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An "Unapologetically Colorful" New York Apartment

Inside a Dreamy 1930s Brook



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# This New York City Apartment Is the Very Definition of Happiness

Plenty of pastels and prints enliven the once-plain home.

BY KELLY ALLEN PUBLISHED: OCT 29, 2024



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Picture Central Park in the spring, with cherry blossoms flowering and lush grass growing under the shining sun. Now imagine interiors inspired by those seasonal sights. That's exactly what Samantha Stathis Lynch did while designing her clients' apartment on New York's Upper East Side, only one

block away from the famous park. “There’s nothing more uplifting than seeing the first pops of vibrant green shoot up in the center of the gray city,” says the founder of the New Jersey-based studio **Samantha Ware Designs**.

Initially, the clients enlisted Stathis Lynch to give the post-war Manhattan apartment, with two bedrooms and two bathrooms, a cosmetic makeover packed with color and pattern. “While there was nothing ‘wrong’ with the apartment to begin with, it lacked personality and was essentially a blank canvas with white walls, white cabinets, and simple bathrooms,” says Stathis Lynch. But as the process went on, a kitchen renovation became a necessity because the existing cabinets were made of melamine and “nearly impossible to paint.” They needed to be replaced.



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**Samantha Ware, Designer**

Adding a kitchen renovation meant the project took a few extra months, but it also meant they were able to tweak the layout to maximize every inch of the 1,400-square-foot space. The star of the new cook space is the fresh cabinetry fabricated by Iron Oak and painted in Shasta Daisy by Portola Paints. “When I gave the cabinet makers the color, they looked at me like I was crazy,” says Stathis Lynch. “But the first time they walked into the space when the kitchen was fully installed and the furniture was in, they said it was the happiest apartment they'd ever been in!”

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Throughout the rest of the home, Stathis Lynch brought in additional bright yellows, shades of lavender, soft pinks, and natural greens. The living room is anchored by a floral Nanimarquina rug and an apple green velvet sectional, while a soft sage green grasscloth wallpaper creates a restful atmosphere in the primary bedroom. “The client requested that the office, which doubles as a second bedroom, be an uplifting space with the ability to stimulate creativity,” says Stathis Lynch. “Maison C wallpaper wraps around the room, while a plush, dusty pink, velvet sleeper sofa offers the perfect place to relax with a book.”

The result marks a huge shift in the apartment's design history, a stark contrast to its last version. "With the soft, pastel pink of the cherry blossoms in full bloom comes hope and a sense of renewal, which I wanted to emulate," says Stathis Lynch.

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## Entryway



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“The client and I absolutely fell in love with this piece,” says Stathis Lynch of the wall art by Marcy Cook Vreeland. “It encompassed all of the colors in the designs, and the abstract floral spoke to the apartment's Central Park inspiration.”

**Table:** Made Goods. **Lamp:** Vaughn Designs.

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## Living Room



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“Because there was only one central living space in this apartment, we knew that the sectional needed to be a showstopper, so we opted for a vibrant apple green,” says Stathis Lynch.

**Sofa:** Lee Industries, in Holland & Sherry velvet. **Paint:** Tailor Tack, Farrow & Ball. **Ceiling light:** Visual Comfort. **Throw pillows:** Schumacher. **Vintage coffee table:** Chairish.

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## Kitchen



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“I designed the cabinetry to have a frame-like appearance, which is night-lighted by Portola Paints’s cheery **Shasta Daisy**,” says Stathis Lynch.

**Ceiling light:** Urban Electric. **Runner:** Jennifer Manners. **Counters:** White Danby Marble. **Hardware:** purchased via Stoffer Home. **Tiles:** Artistic Tile.

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## Dining Nook



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A custom **banquette** by Stitch Room and a pair of Julian Chichester **chairs**, both in Serena Dugan fabric, surround the white Sunpan dining **table** and carry the kitchen cabinetry's sunny yellow shade into the cozy corner.

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## Powder Room



*Dress like Coco.  
Live like Jackie.  
Act like Audrey.  
Laugh like Lucy.*

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The Voutsa **wallpaper** with illustrations of earrings paired with the soft lavender **mirror** from Fleur Home offers a bit of whimsy in the small space. A single **sconce** by designer Mark D. Sikes for Hudson Valley Lighting adds sophistication.

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## Primary Bedroom



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"In an effort to create a restful yet vibrant primary bedroom, soft sage green grasscloth paper envelops the space," says Stathis Lynch, adding that the Thibaut **wallpaper** contrasts "the custom elongated headboard upholstered in Matisse-inspired Pierre Frey **fabric**."

**Headboard:** custom by Stitch Room, in Pierre Frey fabric. **Curtains:** Galbraith & Paul. **Nightstands:** Made Goods. **Yellow chair** and **ottoman:** Julian Chichester, in George Spencer velvet. **Bedding:** Matouk.

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## Office



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“We let the wallpaper dictate the colors and pulled out the tones from the beautiful blush roses and wine-colored fruits,” says Stathis Lynch. “We opted for a Merlot-colored rug and blush pink sofa to bring those to the forefront of the space.”

**Wallpaper:** Maison C. **Rug:** Patterson Flynn. **Sofa:** Lee Industries, in Holland & Sherry velvet. **Desk:** Villa & house. **Desk chair:** Modern History. **Mirror:** Vaughn Designs. **Desk lamp:** Penny Morrison. **Side table:** Made Goods. **Table lamp:** Vaughn Designs. **Ottomans:** custom.

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