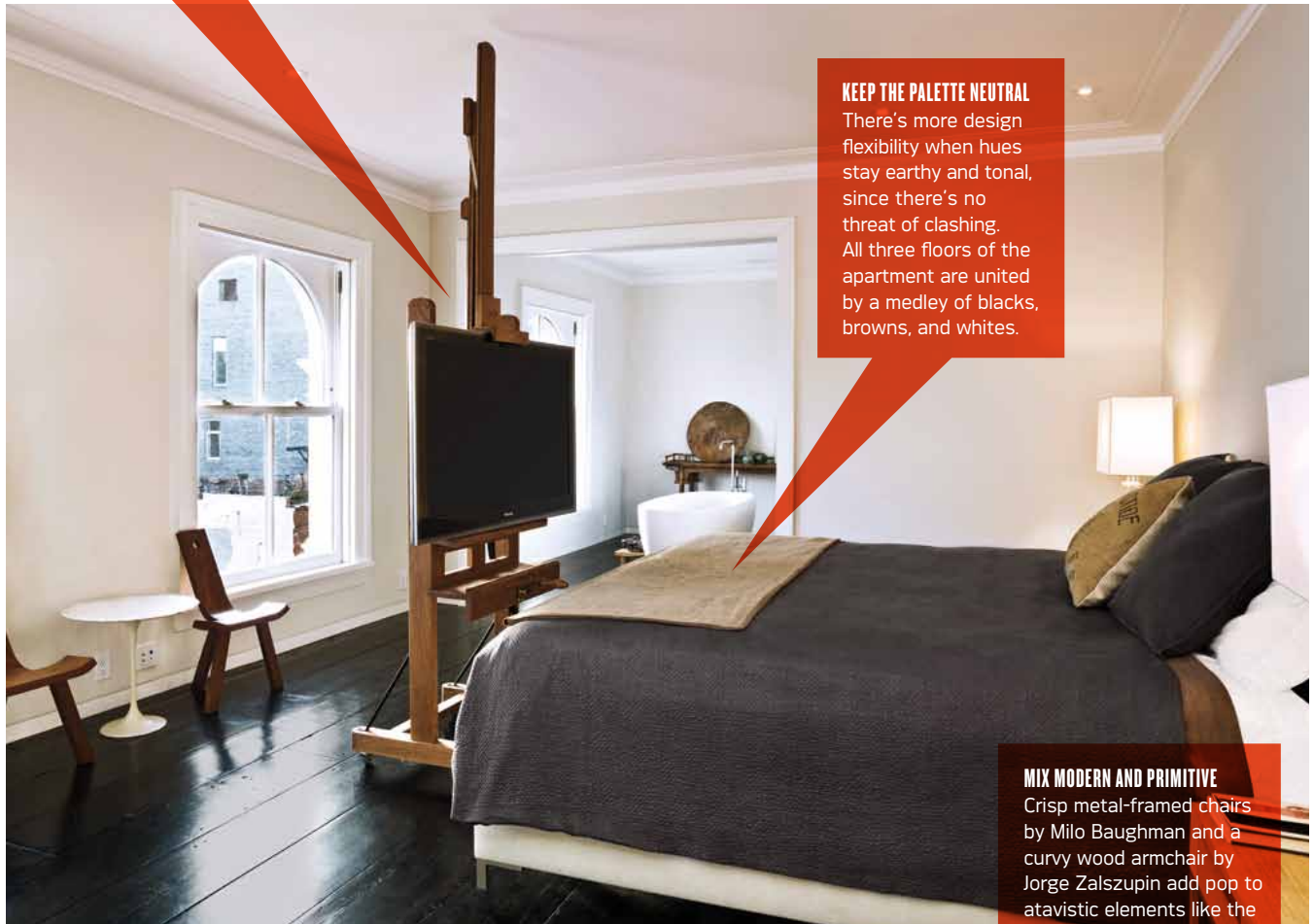


**RETHINK YOUR ANTIQUES**

An artist's easel becomes a mobile TV stand, while an old French grain sack is reworked into a burlap bed pillow. In the bathroom, a Chinese mining pan is now a piece of modern art.

# BRING UNEXPECTED DESIGN ACCENTS TO YOUR SPACE

The key to adding rustic touches to a modern home—or vice versa—is to defy the obvious. And that's exactly what real-estate developer Adam Gordon and Kristina O'Neal, a partner at the design firm AvroKO, did when furnishing this urban oasis. The couple wanted to keep their Manhattan triplex clean and restrained while also making it warm and eclectic. So they took inspiration from afar, trading the usual loft aesthetic for textural minimalism, a style mastered by the Belgian antiques dealer Axel Vervoordt. Here's how they broke with convention and got the rough-luxe look.



**KEEP THE PALETTE NEUTRAL**

There's more design flexibility when hues stay earthy and tonal, since there's no threat of clashing. All three floors of the apartment are united by a medley of blacks, browns, and whites.

**MIX MODERN AND PRIMITIVE**

Crisp metal-framed chairs by Milo Baughman and a curvy wood armchair by Jorge Zalszupin add pop to atavistic elements like the mounted tortoiseshell on the mantelpiece and the petrified-wood side table.



**GO AU NATURELE** Raw-wood floors from Belgium, blank, white walls, and curtainless windows create the backdrop for a stylish assemblage of furniture, objects, and art.

**EMBRACE BLACK** The color of the floor and cabinetry is dramatic (not cold or dated) when set off with a reclaimed-wood table, rough-hewn stools, and a collection of houseplants.



PHOTOGRAPHS: MICHAEL WEBER/COURTESY OF AVROKO.