his mother created.






B

oundaries between rooms become increasingly established as one heads deeper into the apartment. "It's a gradual progression," the artist explains: Beyond the partially open kitchen is her studio, which she describes as "semiprivate, a transition from public to private space." Like most artists, she prefers to create alone but also enjoys sharing her work with others. Close friends are welcome to view recently finished paintings and witty found-object collages in progress, she says, "but I never promise that the studio is going to be neat."

Beyond the studio lies the bedroom, a private retreat for the homeowners and their dogs. "The dog beds on the floor are just for decoration," jokes the artist. "The dogs are really in bed with us every night." And who could blame them? The bed, built on a platform that houses storage drawers, is covered with a quilted velour spread from Ann Gish and backs up against a textured leather headboard. When simple bamboo window shades are lifted, the room offers glorious city views, with clear sight lines to the Empire State Building a few miles north.



Reading lamps mounted on a custom leather headboard help the bedroom do double duty as a library. Here, as in the rest of the apartment, a profusion of textures rather than lots of strong colors create visual interest while still allowing the art to take center stage. Although the designer is Irish and the homeowners American, the apartment—like much of Clodagh's work—reflects the influences of Chinese feng shui and streamlined Japanese design.

"It's just spectacular at night when the buildings are lit up," says the trainer. "In fact, the best thing about this apartment is the way it's so different at different times of the day. In the morning, you can sit in one corner and the light creates one feeling; in the afternoon, it looks entirely different; and at night you move and it's something else all over again."

She often enjoys those views with a book in hand, so the bedroom window seats were created to house dozens of volumes at floor level, eliminating the need for view-blocking bookcases.

Lacewood built-in ledges offer more space for the homeowners' paintings and photographs, which include pieces by Picasso and Henri Cartier-Bresson, works by lesser-known artists and the artist's favorite—William Wegman photographs.

In the presence of so much eye-catching art, the furnishings almost blend into the background, which, Clodagh says, is proof of a job well-done. "You never want people to say, 'Oh, I love that couch,'" explains the designer. "You want them to say, 'I love living here.'"



The couple does indeed love coming home to these soothing and superlivable surroundings, comfortable but clutter-free. Ample closets and built-in bureaus behind the bedroom provide plenty of storage, and the large bathroom reflects Clodagh's expertise in spa design—easy on the eyes, delightful to the senses and as natural and eco-sensitive as possible.

Throughout the 240-square-foot bathroom, slate floors and walls give the space a rustic, natural feel, balanced by slabs of hand-polished concrete. Beneath the large concrete wall in the room's center, Clodagh installed a huge porcelain apron sink, with a large expanse of countertop on both sides. "I like simple massive surfaces that people can put things down on," she says. "I don't like anything ditzzy."

There's nothing ditzzy about the bathtub, either, enclosed in

more polished concrete and deep enough for a relaxing soak. The adjacent rain-head shower is backed by rust and orange glass tiles that appear to be randomly placed but were, in fact, calculated by Clodagh to evoke a human touch.

And yet the designer's brilliance and attention to detail are evident everywhere: in the perforated rectangular drain cover that is so much better-looking than a standard round shower drain; in the wide slate saddle between carpet and wood floors. Every touch, every detail—carefully selected to add to the overall effect—was chosen only for these homeowners.

"There are things here that someone else might have done differently," says the trainer. "But this place was not designed for resale. This is just about us and the way we live." 🌱

See Resources, last pages.

ous windows around the
tub/shower have laminated
y panels that can be
ed to reveal sweeping Man-
views. Opposite: Above
athroom sink, lights de-
d by Clodagh supplement
erhead fixtures. The sink
a long bureau that provides
onal storage, which helps
omeowners maintain the
r-free feel.



MAKE A BOLD SPLASH

Barlow Tyrie, teak.com; **Chair fabric:** Perennials at David Sutherland, 310/360-1777; **(Photo, upper right) Ceiling paint:** Custom Paint by Rozalynn Woods, 626/441-1022; **(Photo, lower left) Fireplace screen:** Rozalynn Woods Design, 626/441-1022; **(Photo, lower right) Bed, side table, screen, shades:** Rozalynn Woods Design, 626/441-1022.

