

# THIS HOME FEATURES JUST THE RIGHT DOSE OF ART DECO GLAM

*Interior designer Bradley Stephens looked to grand 1920s banks and 18th-century salons in designing a family home for a long-time New York client.*



BY [CHARLES CURKIN](#) PUBLISHED: APR 8, 2021



Thomas Loof

Once in a blue moon, a client meets the perfect interior designer and, like Aristophanes’s “second half” (for all of you Plato fans), they become inseparable. New York decorator [Bradley Stephens](#) met his creative match in a pair of sisters, who in 2008, hired him to create a family home in the Hamptons. The finished product was a hit. “They were high-fiving when it was done,” Stephens

recalls. “We have never stopped working and are always depressed when we complete a project.”



The living room sofa is from A. Rudin, the Fameed Khalique cocktail tables are custom, and the blue club chairs and Augusto Savini armchairs are vintage. The ceiling light fixtures and sconces are from Urban Electric, the carpet is Alt For Living, and the artwork is by Nate Lowman

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The stakes were raised considerably when Stephens was recently tasked with designing an Upper East Side home for one of the sisters and her family. “She told me it needs to be my masterpiece,” the designer says. One that felt a little “masculine,” and “clubby,” at that.

Stephens notes that the client loves Art Deco and classical lines, so instead of taking inspiration from iconic '20s-era homes, he turned to the grand public buildings of the period, like banks and libraries. The designer’s initial mood board, then, featured images of terrazzo floors, tray ceilings, and metal inlays. From there, he began to layer on warmer elements like fine wools and velvets, contemporary art pieces, and a medley of antique and vintage furniture.



In the powder room, the integrated counter and sink, and the MJ Atelier outside, onyx-patterned wallcovering are custom. The Murano sconces are vintage.

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Stephens directed the bulk of his efforts to the design of the combined living and dining room. The homeowners wanted the living portion to function like a salon (à la Frederick the Great, not Frédéric Fekkai), so Stephens took care to furnish a space where guests—be it a group of five or 25— can converse and sip cocktails from clusters of sofas and club chairs. “No one should feel hesitant moving the furniture around during a party here,” Stephens says. “The owner wants everyone to be completely at ease.”

At the other end of the space, a more formal, timber-lined dining area is anchored by an oversize Richard Prince painting and features a table with a shagreen base, surrounded by vintage chairs that the client coveted during a stay at the Amsterdam outpost of Soho House.



The island in the kitchen is custom, the stools are from Grazia & Co., and the refrigerator is from Sub-Zero. The backsplash is from Ann Sacks, the hood is from Wolf, the Swedish pendants are vintage, and the cabinetry hardware is from Buster & Punch.

