

New York



Interior Designer: Carolina von Humboldt

It was a dream come true for a financier passionate about politics, history, music and art to find a home on Crosby Street in New York's storied SoHo ("South of Houston Street") neighborhood. The building where he commissioned Carolina von Humboldt to design his two-bedroom, one-floor loft apartment for a total of 230mq., was built in the 1920s and acquired by its artist tenants in the 1970s. A restoration art studio operates in the building today, a reminder of SoHo's Cinderella-like history of urban regeneration and gentrification.

To create a flexible living space for the financier, Carolina von Humboldt divided the loft, which is considerably longer than it is wide, with sliding doors. This produced individual rooms that could be enclosed for privacy or experienced as an uninterrupted enfilade of rooms. Each room received its own distinct form and personality, with the living room combining two seating areas and a window reading nook. The designer tried to accommodate fabrics and materials with a few pieces of furniture upholstered in velvet which is very noble materials and is also extremely comfortable, the custom area rugs are made of wool and silk which combined with the walnut floors provide a sleek but warm feeling. The bedroom offering intimate

seating areas and warm tones, the kitchen providing simple and functional accommodations, and the dining room presenting itself as an informal space for multiple functions.

Regarding the colors, Carolina's concept being that the "color has to travel", one finds them throughout the whole apartment, not in an obvious way rather an unexpected way. The ivory fluted finish of the walls has a very light shine that reflects very subtly the light. The light comes from many different sources and gives the whole space a general glow.

The decor blended the unique, vintage furnishings that Carolina von Humboldt gathers during her trips around the world with modern and custom-designed pieces, custom wool and silk area rugs, walnut floors, a fresh color scheme, and the client's extensive book collection, which established the apartment's comfortable and inviting look. The client followed Carolina von Humboldt for years and has been impressed by her creativity and professionalism. How well Carolina von Humboldt understood her client was revealed in his comment to a friend "The success of this project," he wrote, "is due to the intelligence and creativity of my designer, Carolina von Humboldt."







