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Words: Emma Reynolds

The only way is up

From New York City to London, penthouses still reign supreme for their far-reaching views, expansive layouts and, above all, privacy



“A penthouse is always desirable for the views, and for many of my clients it represents a culmination of their success story”

“But we always think about how we can make [a property] more special. Everything has to be bespoke, individual, and unusual. The difference between a regular condo and a penthouse is that we’re trying to show space, volume, and openness, as well as create long views.”

One of Doherty’s projects in New York City includes a penthouse on the 68th floor of a building off Madison Square Park that brings residents

face-to-face with the Empire State Building. For this project, he and his team redid nearly every aspect of the unit including knocking down several walls to create extended living spaces, adding custom paneling to create a pre-war aesthetic, and covering the ceiling of the living room in gold leaf.

For a London penthouse overlooking the River Thames, Griem opted for freestanding sculptural shelving to introduce beautiful pieces that are »