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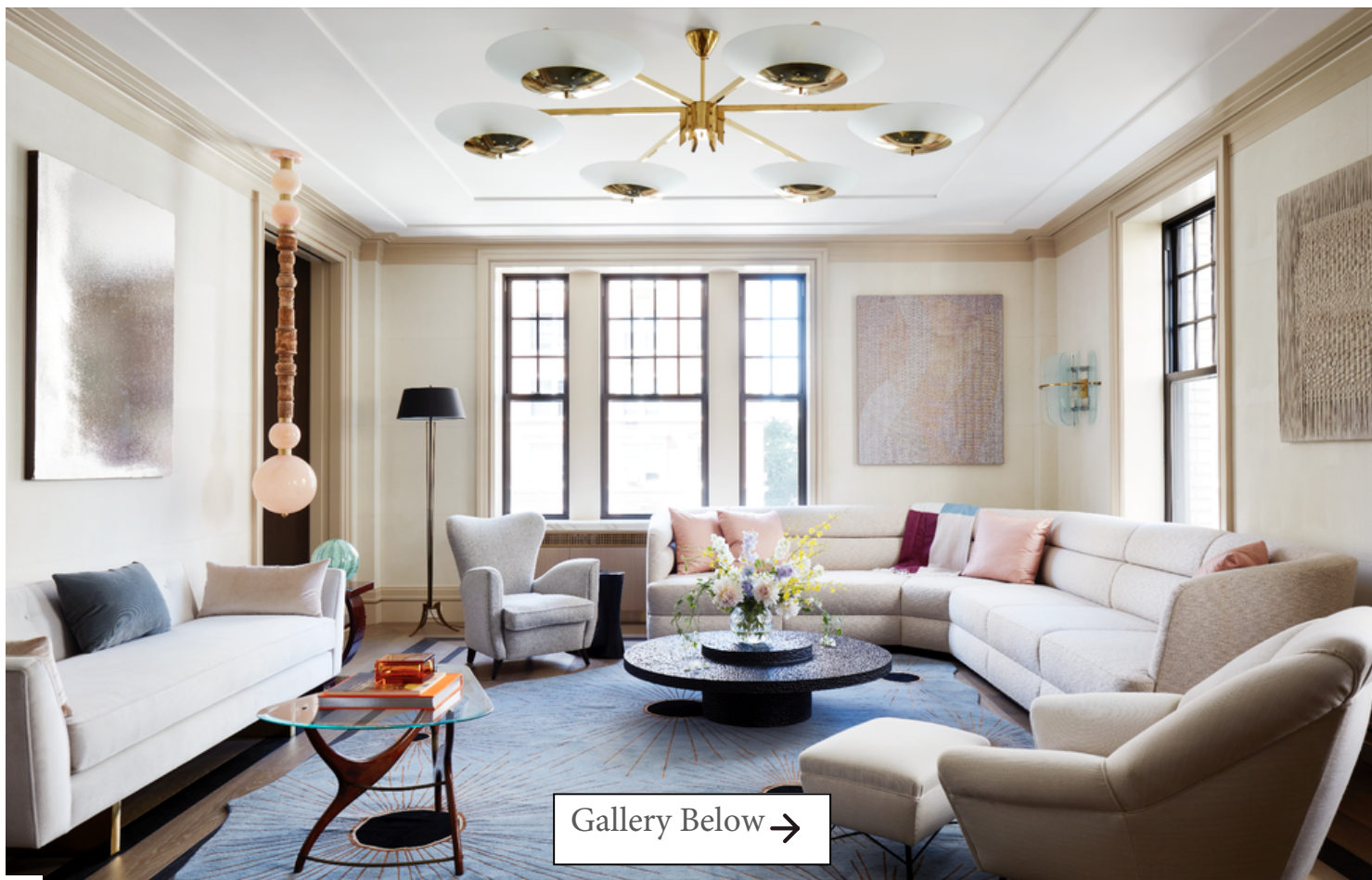
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Of course, Stephens found a way to incorporate his first muse, Art Deco banks, into the apartment—and it turned out to be the biggest design risk: “I ended up doing terrazzo down the gallery, hallway, and into the kitchen,” he says. “It was the single biggest leap of faith.” During the design phase, the designer had dreamed up a crisscrossing, plaidlike pattern of black and blue outlined in brass inlay, but on the drawing, the scheme just looked like a mess of lines. But, as expected, Stephens received only words of encouragement from the client. “We trust you,” she told him. “Make it great.”

And the results are indeed great, evident from the moment you enter the apartment through its dramatic foyer. “It lives beautifully,” says Stephens of the project. “You step back to a more glamorous time where everything was rich.”

## *TOUR THIS ART DECO–INSPIRED APARTMENT BY BRADLEY STEPHENS*



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## Living Area

This portion of the apartment was designed to foster an intimate, salonlike feel, even when entertaining many guests. When the client discovered the loveseat at Les Trois Garçons during a London shopping trip, “she sat on it and said, ‘This is my sofa,’” Stephens says. The custom sectional sofa is in a Holly Hunt fabric, the vintage club chair by the window is in a de la Cuona fabric, the other is in a fabric by Kerry Joyce. The coffee table is by John Eric Byers, and the Carlo Molino occasional table is vintage.



