

house beautiful

A CENTURY OF STYLE TO INSPIRE YOUR OWN

Tips From Our 101 Top Decorators

What They Like,
Where They Shop

The New
Romantic
Minimalism

The Vice President
At Home in Washington

NOVEMBER 1997 \$3.00

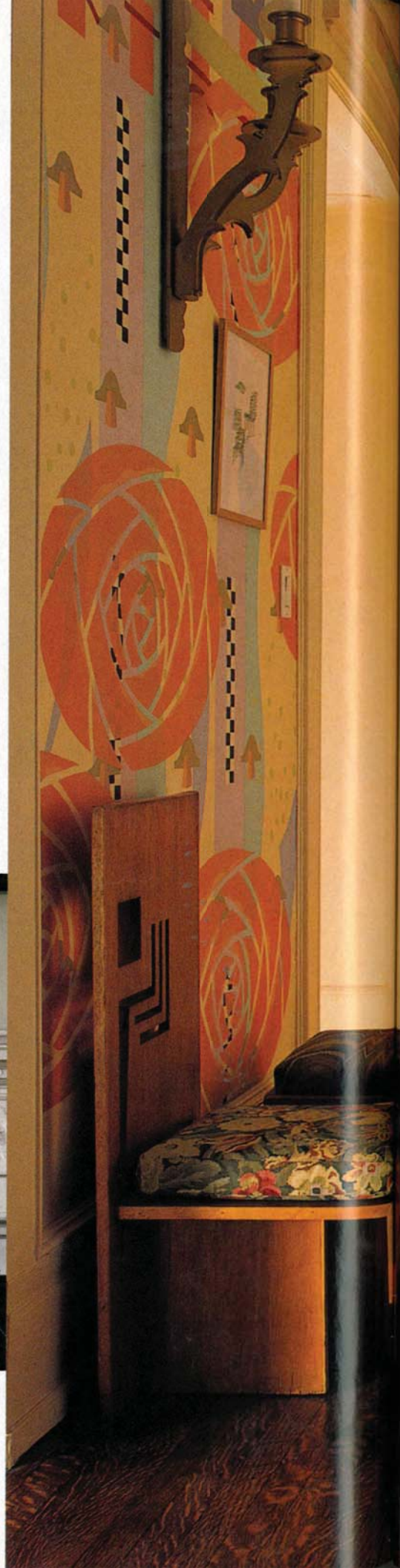




Frederic Schwartz transforms an old-fashioned apartment into a vibrant interior landscape that enhances a noteworthy collection of 20th-century furniture

INTERACTIVE

Visitors are greeted by giant stenciled roses (opposite) and chairs, clockwise from left, by Frank Lloyd Wright, Mies van der Rohe, Charles Eames, Robert Venturi (two), and Frank Gehry. Above: In the living room furnishings by modern masters include coffee table by Isamu Noguchi; chairs by Gerrit Rietveld, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Frank Gehry. Right: Fire screen by Frederic Schwartz enlivens original mantelpiece.







The apartment contains two comfortable dining spaces. Opposite: In the formal dining room, furnished with a table and chairs by Robert Venturi, the massive original painted fireplace was stripped to the natural wood. Left: The much-enlarged kitchen's chairs are by Venturi except for a tubular metal one designed by Mies van der Rohe. They encircle a table by Frederic Schwartz, whose Skyscraper Chair dominates the corner. Cornice spells out a quotation from Italo Calvino. Plan below: The luxurious bachelor apartment includes a living room, sitting room, and library. Rooms at right face Central Park.

