

# INTERIOR DESIGN

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The Best of 2001

DROOG DESIGN box construction in New York apartment; by Resolution; 4 Architecture. Photo: Paul Marchol



# Frank and Amy's Loft

## Resolution: 4

Photos: © Paul Warchol

Completion date: 2000

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This wide-open space in a former industrial building was designed for an art critic and film editor. The loft's stylishly unkempt interior fits in with the nature of the gritty neighborhood, Hell's Kitchen. A dense, complex box contains the kitchen, mechanical and secondary spaces and separates them from the public and private areas. Huge sliding doors allow the bedrooms to be closed off. The architect enhanced industrial features such as the ceiling tubes and the sanded concrete floors. Curious and colorful objects complement the overlapping rugs underneath numerous ceiling spotlights. A mixture of contemporary and retro elements tones down the loft's industrial quality and lightens and brightens the atmosphere.

Dieser weite offene Raum in einem alten Industriegebäude wurde für einen Kunstkritiker und Filmemacher geplant. Die stilisierte und nachlässige Einrichtung passt gut zum Charakter des ruppigen Viertels, Hell's Kitchen. Eine Box birgt die Küche sowie Technik- und Nebenräume und isoliert sie von Gesellschaftszonen und privaten Bereichen. Das Schlafzimmer kann durch Schiebetüren verschlossen werden. Der Architekt hob ein paar industrielle Merkmale hervor, wie Rohrleitungen und geschmiedete Betonböden. Kuriosa und bunte Objekte runden die von zahlreichen Spots beleuchteten Teppiche ab. Die Mischung aus modernen und Retro-Elementen mildert den industriellen Look des Lofts und lockert die Stimmung.

Cet espace grand ouvert dans un ancien bâtiment industriel a été conçu pour un critique d'art et un monteur. L'intérieur au négligé stylisé du loft convient parfaitement au quartier dur de Hell's Kitchen. Un module dense et complexe comprend la cuisine, les équipements et les espaces secondaires, et les sépare des aires privées et publiques. D'immenses portes coulissantes permettent de fermer les chambres. L'architecte a mis en relief les éléments industriels, tels la tuyauterie au plafond et les sols en béton poncé. Sous les spots, des objets étranges et hauts en couleur s'ajoutent aux tapis qui se chevauchent. L'aspect industriel du lieu est adouci par un mélange d'éléments contemporains et rétros, qui illumine et avive l'atmosphère.











*Cover: View of the interior showcasing selections from the clients' extensive collection of modern furnishings.*

NAKASHIMA SOFA. LACQUERED CUBE FURNITURE. RUG: GARY DIAS. LIGHTING PENDANT: FRED SILVERMAN. BRANZI SCULPTURE: DESIGN GALLERY.

PHOTOGRAPHY: PAUL WARCHOL

The architects also used the central block as a means to introduce materials and a spatial rhythm of solids and voids within an otherwise one-dimensional industrial envelope formed by concrete flooring and (refurbished) steel-framed windows. The concrete-paneled façade gives way to sections of maple cabinetry marking kitchen, closet, and bath zones.

The architects designed the dominant work island with lacquered base cabinets and teak counter; furnishings are otherwise flea-market finds and reflect the astute eye, perseverance, and element of luck needed to assemble such an ad-hoc collection. Passionate collectors of mid-century modern furnishings, the clients mixed classic Saarinen and Eames pieces with unexpected, under-the-radar items such as Droog Design's box construction, a Nakashima sofa in a brilliant red wool blend, Ettore Sottsass' pre-Memphis Wiggle table, Andrea Branzi's stacked disk sculpture, a 1960s lighting pendant, and other Italian classics by Kartell and Paolo Deganello in the bedroom. Most striking, however, is the quilt of sweaters; it demands a double, or even triple, take. Showing a streak of ingenuity and sense of humor, the husband took garments that had been folded and stacked in the former loft, stitched them together, and reinvented them as a coverlet.

Resolution: 4 Architecture's solution is neither gratuitous nor tricky. The sensitive creation of detailed volumes combines a well built environment with a gutsy raw shell to bring fresh life to the ubiquitous loft vernacular.

The project was completed in six months. Tanney shares credit with principal Robert Luntz, project architect Daniel Piselli, and team members Michael Anderson and Erin Vali.

—Edie Cohen





*Opposite:* A single volume articulates the space and anchors the materials palette with concrete panels, perforated metal, maple, slate, and glass. A wall sector clad with MDF panels incorporates a pocket door separating master bedroom from public space. Box construction is by Droog Design through Moss.

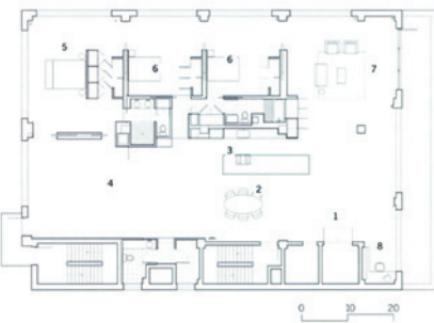
*Above:* The kitchen features maple cabinetry surrounding appliances, lacquered cabinets, and steel backsplash. At right are closets and a glass transom allowing light to infiltrate the bathroom.

REFRIGERATOR: SUB-ZERO; RANGE: VIKING; DISHWASHER: ASKO; SINK: KINDRED; FAUCET: GROHE; LIGHTING: STONCO; HARDWARE: SIMMONS; GENERAL CONTRACTOR: CONTINENTAL CONSTRUCTION



*Above:* A quilt of recycled sweaters shows the husband's handiwork. Lounge chair is by Paolo Deganello for Cassina; drum table is a Kartell classic; bedside table is an American piece, circa 1946.

- |   |           |   |                |
|---|-----------|---|----------------|
| 1 | ENTRY     | 5 | MASTER BEDROOM |
| 2 | DINING    | 6 | BEDROOM        |
| 3 | KITCHEN   | 7 | LIVING         |
| 4 | PLAY AREA | 8 | WRITING AREA   |



*Right: A storage wall, with a facing wall of closets, backs the bed in the master bedroom. "We sanded the existing concrete floor until we achieved the desired effect," Tanney says of the plane's pattern.*