## Family Room

This room, according to Stephens, is the main hangout for the client, her husband, and two young children. The sofa is from A. Rudin (“in a performance velvet because of the kids,” the designer notes), the Fameed Khalique cocktail tables are custom, and the blue club chairs and Augusto Savini armchairs are vintage. The ceiling light fixtures and sconces are from Urban Electric, the carpet is ALT for Living, and the artwork is by Nate Lowman.



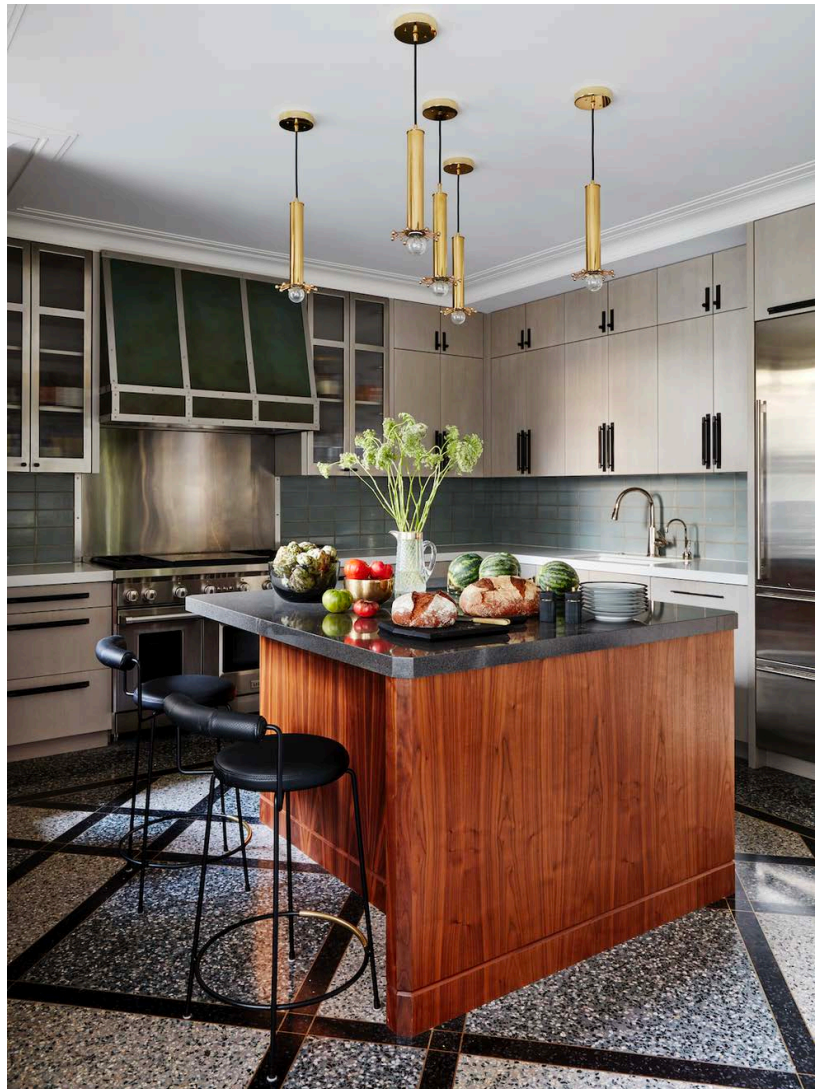


## Foyer

Stephens looked to the grand lobbies of New York's great public buildings when designing the home. Here, the vintage stools are in a Hines fabric; the ceiling fixture is vintage.

## The Kitchen

The bold terrazzo flooring—one of Stephens's biggest design moves—continues onto the kitchen floors. The island is custom (inspired by vintage vitrines), the stools are from Grazia & Co., and the refrigerator is from Sub-Zero. The backsplash is from Ann Sacks, the hood is from Volger Metalworks, the Swedish pendants are vintage, and the cabinetry hardware is from Buster & Punch.





