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16STEPHEN SAYS: **Over, Get Ready for ICFF!** Salone is great this year! It's so fabulous to see the industry back. It was amazing to me how many American sales reps from manufacturers and dealers, independent reps and designers from all over the country I see here. It really is a great show.

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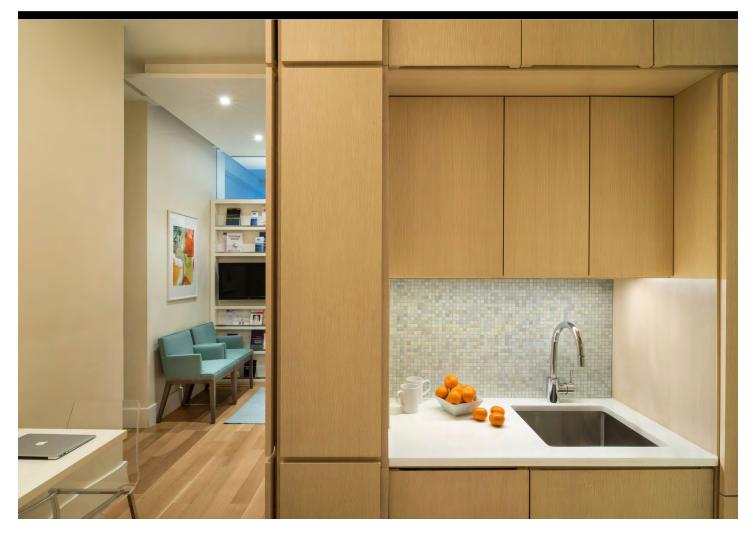
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INDUSTRY NEWS



A Thoughtful, Therapeutic Office Redesign from PJCArchitecture

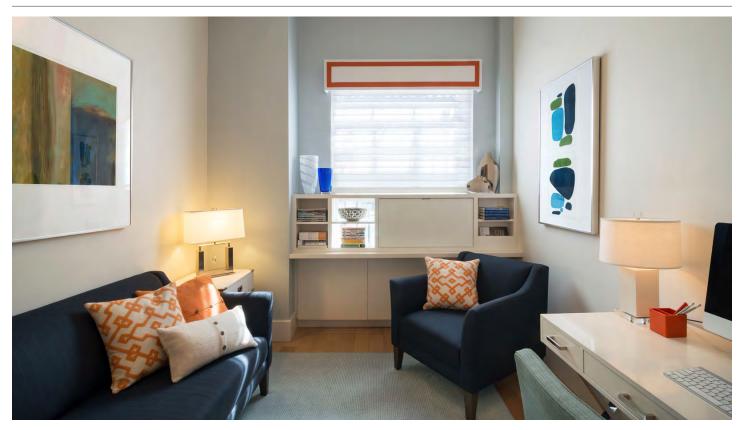
photography by Bjorg Magnea

A cognitive and behavioral therapy practice engaged PJCArchitecture—the firm that had previously renovated the apartment of one of its co-founders on the Upper West Side—to reimagine another one of their most-frequented spaces their Central Park office. Working within a 593-square-foot footprint, PJCArchitecture cleverly equipped the cognitive behavioral therapy suite with flexible spaces including a cozy waiting area, quaint kitchenette, and two offices, creating a functional space and calming atmosphere for patients.

PJCArchitecture, in collaboration with contractor Quadrant Development Consultants, Inc. and interior designer Carol Dwyer of Avenue Design Group, instilled a calm, clean modern design to



