



Interior Design BRIEF



INTREPID DESIGN
STUDIOS

Client Brief

An entertainment lawyer and a professional game developer and their two elementary aged boys, were in the process of renovating their Georgian home in Washington, D.C.

Although they loved their neighborhood, they felt that the rigid, "stodgy" architecture of their home conflicted with the fun-loving and spirited nature of their family.

While their general contractor was still knee deep in dust and debris remodeling the kitchen and adding a family room at the back of the house, they engaged Suzanne to overhaul the look of the downstairs. Her goal was to challenge the expected (our area of expertise) traditional style of decor that is more common in this type of home, enabling the family to enjoy their home, tailored to their preferences at this stage of their lives.



Their actual home style



The home that suited to their personalities

INSPIRATION

The couple wanted the hip and modern energy of Mid-Century design. The design challenge was how to entwine historic references and integrate the historic building envelope with optimistic interior modern furnishings that delighted this family.

During the design discovery consultation, Suzanne heard "colorful", "visually light-weight furniture", "physical movement" that signaled the design direction: the intersection of bold interior color choices, and movable or leggy furnishings that trended in both Georgian and Mid-Century eras.



INSPIRATION



Fun factoid: Georgian and Mid-Century furnishings were sourced from industrial production studios elevated with the tactile hand of the artisan details and finishing touches.

I translated this insight into a design concept that blended economical and durable furnishings - sofas, chairs, cabinets, with "splurge" artisanal hand-crafted lighting, accessories and art.



ENTRY CONCEPT



The entrance (with large closet) only needed a landing zone for keys, and mail before heading up the stairs that faced the entrance or down the hall to half baths and a study.

Since the entrance set the impression for the feel of the home, we selected lighting to be the focal point with a fixture inspired by Mid-Century motifs and handcrafted from pattern, by local artisans.



LIVING ROOM CONCEPT



The renovation expanded the openings between rooms from arches to a rectangular shape. Visibility from the front to the back of the house, living room, kitchen and dining areas, and to a family room and patio called for each zone to be distinct, but relatable to each other.

At the front of the house by a window and the hallway, I recommended comfy swivel chairs because the parents wanted a cozy spot where they could relax with the boys and read or have casual conversations with friends. A “cool” table positioned between the chairs, sourced from a local craftsmen, was a modern-Mid-Century adaptation of British end tables used in family libraries during the Georgian period.



DINING ROOM CONCEPT



Moving to the kitchen and dining room zone, the kitchen, relocated from the back of the house to the center, had a galley structure (stove, refrigerator, sink on one wall and a large island) opposite the dining space. The dining nook included a banquette in a lagoon-toned performance velvet and a contemporary indoor-outdoor rug which were easy to maintain and would tolerate spillage.

The husband wanted leather dining chairs, but the wife wanted a cohesive dining room “look.” We compromised by covering the island chairs in leather and the dining chairs in upholstered fabric that matched the banquette, with every chair being light enough to be tucked in for walking ease through the center of the house to the family room.



PLAN PROPOSAL

Entry + "Wow factor"