## Dining Area

This room—the other half of the salon—exudes an easy sense of formality. A chief challenge was sourcing the right chairs, Stephens explains. “Some were too formal, too traditional,” he recalls. “[The client] wanted them to be light and airy, and able to be dragged around.” They found the perfect vintage set, inspired by ones spied at Soho House Amsterdam. The Simon Orrell shagreen table is custom, the O’Lampia pendant is from Interlampadario Milano (it’s a “quirky, special little guy” Stephens says), and the artwork is by Richard Prince.



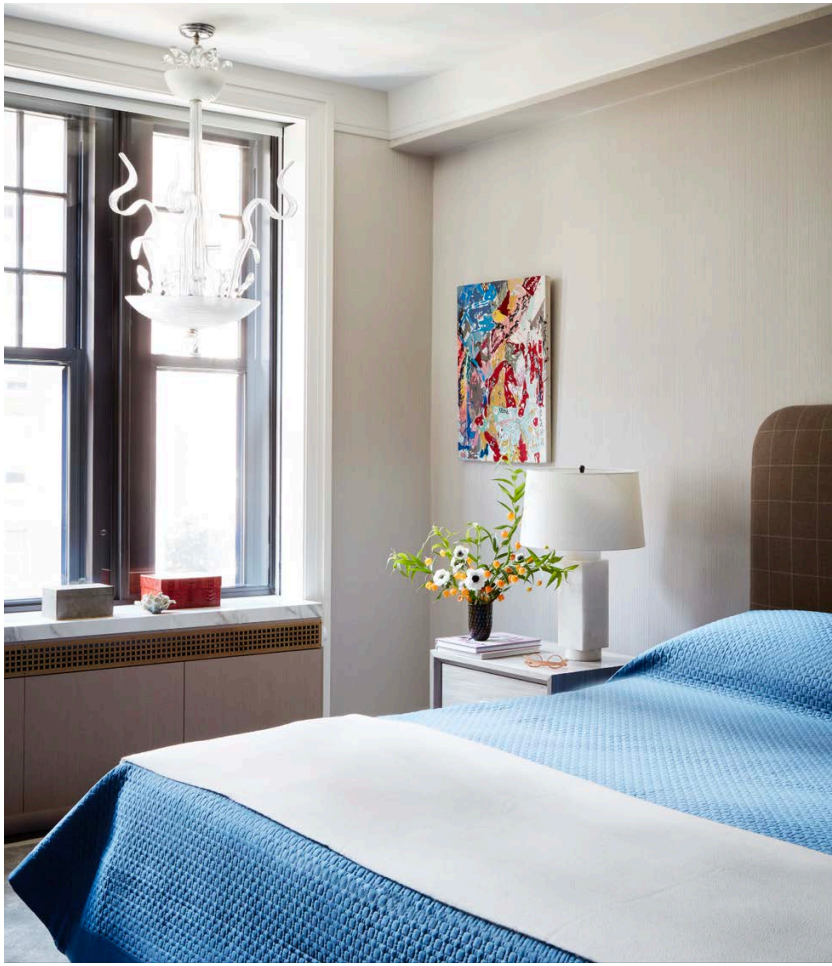
## Breakfast Room

Speaking of his Art Deco influences, Stephens recalls, “I wanted to go for it in the kitchen/breakfast room. I wanted something that harked back to the bank building.” The Carlos Scarpa table is vintage, the Avenue Road chairs are in a Raf Simons for Kvadrat mohair, the pendant is from Urban Electric, and the artwork is by Rudolf Stingel.

## Powder Room

Stephens amped up the Art Deco glamour in this small space through bespoke onyx-patterned wallcoverings by MJ Atelier, vintage Murano sconces, and a custom counter and sink.





## Main Bedroom

Stephens took the palette down a notch in the sleeping areas. “The primary suite is a sanctuary.” he notes. “Drama stays outside.” The custom headboard is in a Loro Piana wool, the nightstands are from DeMuro Das, the lamps are from Vaughan Designs, and the 1940s pendant is Italian.

## Child’s Room

Stephens designed this kid’s room to showcase fresh pops of color. The bedding is from Casa del Bianco, the vintage armchair is Italian, the Murano light fixture is from John Salibello, and the carpet is from Stark.