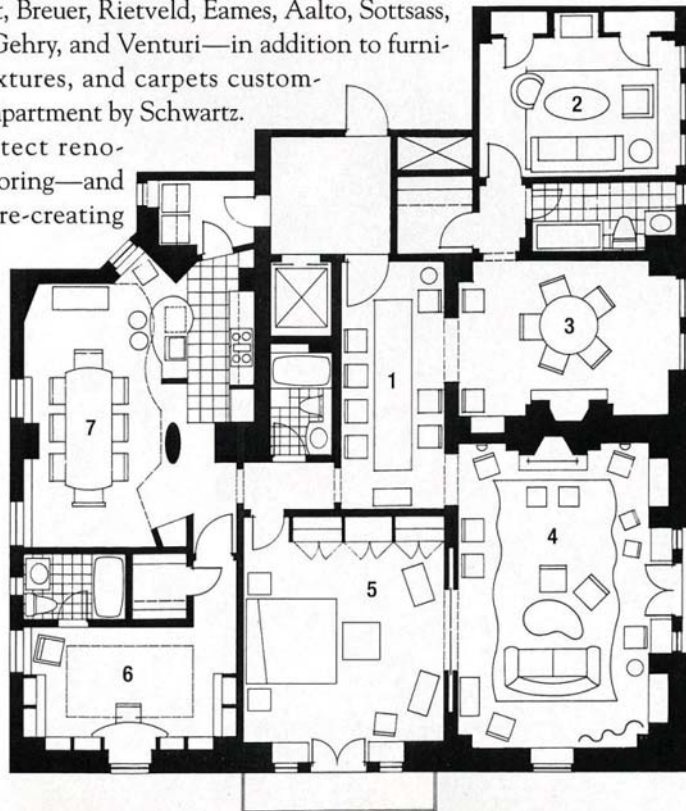
BY SUSAN ZEVON PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUDITH WATTS

The hand-stenciled foyer of this Manhattan apartment, playfully called the Hall of the Giant Rose by its architect, Frederic Schwartz, sets the tone for the entire space. The parade of chairs that lines the foyer walls is also a prelude, announcing a major collection of 20th-century furniture in these gracious rooms overlooking Central Park.

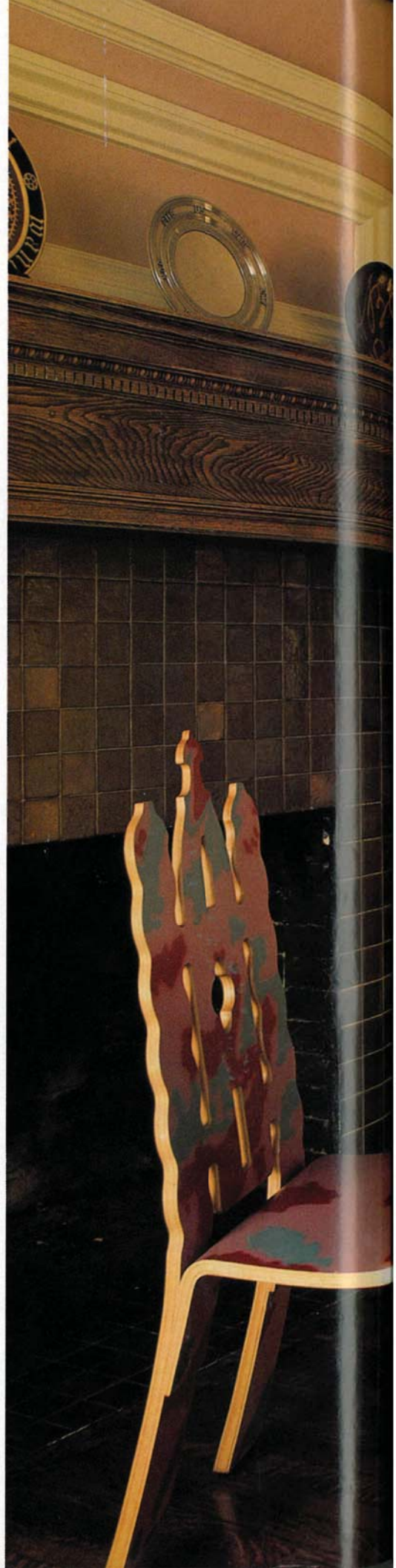
The apartment's owner, Andrew Cogan, senior vice president of marketing for the pioneering furniture company Knoll International, was introduced early to 20th-century design. He is the son of Marshall Cogan, the former chairman and chief executive officer at Knoll. When he was fifteen, Andrew Cogan bought a chair designed by Charles Eames that launched him as a lifetime collector. He now owns originals and prototypes of 20th-century furniture classics by such modern masters as Wright, Breuer, Rietveld, Eames, Aalto, Sottsass, Noguchi, Mies, Gehry, and Venturi—in addition to furniture, lighting fixtures, and carpets custom-designed for the apartment by Schwartz.

