

time traveler.

WRITTEN BY BRIELLE M. FERREIRA | PHOTOGRAPHY BY PIETER ESTERSOHN

TO STEP THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR OF THIS NEW YORK APARTMENT IS NOT ONLY TO ENTER THE ELEGANT WORLD OF THE BUSINESSWOMAN WHO CALLS IT HOME, BUT ALSO TO PAY A VISIT TO THE 18TH CENTURY BEFORE RESTING FOR A SPELL AMIDST THE LUSH LANDSCAPE OF AN OLD CHINESE VILLAGE. That may seem like a lot of ground to cover from a modestly sized space on the Upper West Side, but luckily, the tour guide is uniquely qualified for this kind of expedition: Designer Thomas Jayne's extensive historical studies have allowed him to seamlessly blend inspirations from different cultures and eras.

However, even Jayne himself wasn't prepared for what would happen during his first meeting with his future client. Equipped with a book of 18th-century dress silks from the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, samples of antique Chinese wallpapers and clippings from past



INTERIOR DESIGN Thomas Jayne, Jayne Design Studio, Inc.

ARCHITECTURE Sarah A. Blank, SBD Kitchens, LLC

BEDROOMS 1 **BATHROOMS 1** **SQUARE FEET 1,400**

ON THE HUNT

Designer Thomas Jayne shopped for the accessories in the dining room the old-fashioned way: scouring some of his favorite shops. He found the two early 19th-century vases at Bardith; the hanging James Mont collage is from Alan Moss.



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projects and publications, Jayne was convinced that he had options that the homeowner could connect to in terms of inspiration, but he didn't realize exactly how right he was. "She liked every one of our ideas," he explains. "So, we used them all!"

After working with longtime collaborator Sarah A. Blank to knock down some walls and open up the space, and to give a much-needed facelift to the dated kitchen, Jayne began assigning different décor schemes to different rooms, weaving stories throughout the home with help from designer Marissa Stokes from his studio. Together, they mixed pieces from the owner's extensive antiques collection—giving them a jolt with fresh finishing and upholstery—with handsome new finds, like the chandelier and porcelain vases in the tented dining room, and impressive custom pieces, like the dining table and bookcases

PITCH A TENT

Jayne and designer Marissa Stokes crafted a tented room backed by mirrors to balance the single, off-center window in the dining area. The custom pedestal table from Laszlo Sallay is paired with the homeowner's existing chairs, which have been reupholstered in fabrics from Nancy Corzine and Coraggio Textiles.

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from Laszlo Sallay. "I'm not of the school that 'everything must go' when designing a new home," says Jayne. "She had a lot of nice things that I might not have picked out for myself but that speak to her and have a lot of spirit. I think that's what makes it a better apartment. It's *hers*."

Jayne commissioned painter Anne Harris to bring his book-bound inspiration to life on the walls of the living room—the bright leaves and blooms that once graced the silk of an antique gown now recreated to outfit interiors instead. A portrait of Marie Antoinette from the homeowner's collection makes a powerful statement against the playful backdrop. "It was over-the-top and fun," says Jayne. "People are often afraid to hang things on patterned walls, but I think they actually complement each other. You have to exercise good judgment, but I think it can make the art look better." He puts this theory into practice once more in the master bedroom with its reproduction Chinese wallpaper, with similar results.

And while the designer toned it down in the library, opting for a neutral, handcrafted wallpaper and soft colors on the reupholstered sofa and the antique Persian rug underfoot, he couldn't resist having



BOOKED SOLID

The library is tame compared to some other rooms in the apartment, but still offers major design impact thanks to a hand-blocked wallpaper from Weitzner, wall sconces from Vaughan, a blue glazed table lamp from Antony Todd and an 18th-century coffee table from Florian Papp Antiques.



DESK AGENDA

A custom Parsons-style lacquered desk by Daniel Scuderi adds an element of unexpected modernity to the master bedroom. The antique mirror above, which was found at Alan Moss, provides the perfect contrast.

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a bit of fun in the room, with another one of the crowning glories from the homeowner's portraiture collection. "We made up a whole history for that piece," Jayne laughs. "We like to tell visitors that the subject's husband was one of the first Egyptian explorers and that he had two secret families—an Egyptian one and an English one."

And for her part, the homeowner has been having a lot of fun in her new space, too: "Thomas gave me a thoroughly livable space that's also highly unusual and stunning. I'm very happy to live here." **L**



ROOM WITH A VIEW

To keep the hand-painted, scenic Chinese mural wallpaper from Gracie Studio from getting overwhelming, Jayne and Stokes toned down the rest of the master bedroom, opting for light, simple linens, a custom headboard from De Angelis Upholstery and soft blue wall-to-wall wool carpeting from Beauvais Carpets.