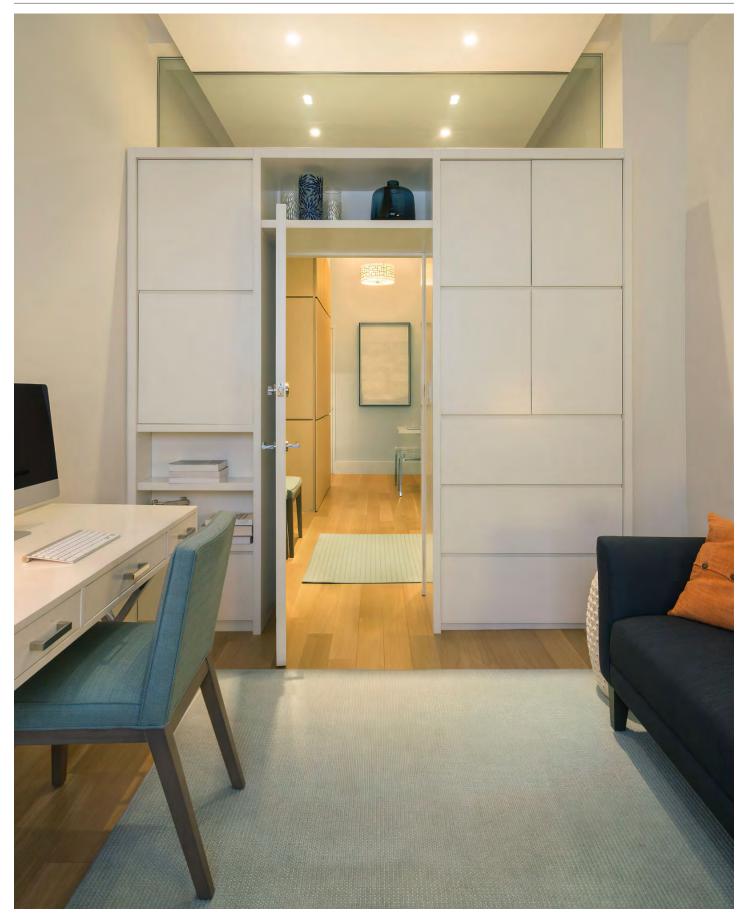




help temper the emotional toll of therapy work and foster a renewed mental balance. A light palette of blues, whites, light wood finishes, and soft materials stimulates creativity and induces a contemplative atmosphere.

The bright waiting room welcomes guests into the office with a floating dropped ceiling. The ceiling conceals unobtrusive recessed lighting helps create an open and airy atmosphere overhead while also concealing the visual clutter of the mechanical central air system that provides comfort year-round. Custom-designed light lacquer finished millwork serves as a partition that separates the waiting area from private offices to hold a television, shelving for pamphlets, and general storage on either side. To combat the lack of natural light and to help provide a feeling of openness within the enclosed waiting room, an interior window built above and incorporated into the millwork partition filters sunlight in to further enhance the visitor experience and still maintain privacy for those using the office space.

On the right side of the waiting area, a light veneer structure holds mechanical equipment, provides added storage space, and divides the offices from the bathroom and kitchenette. A hinged tabletop desk was custom designed for multi-use as a staff eating area, a check-in station for large groups, or a homework space for patients. In the kitchenette and restroom, motion sensor water fixtures, low-flush toilets, and LED lights are installed with sustainability in mind.





The calming palette of blue, white, and earth tones continues in each of the individual offices. The light hues also help to maximize the sunlight beaming in from the office windows. Hinged doors provide necessary privacy from the main waiting area to ensure client comfort and security. The larger of the two offices accommodates seating for up to twenty participants in group therapy sessions and teaching seminars. At its far end, a wood veneer built-in adds extra storage. At the opposite end, custom lacquerfinished millwork provides a desk, shelving, and covering for a radiator.

The smaller office space is intimate and cozy for private sessions. A glass interior

window above the office partition creates a floating effect where the dropped ceiling suspends to hold the central air system. The stacked height and geometry of the partition and ceiling help reinforce a sense of grandness even in the tighter office space. Custom millwork was cleverly designed to provide a cover for the component of the ductless AC minisplit system that sits within the lower part of the window.

With function, form, and well-being in mind, PJArchitecture thoughtfully designed this restorative Central Park West therapy office to be equally beneficial for the psychologist and their clients. **BoF**