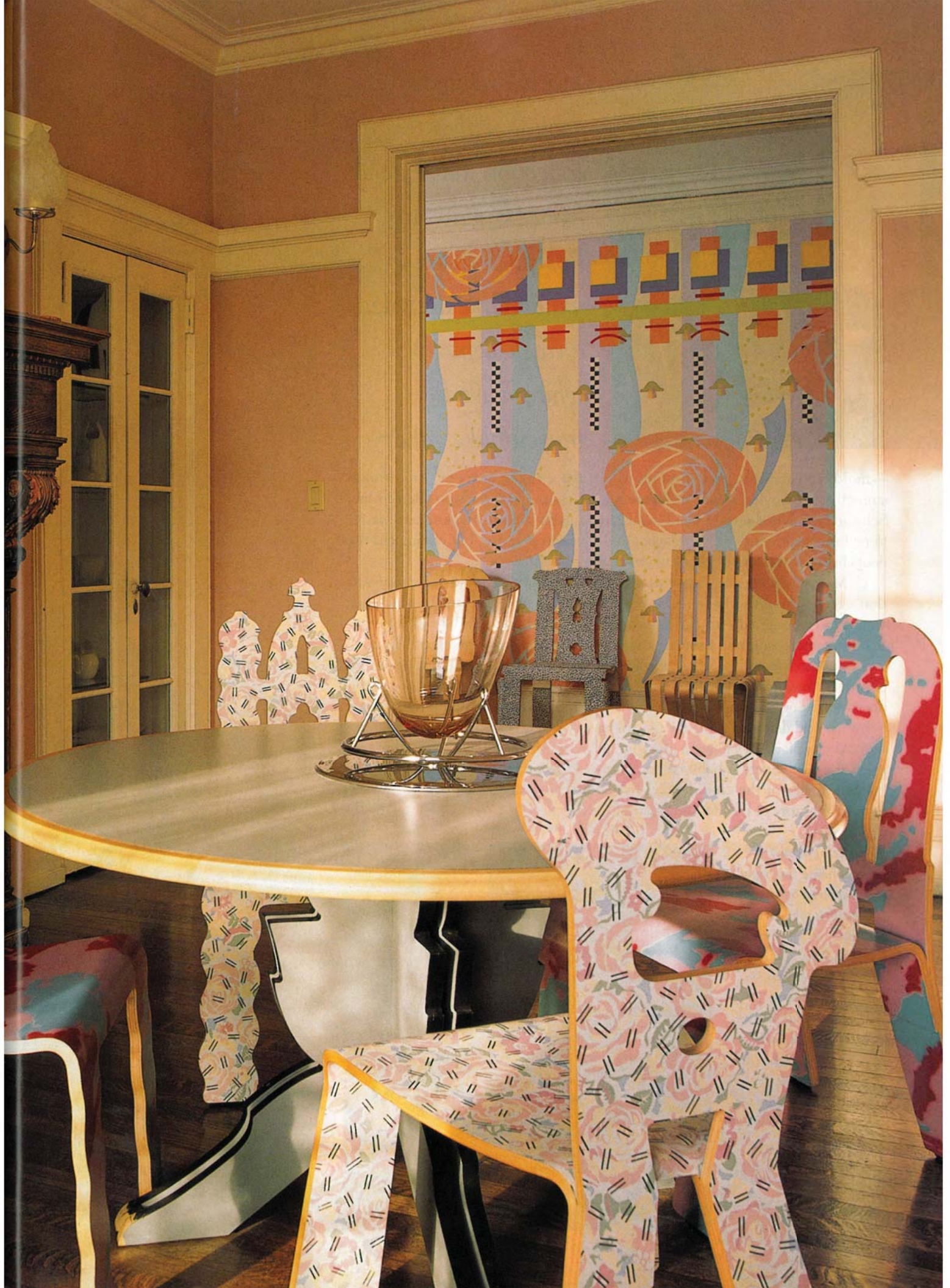
The architect renovated rooms, restoring—and when necessary re-creating

