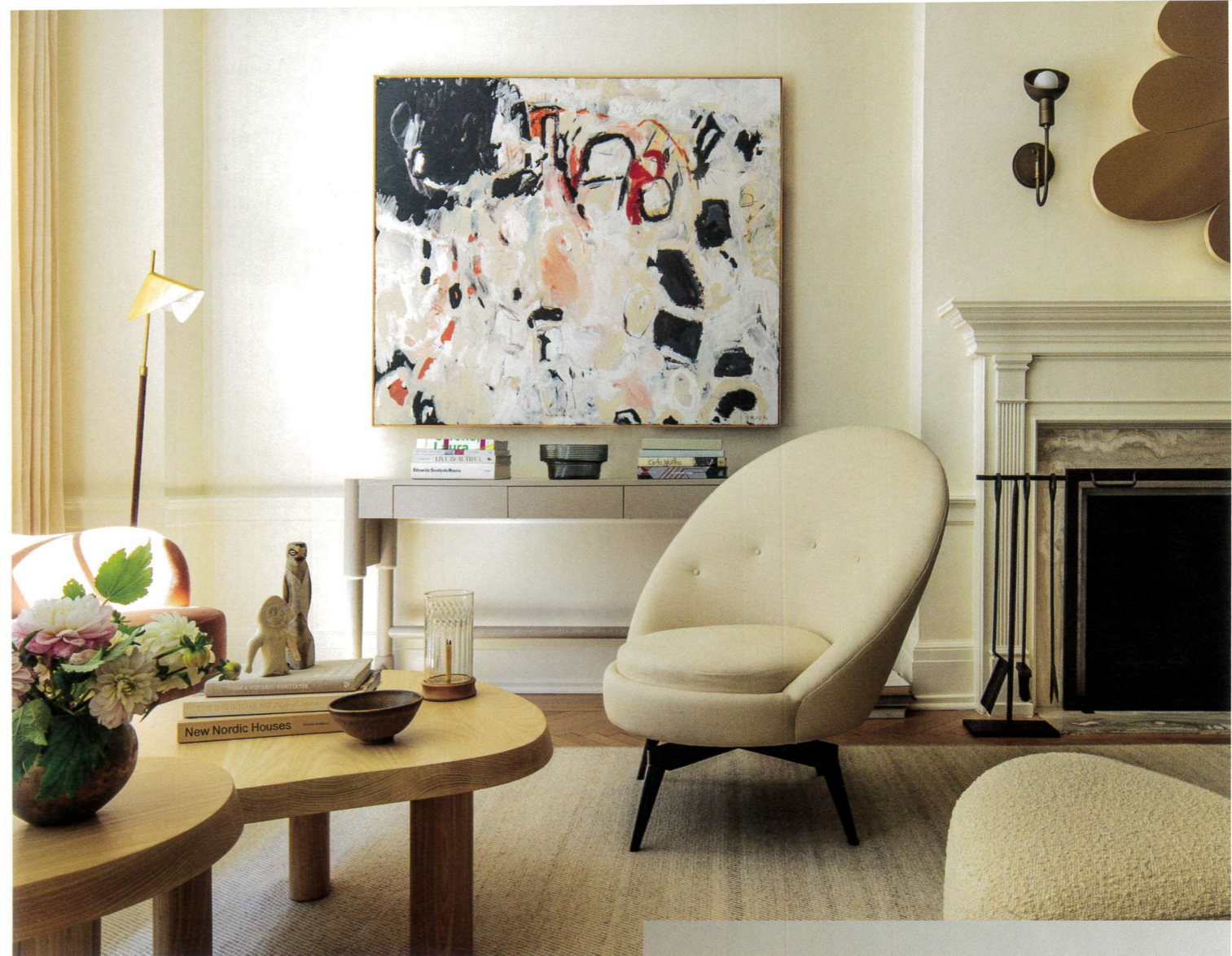


# FREDERIC



*Savor the Moment*

Multiple seating areas break up the large living room, where period details like the beamed ceilings and original fireplace mantel are left undisturbed. Tactile materials—a wool rug, salmon-colored mohair on the rear sofa, a plaster John Dickinson table, and ceramic Hector Finch lamps—give the Benjamin Moore Acadia White-walled room texture and depth. Sconces from Urban Electric bring extra light to a room with just two windows. Art advisor Kate Bellin consulted on the project, which includes pieces by Andrew Zimmerman (over the sofa and mantel) and Joe Henry Baker (above the console table).



To accommodate dramatically tall floral boughs and branches, the chandelier—made of unlacquered brass, which will develop a wonderful patina—was raised high toward the ceiling, its drama checked by a natural fiber rug that was assembled DIY-style from individual tiles. The limb-like legs of the very modern center table, meanwhile, slyly reference the ikebana theme.

In the living room, the walls are painted simply white, a move that allows individual organic forms to stand out. An egg-shaped chair, cloud-topped coffee tables, a whimsical John Dickinson claw-footed side table—these are the items that are able to be noticed, considered, and appreciated in their turn. So too do the sparing hits of color: The Betty Merken monotype grounding the living room game table, which can be seen from the foyer, softly glows like a single perfect peony; it seems to be in conversation with the salmon-colored sofa beneath the living room window.

Just as ikebana dictates that one should respect a flower's natural form, Tapert Howe took pains to honor the apartment's prewar integrity—hence the placement of lamps and sconces throughout the rooms in lieu of overhead lighting. "It would've been much easier to stick recessed lights everywhere, but it's so much prettier without them," says Tapert Howe. That sort of thoughtful, deferential approach carries through to the layout: Newly added amenities like a laundry closet and mudroom are hidden behind secret doors in the powder room and entry hall. "We planned the space in such a way that it became a beautiful reflection of the client—it truly is a family apartment," adds the designer. A fine arrangement, indeed.