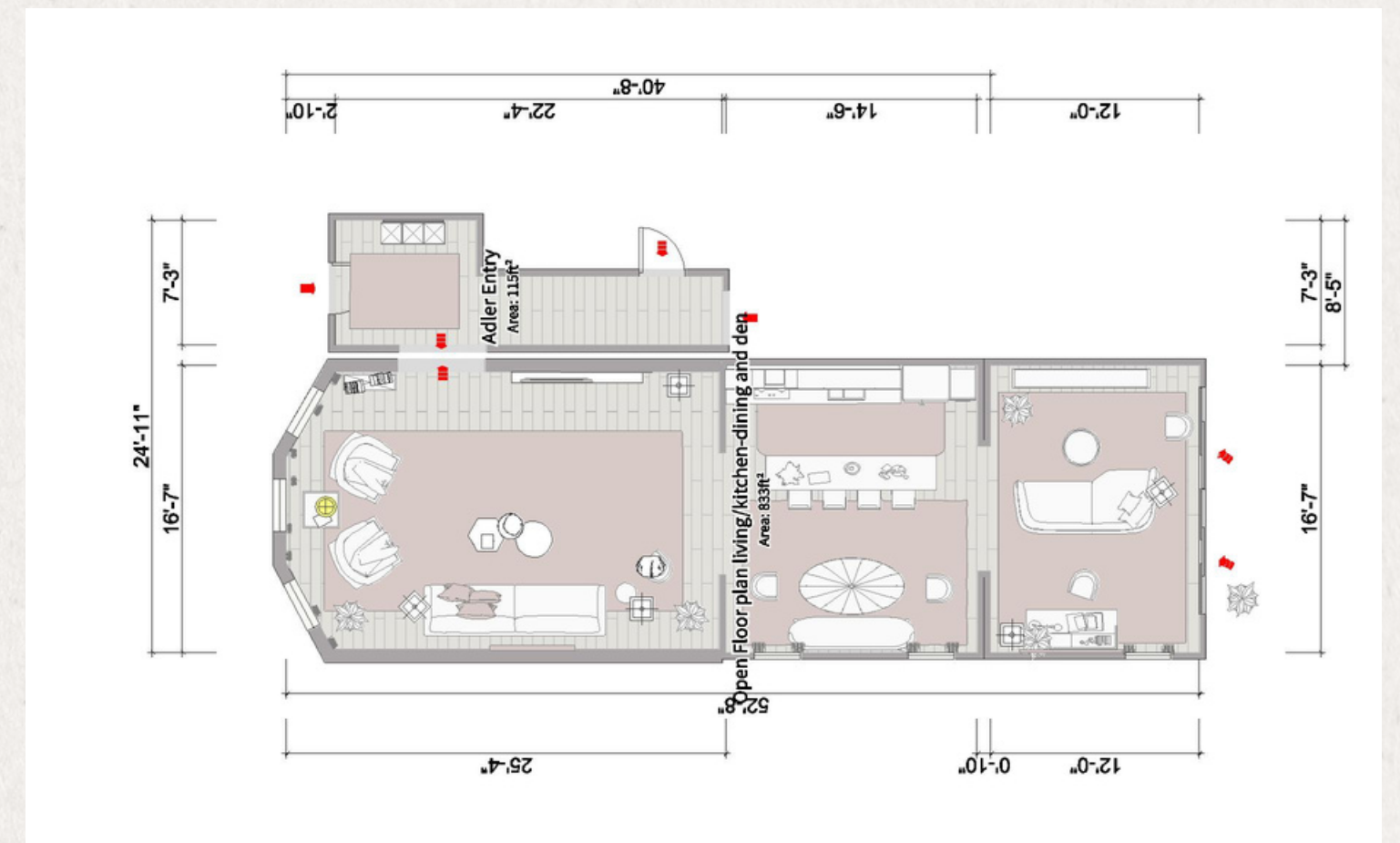