TWO SUITE

Interior design: Clodagh Design, 212/780-5300, clodagh.com; **Construction:** Wise Construction LLC, 212/929-6181; **Pages 110, 111 Window shades:** "Nobu" at Blinds Beyond, 212/352-0033; **Fireplace:** It Only Takes One Construction, 917/806-7424; **TV:** Pioneer, pioneerelectronics.com; **Sofas, chairs, side table, vases on table, throw:** all by Clodagh Collection, 212/780-5300; **Coffee tables:** Clodagh custom design, by WMC, 212/780-5300; **Rug:** "Boulders" by Tufenkian, 212/475-2475; **(Photo, right) Padded wall covering, pillows:** Linda Fryling custom design, **Cube:** all by Clodagh Collection, 212/780-5300; **Window cushions:** Gary Buxbaum, 212/741-3899; **Pages 112, 113 (Photo, left) Sink:** Kohler, 800/456-4537; **Faucet:** Grohe, 630/582-7711; **Cabinets:** Connor Corporation, 410/523-8490; **Countertops:** Robert Yonger Concrete, 212/233-8251; **(Photo, right) Flooring:** Norwegian Wood Floors, 718/218-8880; **Table and benches, dog bowls:** by Clodagh Design, 212/780-5300; **Hanging lamps:** Peter O'Kennedy, 212/780-5300; **Backsplash:** Object Metal, 718/852-2179; Imago panels by Knoll Textiles, 877/615-6655; **Page 114 Bench:** by Connor Corporation, Clodagh Custom Design, 212/780-5300; **Cushions on benches:** Linda Fryling design with Donghia Fabric, 212/780-5300; **Window shades:** "Nobu" at Blinds Beyond, 212/352-0033; **Page 115 Bed, padded headboard, pillows:** Clodagh Design, 212/780-5300; **Coverlet:** Ann Gish, 866/627-5800; **Headboard fabric:** Lexel Cobblestone in Taupe by Connor Corporation, 212/780-5300; **Lamps:** "Tolomeo" by Artemide, 212/925-1588; **Pages 116, 117 Flooring and shower tiles:** Stone Source, 212/979-6400; **Cabinets, custom concrete divider:** Robert Yonger Concrete, 212/233-8251; **Light fixtures:** Boyd Lighting, 415/778-4300; **Mirror:** Clodagh Design, 212/780-5300; **Sink:** Kohler, 800/456-4537; **Faucet, tub, showerheads:** by Dornbracht, 800/774-1181; **Tub:** Kohler, 800/456-4537; **Vases, window screens:** by Clodagh Collection, 212/780-5300.

THE MIES-ING LINK

Design: Douglas Levine, L Corp., 773/528-9748; **Kitchen manufacturer:** Varenna from Poliform, www.poliformusa.com; **Pages 118, 119 Sofas, chair:** The Bright Group, 312/833-0177; **Sofa**

fabric: Holly Hunt Collection, 312/644-1844; **Coffee table, dining table:** by Douglas Levine, 312/528-9748; **Vase on coffee table:** "Puppy" by Jeff Koons from Alan Koppel Gallery, 312/640-0730; **Vase on dining table:** Rina Menardi from Luminaire, 800/494-4358; **Page 121 (Photo, upper left) Kitchen design and manufacturer:** Varenna from Poliform, www.poliformusa.com; **Stove, cooktop:** Bosch and Miele from ABT Electronics & Appliances, abtelectronics.com; **Eyeball sculpture:** Blackman Cruz, 310/657-9228; **Vase:** Andrew Hollingsworth, andrewhollingsworth.com; **(Photo, upper right) Shelves:** Varenna from Poliform, www.poliformusa.com; **(Photo, lower right) Vanity:** rebuilt by Riis Borg Construction Co., 312/733-7553; **Fixture:** Artemide, artemidestore.com; **Pages 122, 123 (Photo, upper left) Bed:** Douglas Levine, 312/528-9748; **Drapes:** fabric from Larsen, 312/644-0717; and made by Parenteau Studios, 312/337-8015; **(Photo, right) Shelves:** Douglas Levine, fabricated by Riis Borg Construction Co., 312-733-7553; **Sconces:** Luminaire, 800/494-4358.

PEAK EXPERIENCE

Architecture: David Jameson, David Jameson, 703/739-3840; **Design:** David H. Mitchell & Associates, 202/797-0780; **General contractor:** GN Contracting, 703/845-5500; **Landscaping:** Gregg Bleam Landscape Architecture, 434/977-3232; **Page 124 Stairwell:** David Jameson design by IWC Ironworks, 301/424-5662; **Page 125 Carpet:** Tufenkian at Design Center Carpets, 202/646-1300; **Coffee table, mantel pottery:** David H. Mitchell & Associates, 202/797-0780; **Side tables:** Hwang Bishop, 401/245-9557; **Armchairs:** Thomas O'Brien through Hickory Chair, 828/328-1801; **Page 126 Curtains:** Larsen at Cowtan & Tout Showrooms, 877/235-7871; **Table:** Repertoire, 212/219-8159; **Chairs:** Troscan, 312/733-0158; **Page 128 Flooring:** Classic Floor Designs, 202/872-9860; **Lighting:** CBS Lighting, 410/552-1400; **Cabinets:** David Jameson design by Hill Enterprises Inc., 301/670-0110; **Countertops:** ArcStone, arc-stone.com; **Sink:** Blanco, blancoamerica.com; **Faucet:** KWC faucet, kwcfacets.com; **Microwave, oven, range:** Thermador, thermador.com; **TV:** Sony, sony.com; **Page 130 (Photo, upper right) Sofa, side tables:** Donghia, donghia.com; **Dressers:** David H. Mitchell & Associates, 202/797-0780; **(Photo, lower right) Floor:** Classic Floor Designs, 202/872-9860; **Bed:** Stewart Furniture available through David H. Mitchell & Associates, 202/797-0780; **Wall lamp:** Nesson Lighting through Illuminations, 202/783-4888; **Page 131 Cabinets:** David Jameson design by Hill Enterprises Inc., 301/670-0110; **Light fixtures:** Illuminations, 202/783-4888; **Countertop:** Arlington Marble and Granite, 703/845-5711; **Sink, tub, faucets:** Dornbracht, dornbracht.com; **Mirrors:** Dulles Glass, 703/361-2343. >

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