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GLAM NEW FURNITURE**



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themselves resolutely down-to-earth, wound up buying the house and its entire contents, closing the deal in a week. “We had everything from rugs to ice cream scoops, and it was perfect,” says Laurie. “There just wasn’t anything we could imagine changing.”

Soon after, the couple were getting ready to buy an apartment in Manhattan, so David—who had been CEO of the digital ad agency DoubleClick, which was sold to Google in 2008—called Groves. “We were really naive about the process, and Russell had to tell us, ‘I’m not a real estate agent, but if you find an apartment you like, I’d be glad to look at it.’”

After an exhaustive search, they called him to say they’d found a space in the Lucida, a new building on the Upper East Side; would he come see it? Groves laughed: He’d designed the building’s public spaces, including the lobby, and all the interior finishes of the units.

The Rosenblatt apartment, two duplexes stitched together, is classic Groves: a sophisticated, light-filled refuge that is utterly grown-up but, due to its lack of fussiness, surprisingly kid-friendly. Both an architect and a designer, Groves was able to solve the challenges of combining the two apartments in ways that make the rambling 7,500-square-foot space seem completely unified.

The couple, who met in graduate school nearly 20 years ago, made things easy by trusting so completely in his vision. Their layout needs were simple: separate, if small, rooms for all the kids in their own “wing”; a guest room on the main floor; and lots of open spaces where the family could gather, but with some separation so they wouldn’t be on top of one another. “They aren’t formal types,” says Groves. “They didn’t want anything to be stiff.”

Midway through the project, David took a new job that made decorating the place even more resonant and fun for everyone: He

