

Architecture by John B. Murray, AIA  
Interior Design by Mario Buatta  
Text by Aileen Meble  
After Photography by Scott Frances

# A NEW YORK STORY

## DRESSING UP PLAIN ROOMS ON FIFTH AVENUE

**I**t was really nothing before, a cheerless, charmless shell of an apartment, flat and boring, with walls where they shouldn't be and not much else where it should be. The floors needed attention, the doors needed to be moved, and the dull color of the rooms was to cringe for. And where was the powder room? The whole place, save for its splendid Fifth Avenue location and superb views of Manhattan, was one big cry for help.



BEFORE

"It hadn't been decorated in years," Mario Buatta says of the Manhattan apartment he redesigned with architect John B. Murray. ABOVE: "The entrance hall was a dark, dreary space." RIGHT: "The murals evoke the feeling of walking through a conservatory." Hyde Park Antiques cachepot. Demilune table from Florian Papp. Clarence House silk.



AFTER