





hrough the 10-by-10-foot windows of this penthouse, New York City sprawls lavishly in every direction. Along with panoramic views of Manhattan, the space also overlooks Central Park. Naturally, a view like this needed interiors that could hold their own—if not in scale, then most certainly in artistic quality and ambition.

Rumoured to also be a future home to celebrity couple Jennifer Lopez and Alex Rodriguez—among other A-listers—432 Park Avenue is believed to be the tallest residential tower in the western hemisphere. The Rafael Viñoly-designed skyscraper is located in the heart of Manhattan, between 56th and 57th Street, and is as prime as real estate gets.

"As a prolific modern art collector, the homeowner wanted the art to take centre stage—almost as if in a museum, but with a slightly more intimate feel," says Nebihe Cihan, the interior designer for the project. Cihan's job was made easier by the space's 12-foot-high ceilings and long hallway leading to the living room, "which feels as if you've just entered an art gallery or museum", she says.

Among the key highlights of the homeowner's collection—which Cihan helped curate beforehand—are sculptures by British artists Tony Cragg and Richard Deacon, paintings by Idris Khan, and a neon installation by Welsh conceptual artist Cerith Wyn Evans. "I usually integrate the artwork at the end of a project, so this was different in terms of [the way I have worked] in the past," Cihan says. The greatest challenge was to marry the art with the furnishings, and also imbue the space with a sense of calmness. Cihan accomplished this across the apartment's three bedrooms, and the living and dining areas, by using a palette of white and neutral tones, and furniture and furnishings that were stylish and contemporary, but elegantly understated. The stars of the show, though, clearly are the artworks—and the views.

It is easy to imagine guests seated around the Flexform dining table overlooked by an Idris Khan work, interacting with each other and the work's reflection on the table's glass top; or pausing in the hallway to admire the Cerith Wyn Evans work in neon that reads, 'Just play me two bars of stardust'. In the evenings, guests might gather in the living room to watch as New York flickers alive, brightly lit and busy, framed perfectly in the 10-by-10-foot windows—and a work of art in its own right.



