

athome magazine **A-List Awards 2014**

winner **Living Spaces**

INTERIOR DESIGNER:

Jennifer Smokler Interiors
Westport, 203-227-0477
jennifersmoklerinteriors.com

ARCHITECT:

Gordon Kahn & Associates
NYC, 212-957-7779

CONTRACTOR:

Fanuka Inc.
Maspeth, NY
718-353-4518



opposite: The living room's Venetian plaster walls are enlivened by a mixed-media piece by Canadian artist David Rebinowitch, purchased from the Peter Blum Gallery in Chelsea. A custom Tibetan wool-and-silk rug grounds the space. **below:** Smokler and her team worked to preserve architectural details, including columns and stairs, as well as the original lanterns, refinished in silver. "I like more textured fabrics," says Smokler of her choices for covering the furniture, which dates from the 1920s up to mid-century. Accents on the sofa include pillows covered in Donghia and Fortuny fabrics.



JENNIFER SMOKLER INTERIORS

silver lining

A year-long renovation of a 1907 Neo-Gothic apartment on the Upper West Side was as much about restoring the architectural details as it was about selecting comfortable yet elegant furnishings. Designer Jennifer Smokler was involved from the beginning, just when demolition was starting. "It was an unbelievable space to work with," says Smokler of her client's home in a historic building. "These apartments were originally artist's studios, and it has amazing northern light." Working with architect Gordon Kahn Associates and contractor Fanuka Inc., the team preserved original ornate moldings and carved pilasters as well as an unusual staircase, with a glass railing added for a modern sensibility.

The homeowners are a stylish couple who work in a creative industry and have three grown children and a dog, Vegas, "who has the

run of the house," says Smokler. They have a very casual lifestyle and they entertain a lot. "The living room had to have a television in it; it had to have a place to put up your feet, a place to put your drinks," she says. She was able to start from scratch in sourcing the furniture, some mid-century pieces and the earliest pieces from the 1920s. Walls are treated in a silvery pale-gray Venetian plaster, and deco chairs were covered in ribbed silver-gray velvet from Romo. A custom sectional with chaise is dressed up with custom pillows in a Donghia gray satin with a purple and blue zig-zag pattern. The antique lanterns, original to the building, were refinished in silver, punctuating the understated design that suits the sophisticated interior to a tee. "You want to make sure the architecture makes your furniture look good," says Smokler, "and that the furniture makes the architecture look good." —MKH