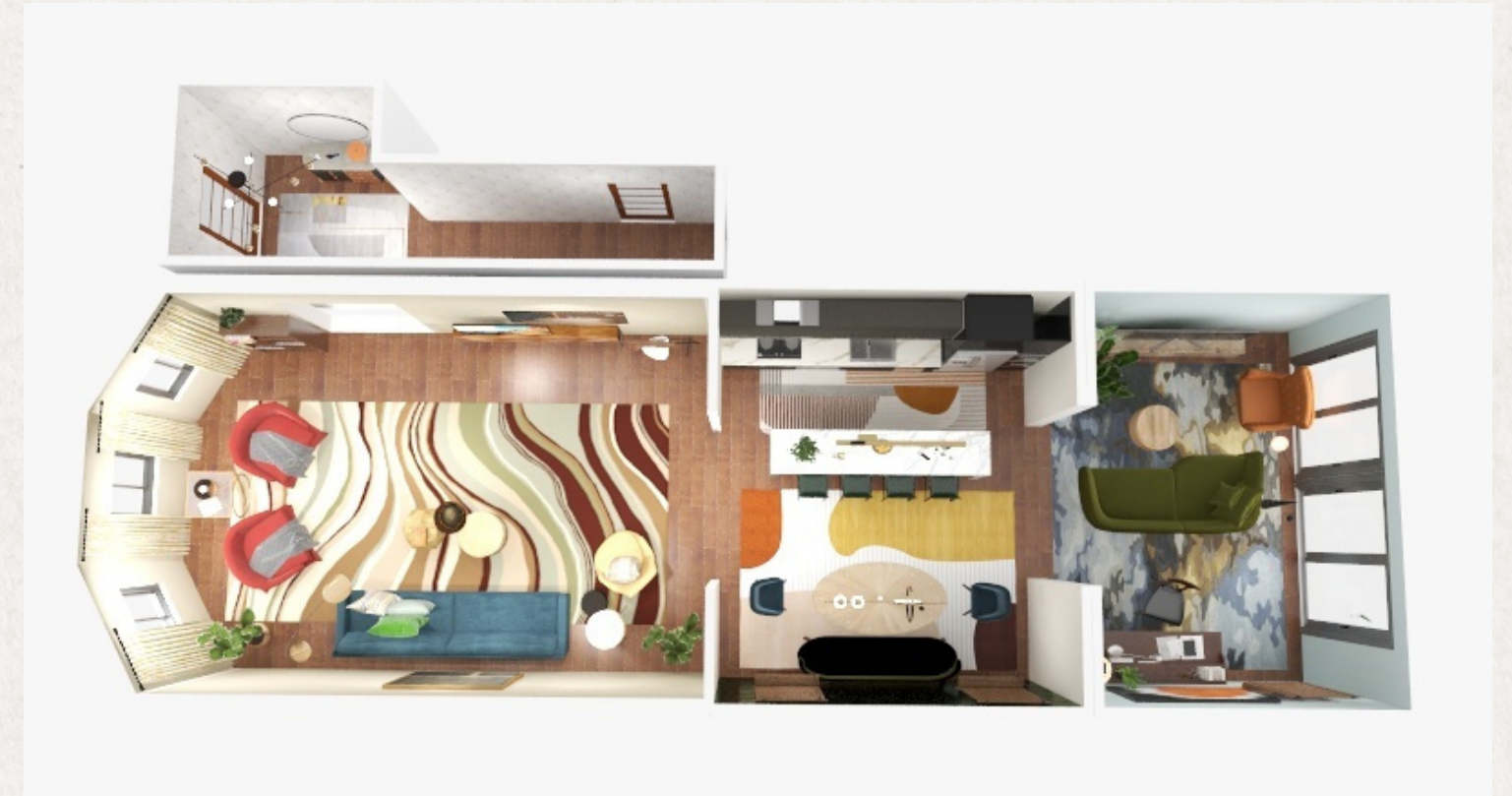
Living Room

