ART LESSON

A museum-worthy art collection isn't the only creative and captivating feature of this stunning New York apartment



ENTRANCE Even the furnishings in the apartment have an artistic quality – like the plaster, paper, pulp and steel ceiling pendants and custom curved consoles featured here.

Ohne Titel artwork by Georg Baselitz. Partera marble stool, The Future Perfect. Oyster perforated pendant lights, Brent Warr. Custom console tables and mirrors, all Workshop/APD

MEDIA ROOM

'For this room, the owners had a very clear vision of an all-black space, filled with textures,' says art advisor Barbara. 'We found a large scale work by Guillem Nadal that plays with texture and has a bit of red colour contrast.'

S/T 16-12-16 artwork by Guillem Nadal. Pyramides chandelier, Bourgeois Boheme Atelier. Custom sofa and coffee table, both Workshop/APD. Le Minitore chair, Studiotwentyseven. Airisto side table, Made By Choice. Dover lamp, Visual Comfort & Co





here's basically nothing to improve upon in this impressive apartment located in Tribeca, the heart of the Big Apple. Firstly, the 82-storey building in which it sits was designed by Robert A.M. Stern Architects, evoking the iconic architecture of 1920s and 1930s New York. Its classic facade features precast concrete panels that look like limestone, combined with metal screens for a contemporary twist. Secondly, the sweeping panorama provided by the massive double-height, south-facing windows overlooks the bottom tip of Manhattan and includes the Statue of Liberty as well as both the Hudson and East rivers. Thirdly, the harmonious interiors with their soft curves, luxurious plaster finishes and neutral colour palettes, enhanced by the occasional use of deeper hues for more dramatic contrasts, were created by renowned interior design and architecture firm Workshop/APD. Fourthly, the spectacular contemporary artworks that adorn the walls reflect the cohesive vet bold vision of art advisor Barbara Cartategui.

'I was part of the project from the beginning,' remembers Barbara, who studied with one of the homeowners at Parsons School of Design. Since those days, the two have become friends. 'I previously worked with these collectors when they purchased a house in the Hamptons, and I helped them acquire and create a very special art collection for their second residence. I knew they were looking to buy a property in Manhattan for a very long time, but nothing that came to the market was special or large enough or meet their expectations. One day, during one of our frequent gallery walkthroughs, they told me they had found their dream apartment,' she says.

In parallel to the full renovation of the apartment, Barbara started to conceive of the type of art that would fit the home. The project gave her the opportunity to collaborate with the interior designers at Workshop/APD and think about every aspect of the decoration to define the perfect paintings, prints and sculptures for the apartment. 'The objective was to completely integrate the art into the space and environment,' she explains.



Barbara's process involved researching and sourcing many different options and accompanying the homeowners to art fairs, galleries and artist's studios. She also took care of sharing market reports to guide her clients' investments. 'One of the biggest challenges was finding potential artwork that would have enough strength or "protagonism" to stand out, while also remaining minimal, subtle and broadly cohesive to the overall theme of the design,' explains Barbara.

As the couple are inclined to a monochromatic aesthetic, the art had to revolve around those guidelines, while simultaneously adding something to the apartment's atmosphere. Barbara also wanted to make sure that there would be a large number of female artists, such as Angela de la Cruz, Tracey Emin and Rania Schoretsaniti, included in the collection – their pieces currently grace the living room. Georg Baselitz and Jaume Plensa – on the staircase – as well as James Turrell – between the living room and formal dining room – are some other well-known names that provide big effects.

It's this level of attention to detail throughout the apartment that has delivered such a remarkable result – an ultra-contemporary, ultra-luxe home that, despite its elevated appearance, still manages to be a calm, centred and serene space, ready to be enjoyed both by the homeowners and their guests.

workshopapd.com; bcartadvisory.com







