



White walls, blonde-stained oak floors and a glass guardrail on the second-floor landing add to the feeling of lightness in this airy entry. A custom hemp area rug echoes the sweep of the staircase, while a selection of carefully curated items—the custom floating zincwrapped console, a Bridger Bench—add to the minimalist appeal.

AMANDA MARTOCCHIO
ARCHITECTURE + DESIGN

waterfront welcome

or the entryway of a newly designed contemporary on a half-acre in Rye, architect Amanda Martocchio took her cue from the coastal setting. "It's not a huge property," she says. "but it has a beautiful relationship to the water." That relationship was lost in the origimal house—a brick neo-Colonial—with its small windows and low ceilings. "When you walked in, you couldn't even see the water," she says. "It was aggravating." To optimize the sense of openness and height, the architect eliminated the floor overhead and added a sculptural staircase with high-tension steel rods on one side and a metal handrail on the other. To the right of the front door, an opening leads to a home office; to the left, another opening leads the dining room and kitchen beyond. Straight ahead, a two-story windowed family room reveals a full-on view of Long Island Sound. "The entry serves as the connective "It's where everything happens." A carefully curated selection of furnishings, such as the inc-wrapped credenza that floats on the wall at the top of the stairs, sets the tone for the rest of the house. "This sa welcome space, but it's also the space to introduce the sthetic of the house and the things that are important to the client-in this case, the concept of simple living and beautiful pieces of art." -JM

