

HOUSE & GARDEN

HOW TO
MIX
ANTIQU
&
MODERN

The
fashion
world
decorates



EXCLUSIVE
NIGHT
LIGHT





THE FEELING IS ONE OF MINIMALISM, BUT “NOT IN A SAD WAY” — ESPOSITO



Haring, Cy Twombly, Joseph Beuys, and Philip Taaffe. At 18, he bought his first Warhol, an *Electric Chair*, paying for it in \$300-a-month installments. Now he owns 25 pieces by the pop giant, including an Esposito portrait that Warhol made the week before he died.

As Esposito's art collection grew, so did the idea of displaying his favorite artworks in one place. Hence his excitement about the possibility of a residence with high ceilings and blank walls.

The interior had to be completely renovated, which took four years and a lot of dealing with the local historic landmarks authorities. Inspired by Dan Flavin and Donald Judd, Esposito created “a new, completely geometrical structure, like a giant sculpture within the space.” The feeling is one of minimalism, but, as he says, “not in a sad way.” The larger pieces of furniture— a white leather sofa by Florence Knoll and a beautiful 1930s table, among others—are what Esposito calls his “souvenirs,” classic modern designs like those his family had when he was young.

Yet it is the art and the accessories—lamps, vases, even a plaid bedcover—that bring a sense of zaniness and color to the rooms. “Everything I have in my house is not for fashion, but to create a home,” he says. But, in spite of new walls and longer corridors, not everything could be accommodated. Esposito sighs. “I am starting a new apartment in Paris,” he says. “Normally, there I stay in a hotel. I only bought the place for the art.”

In the spartan master bedroom, opposite page, the Calvin Klein spread coordinates with Peter Schoef's painting above the bed.

■ Kenny Scharf's painting fits right into the bathroom and its multi-color Murano glass mosaic tile, above. Sources, see back of book.