



Marie Burgos Design

New York

When approaching a design, Marie Burgos doesn't invade the space, but rather uses the philosophy of feng shui to create a harmonious design that plays into its present character. Her projects focus on the balance of space and object, bringing the five forces of nature into a home: water, wood, fire, earth, and metal. She often employs a *bagua*, or energy map, to determine what characteristics each area of square footage promotes, such as career, love, or family. By keeping in tune with a room's architecture and the homeowner's unique vision, Marie creates elegant environments that spotlight subtle differences in material, shape, color, and light. Her designs develop a skillful equilibrium between function and form.

Left: Designed to accommodate an upscale Manhattan lifestyle, the space provides the homeowner with separate environments for entertaining, relaxing, and working. The building was originally a spice warehouse, and I wanted to keep the original Old World elegance offered by the architecture. I achieved this by combining neutral, modern finishes—such as the oak floors and white walls with a lot of texture—with an interesting collection of fabrics, from cotton to cowhide. In the center of the living space, a one-of-a-kind Indonesian wooden block coffee table sits atop a hand-carved wall stripe jute rug. By combining rustic elements and modern pieces, I was able to maintain the character of the 18th-century space. Photograph by Francis Augustine.



Above: The living area's reading nook features several rustic pieces reimagined for modern times. An Eames lounge chair and matching ottoman in white leather are placed upon a cowhide rug, and the side table is a traditional milling stool, but with a modern twist: mango wood hipod legs and an aluminum top. An acrylic line art piece by Francis Augustine titled "Cappuccino" casts warmth upon the space, a stunning complement to the New York City skyline.

Right: I borrowed inspiration from the building's existing features, such as the original brick walls, when creating the stately yet serene living environment. The exaggerated wall clock plays up the vintage aspects of the design, and the gray wood television stand with aluminum legs creates harmony between the Old World and modern conveniences.

Facing Page Top: A blend of iron and distressed mango wood gives the dining table an industrial aesthetic. The host and hostess wing chairs cap either end of the table and the solid oak dining chairs lend themselves to the dining area's French farmhouse appeal. I wanted to impart the building's character through the use of industrial design elements, such as the bronze-finished metal light pendant, a precise reproduction of an antique light from centuries ago. A floor mirror, made from vintage wooden planks salvaged from barns, rounds out the design.

Facing Page Bottom: A Mario bed takes center stage in the master bedroom. The ambience is peaceful, yet remains influenced by the home's Old World feel, thanks to a contradiction of patterns and textures, such as the bed's Italian vintage Baroque bedding, a cowhide bench, flowing white linen drapes, and a geometric pattern Indian rug. Reflective surfaces bring in a touch of glamour, as seen in the antique convex mirror and the mercury glass bedside table lamps. Photographs by Francis Augustine

