n a narrow, double-height room with windows and doors lining every wall, the biggest challenge for David Kleinberg, Brian McCarthy, and Bunny Williams was plotting a proper furniture plan. "The space wasn't wide enough to float pieces away from the perimeter," says McCarthy, "so we had to close up a doorway by hanging a curtain and placing a tapestry over it." The resulting "wall" anchored the main seating area, while less formal arrangements rounded out the room. "The chaise is out at an angle, which brings softness to the floor plan," explains Williams. "When you line up everything squared it can feel unnerving. This is studied but casual."

The trio teamed up as an homage to the late Albert Hadley, for whom they all once worked, and details as varied as a Noguchi lamp and a painted Italian console reflect a Hadley-esque scope. "There's a layered look that feels collected. A room can't look like it popped out of a box," says Kleinberg.

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: The sculptural Noguchi lamp accentuates ceiling height. An Italian console, a quirky French chair, and a Jean-Michel Frank mirror create a characterful vignette. A curtain over a doorway creates a false wall anchored by a sofa and a Le Corbusier tapestry.