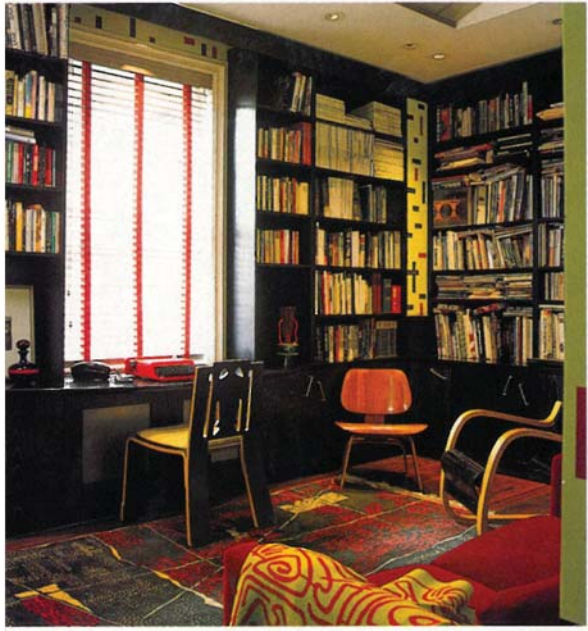
- 1. Foyer
- 2. Sitting room
- 3. Dining room
- 4. Living room
- 5. Bedroom
- 6. Library
- 7. Kitchen



FROM INSIDE ARCHITECTURE: INTERIORS DESIGNED BY ARCHITECTS BY SUSAN ZEVON. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUDITH WATTS. COPYRIGHT ©1996 BY SUSAN ZEVON AND JUDITH WATTS







Many architects dealing with a collection that extends from Bauhaus to Postmodernism would have designed a track-lighted, white-walled, museumlike gallery

—moldings, mantels, and cornices to reinforce the apartment's traditional strengths. To provide an eat-in kitchen, a necessity in Cogan's on-the-run life, Schwartz combined several small maids' rooms with the existing kitchen. He retained the apartment's original layout and room proportions, but eliminated the doors between the public spaces to create interior vistas.

Many architects dealing with a collection of furniture and decorative arts that extends from the Bauhaus to Postmodernism, from De Stijl to Memphis, would have designed a track-lighted, white-walled, museumlike gallery. But Schwartz choreographed a setting that would interact with the objects instead.

Passages from Italo Calvino's book *Invisible Cities*, which Cogan and Schwartz faxed to one another during the course of the renovation, are reproduced in red on the walls of the living room and kitchen. Serendipitously, after Schwartz had designed a rug for the living room that is an abstraction of Manhattan's city plan, they found a passage in Calvino's book about a carpet that represents a city: "Every inhabitant . . . compares the carpet's immobile order with his own image of the city and can find, concealed among the arabesques, an answer, the story of his life, the twists of fate."

The sitting room color scheme (far right) was inspired by the tall painting by Bruce Robbins. V'Soske rug is by Alan Buchsbaum. Yellow daybed has pillows covered in a Salvador Dali fabric. Above: Design and architecture books fill the library. The unusual rug is a flea market find. Right: New leaded-glass doors separate bedroom and living room.

FOR MORE DETAILS,
SEE READER INFORMATION

