



This unique New York City penthouse includes a sloped and glazed two-story vertical skylight. Bromley Caldari Architects also designed the interior decorations, including the lighting and custom furniture.

as is evidenced in their recent dual-townhouse renovation on East 55th Street in Manhattan.

“The twin townhouse renovation at 117 and 118 East 55th Street was a particularly challenging project, because the floors were different heights,” explains Caldari. Two 18-foot townhouses were joined to create office space and a magnificent duplex apartment atop both buildings. The central bay of one house was removed to form a skylight-illuminated expanded stair enclosure that joins the buildings. This structure not only resolved the conundrum caused by the mismatched floors; it also served to facilitate the bridges connecting the north and south offices—which are, in turn, connected to stairs leading into the adjoining house.

A duplex apartment straddles both buildings, and a portion of the fifth floor in one building was removed to create a soaring living space with built-in, double-height American walnut cabinets. These were designed to house the owner’s extensive folk art collection, which is on display throughout both buildings. Expanding on this

ARCHITECTURE FEATURE



Designed as both an area for entertaining guests and a contemplative space fit for a painter, this house is an unconventionally dynamic beach getaway.

Designed for an artist and her husband, the home is organized along a central sky-lit spine that also serves as a gallery for the artist's paintings.



concept, Bromley and Caldari designed a walnut staircase leading up to the rebuilt sunroom and the bridge to the bedrooms. The fifth floor master bedroom is set back to form a roof terrace.

Caldari, who has traveled and worked extensively in Japan, Finland and Southeast Asia, says he has been inspired and influenced by traditional Japanese style and architecture—in particular, its detailing, simplicity, functionality and use of certain materials. “The Japanese are meticulous in their planning and building,” he says.

It's not surprising, then, that Bromley and Caldari recently completed an impressive office building in Gifu, two hours north of Tokyo. Commissioned by a major Japanese trading company, the Ilden Training Center is a corporate training facility whose design clearly reflects the company's trading holdings—the mining of natural materials.

Marrying a structure's purpose to an individual's or group's personality and needs enables Bromley and Caldari to improve an environment beyond a client's initial thought or expectation, thus enhancing the client's total life experience.

The firm's home design for an artist and her husband exemplifies this winning blend of purpose and intention. The house, nestled in a small, gently-sloping desert site at Canyon Ranch in Tucson, Arizona, is organized along a central sky-lit spine. The walls of the spine serve as a gallery for the artist's paintings, and the rooms branch off this spacious main corridor. Modern, original and visually stimulating, the functional home structure reflects not only the owners' artistic life but an ardor for the design process itself—which is, according to Caldari, “half intuitive and half deductive, a synthesis of the two: a knowledge base and its practical application.”

Approximately 40 percent of Bromley Caldari Architects' work is commercial. One of its recent business projects involved a major renovation of a building in the Diamond Center, which has now transformed the corner of 47th Street and Sixth Avenue.

The challenge was to reface the brick façade. A billboard photograph of a woman blowing bubbles that morph into sparkling diamonds was projected onto the wall. The site has attracted the interest of major media

ARCHITECTURE FEATURE

The dining room at stylish Trata restaurant utilizes modern furnishings with sensible designs, creating a uniquely vibrant atmosphere.



companies that want to rent ad space, thus developing a previously untapped source of revenue for the owner. This is typical of the out-of-the-box creative thinking that informs the firm's work.

While the architects have completed several restaurants and nightclubs in the New York City metropolitan area, perhaps the best example of the refined sensibilities, functionality, style and vision that define the firm's solutions to interior residential and commercial design challenges is the recently completed Trata Restaurant in Water Mill. The trendy eatery's earthy, minimalist, chic décor, which is based around modern furnishings offset by an assortment of natural materials and objects, creates a balanced and refreshing atmosphere. The interior evokes life in the Mediterranean—making it a perfect spot for dining on the fresh fish that is flown in daily from the waters off the shores of Greece.

An open mesh-like "net" of painted white steel functions as a room divider, separating half the stepped-up dining area from the main floor. The neutral color palette, anchored by natural woods, white chairs and table coverings, is embellished with radiantly colored pillows, a deep pumpkin-colored wall, polished wood counters and soft, functional ceiling lighting. The room perfectly exemplifies the combination of refined functionality, style and vision that define the firm's designs.

Whether it's an interior project, a renovation or a brand new building, Bromley Caldari Architects are masters at achieving balance in design. Not only do the partners still bring a refreshing enthusiasm to each of their endeavors; they also create clean, contemporary, modern environments that embody the presence of silent space—and an almost mystical connection between man and the earth and sky. •

For more information about Bromley Caldari Architects PC, or to view the firm's work, visit www.bromleycaldari.com.