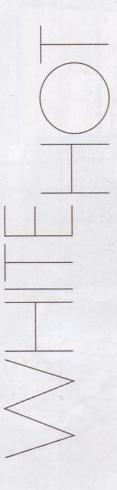


Open plan, light,
bright and full of
beautiful furniture
– just four of the
reasons why we love
this New York loft

WORDS AMANDA TALBOT PICTURES NGOC MINH NGO







Entirely white, from its gloss-concrete floors to its 15-foot high sweeping ceilings, this immaculate open-plan space is the perfect backdrop for French art dealer Olivier Renaud-Clement's mouth-watering collection of Italian industrial design from the Sixties and Seventies

What inspired you to keep the space all white?

I've followed the ideals of Japanese interiors; I'm very inspired by their approach to simplicity in design. Using white enables me to project my ideas and create a feeling of peace. Plus, it gives people in the space more presence and I find using white means I don't get distracted and there is no sense of aggression.

Do you ever crave a hit of colour?

Not really. I used splashes of brown like my Mario Bellini sofa to add warmth. I've always loved the colour brown because it's rich and chic. I've also created comfortable corners to lounge around in and hung a sheer nylon fabric in front of the 15ft x 18ft mirror that nearly covers the entire wall. This softens the space, adds light and makes believe that there's another room behind the fabric.

How practical is living with all white?

You have to be a little careful but it doesn't mean I would stop people drinking red wine! It's not a home for children or dogs but I'm a single man so that's not an issue.

How do you describe your interior style?

I'm attracted to material and shapes. I use Italian design pieces from the Sixties and Seventies because they are like perfect visions of the future. To avoid making the space look dated, I mix them with my contemporary art collection.

What inspired your passion for vintage Italian design?

The Italian designers had a particular brilliance at combining function and form while exploring the newest materials and technologies of their day. I view these pieces as sculpture as well as furnishings.

What is your top tip to living this way?

It requires a certain rigour. The main thing is to avoid accumulating clutter. I collaborated with New York architect Steve Blatz in designing the loft and we created some clever storage solutions. I store all my books in a hidden cabinet under the living room window and I have a large warehouse of pieces that I can't live with at the moment. It can be frustrating at times but I think it's important to always keep a clear vision of what you intend to achieve with your home.

To see more of architect Steve Blatz's work view his website www.blatzarc.com













TVE FOLLOWED THE IDEALS OF JAPANESE INTERIORS. I'M VERY INSPIRED BY THEIR APPROACH TO SIMPLICITY IN DESIGN