Dining Nook

Sun/Family Room

Art

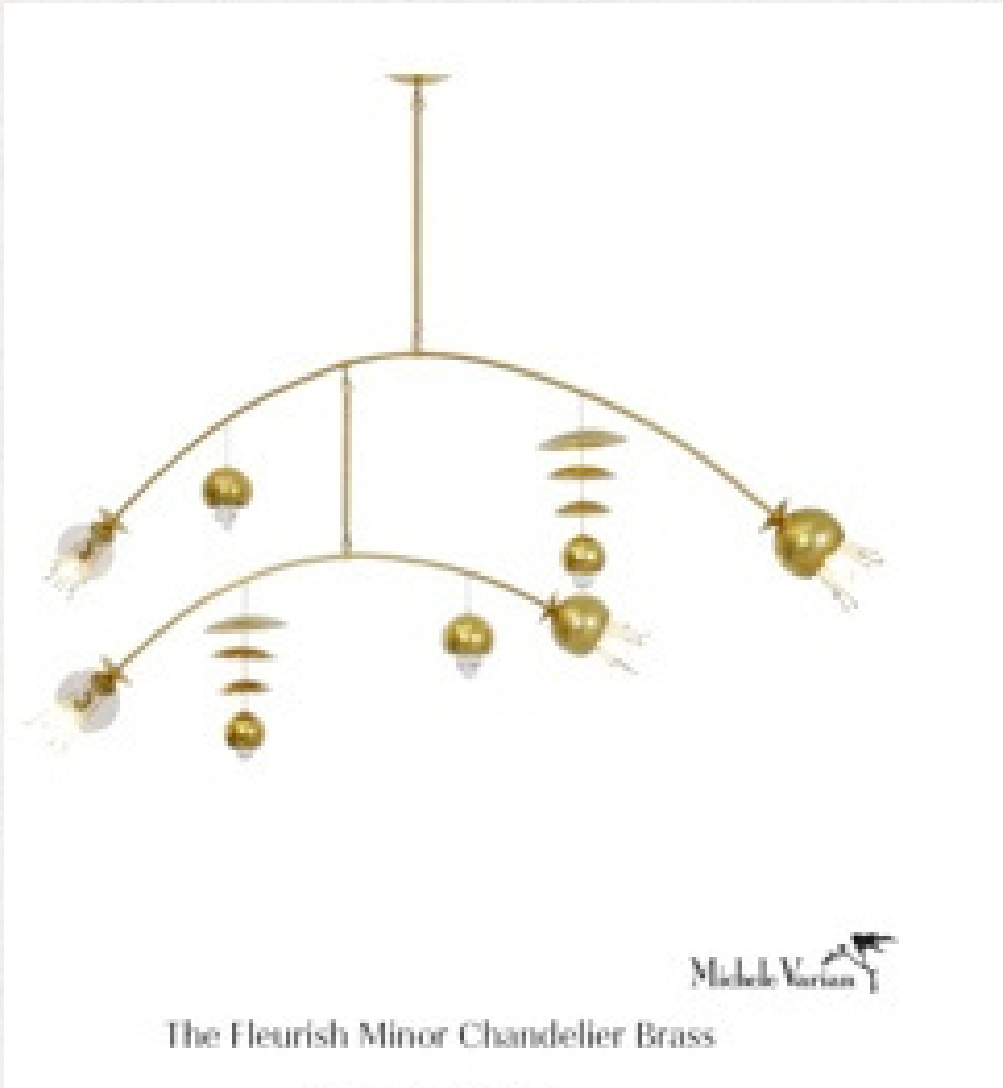
"Cohesive but distinctively zoned unfurling aesthetic"



