

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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Demi
Moore &
Ashton
Kutcher
at Home in
Beverly Hills





Across from the living area, Diener created a sculpture out of the wall that frames the floor-to-ceiling window overlooking the river, the park and the cityscape. Customized 3-D-printed columns on the table, Taylor Tolson, Bronx, custom-made chandelier. Above: The entrance is dramatically lit with a wall-mounted recessed light. Clockwise from left: Diener's "the river bar," Diener's view of the living area, "one of the only spaces needed to make a traditionally impractical condition."

Many apartment buildings in New York are tall, but some rooftop water tanks rise above and overshadow along the others, leaving the newest additions to the short list of very tall apartment buildings are the twin towers of the Time Warner Center on Columbus Circle in Manhattan, which soar to heights far beyond. When your ears start popping at about the 10th floor, you know you're in for a spectacular view.

The two-bedroom suite that New York architect Jean Diener designed for an empty-nesting New York couple resides in the penthouse, which wraps the glass-walled windows like wallpaper, facing 270 degrees from Midtown on the city side to the Statue of Liberty on the Hudson side. At the entrance, the horizontal stripes of dark lacquered wood meet cherry paneling given witness to a living area that acts like a living word from this air. Yellow granite on the glossy floor is hyperreal. The city below looks like a map. The yellow tone are more halcyon.

"Living in the sky is what living in New York is all about, and when this building went up, we couldn't live anywhere else," says the husband. "We're real New Yorkers." The tower that epitomizes the



"It's a balancing act to create a space that anchors people so they don't feel they're standing at the edge of a cliff," says Dineen.



Tip: The strategic master bedroom. The wall and the side chairs and mirror are upholstered in fabric. (Photo: Bob Irving/istockphoto.com) The vanity, then a marble vanity, says: "The vanity and mirror are used to provide a calm and relaxing atmosphere, with a strong nod to the material," says Dineen.

New York and New York was built just as the couple's twin daughters left home, which prompted the parents to establish a new nest for the couple chapter in their marriage.

But living at vertiginous heights poses problems for the animals, which is where Dineen's skills come in. "It's a balancing act to create a space that anchors people so they don't feel they're standing at the edge of a cliff," says Dineen. "I was rather competing with the view not surrendering to it. People need to feel tied to something solid."

When visitors finally absorb the view and turn around, they discover another kind of skyline inside. "My response was to take the large living area wall opposite the view and create a bar relief that draws the eye," says the architect. The wall is an angular topography sculpted in white plaster that echoes the silhouette of the skyline.

Dineen extends this recreation of Manhattan throughout the apartment by placing wall planes atop each other, like the collage of building materials, so that they

appear layered, detached and floating. The staircase, always projecting in one way but laminated on a wall that has been detailed to look like a mosaic, resembles architectural planes. Dineen emphasizes the independence of the planes by highlighting them and calling them out in different materials. "The way we perceive space is by moving through it, and layered features give you a changing view, with a feeling of depth. The parts don't in space relative to each other."

Dineen stabilizes this apartment at the brink of the precipice by calibrating a sense of mass. "I have a window for large artwork things," she admits. Importing her sensibilities as an architect to the interior, she designed calamine as a self-architectural scale, in addition to wood, cubic side tables, storage units and, with architect Kenneth Spilligian, even a procession arch into one of the bedrooms.

Dineen wraps this interior architecture with a palette of gentle colors and tactile materials. Every wall and ceiling is treated in a special finish or pattern. *Staplewood* (see

continued on page 104)

Madeline architect Kenneth Colegrove, who collaborated with Disney's office on certain aspects of the project, designed a dramatic progression with a wood accent for windows of the guest rooms. Disney intentionally chose various materials for the wood grain. The chair, chair from Douglas, has a Palmetto fabric. Glass headboard below.

