

BATH OF THE MONTH

Design by JACK WETTLING

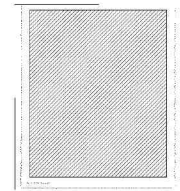
New York, New York

Pure, simple planes of marble and glass defer to the view.

Interview by CHRISTINE PITTEL

Photographs by TREVOR TONDRO

Produced by SAMANTHA EMMERLING



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CHRISTINE PITTEL: *What a view!*

JACK WETTLING: You've got two windows overlooking Central Park. The first thing I thought was, 'This should be the best place in New York City to take a shower.' So I built the shower stall around one of the windows. Privacy isn't an issue—we're on the 15th floor.

That window in the shower is obscured by a marble column in our photo. Is the column structural?

No, decorative. It's an old prewar building, and I just wanted something nice and solid as you turn the corner, as opposed to glass. And there's another reason. Once people start using a shower, they have all these shampoos and soaps lying around. The column is fitted with open shelves on the shower side so you can take all that stuff and keep it out of sight.

No wonder the place feels so calm.

I also kept editing things down until we had the simplest palette—glass, chrome, and stone. The marble on the walls is the color of the sky on an autumn day, with a pale silvery streak in it like thin wisps of clouds. There's something incredibly soft and peaceful about it. The silvery gray relates to the chrome and the gray marble on the floor. Those two stones are the common thread, with the white only on the vertical planes and the gray only on the horizontal. That also creates a subliminal sense of order.

It's a very rectilinear space. Even the tub and the sinks are squared off, instead of curved.

It's a long, rectangular room, and it just made sense to choose a rectangular tub and sink. I'm a bit of a bath junkie, and this BainUltra tub is one of my favorites. It's very deep—21 inches—and it has little bitty jets all around the bottom that

blow heated air, so when you lie back, you feel as if you're getting a great massage. And it comes in different lengths, so you can size it to your body. I always make my clients take off their shoes and get into a tub in the showroom, to make sure it's comfortable.

Why use wall-mounted faucets for the sinks?

I didn't want to interrupt that pure slab of stone. It also makes it easier to clean. The toilet is mounted on the wall as well, for the same reasons.

Americans often forget a hand shower, but you see them all over Europe.

That's because they're so convenient. You can shower without getting your hair wet, or wash a dog. And it's the best way to clean the stall.

Any hidden assets?

Radiant heat under the floor. Imagine how fantastic that is in January, to come out of the shower and step on warm stone. It's a great luxury. ●

HE LIKES

"Like all Kiehl's products, it does what it's supposed to in a very nice, simple way. And it smells so fresh!"



GRAPEFRUIT BATH AND SHOWER LIQUID BODY CLEANSER; KIEHLS.COM.

ABOVE LEFT: No extraneous details mar the clean, modern lines of Dornbracht's Tara faucet. **ABOVE RIGHT:** The mirrored backsplash above the two Barbara Barry sinks for Kallista goes all the way up to the ceiling, as do the pocket doors, to make the room feel taller. Toilet by Philippe Starck for Duravit. Mercer box light by Thomas O'Brien for Circa Lighting.

GET THE LOOK...

- Marble: stonesource.com.
- Tub: bainultra.com.
- Sinks: kallista.com.
- Fixtures, towel bar, and hooks: dornbracht.com.
- Toilet: duravit.us.
- Light fixtures: circaighting.com.
- Recessed lights: luciferlighting.com.
- Towel rack: sonia-sa.com.
- White Dove paint: benjaminmoore.com.

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