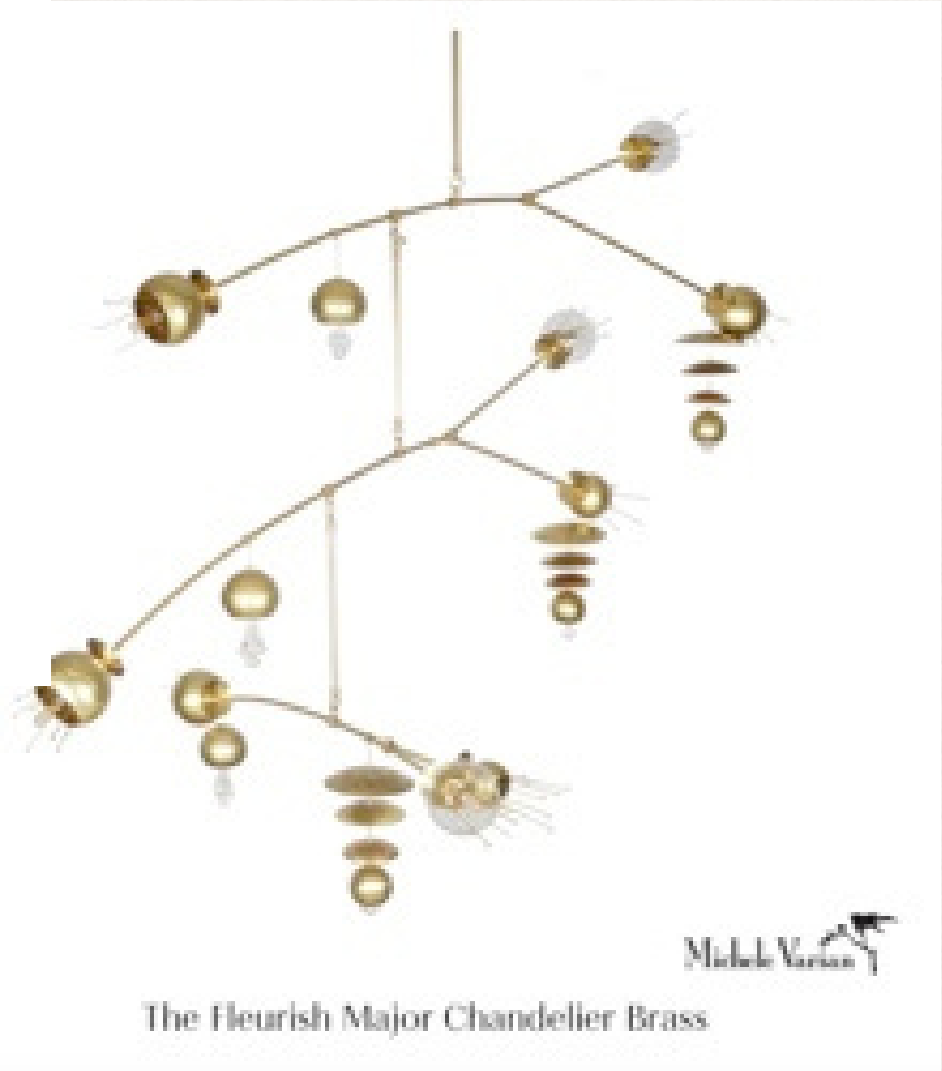
LIGHTING



Ambient Light



The Fleurish Minor Chandelier Brass



The Fleurish Major Chandelier Brass



Task Light

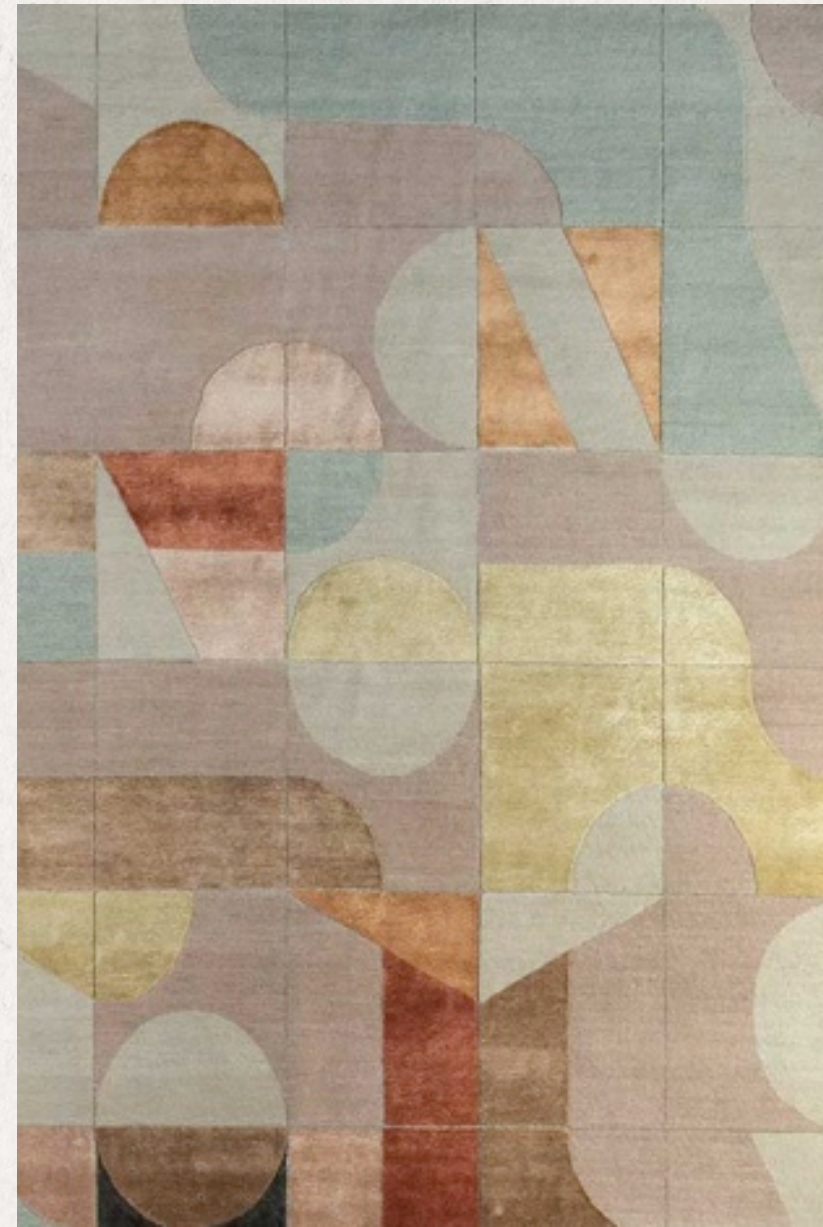


Table lamp

MATERIALS

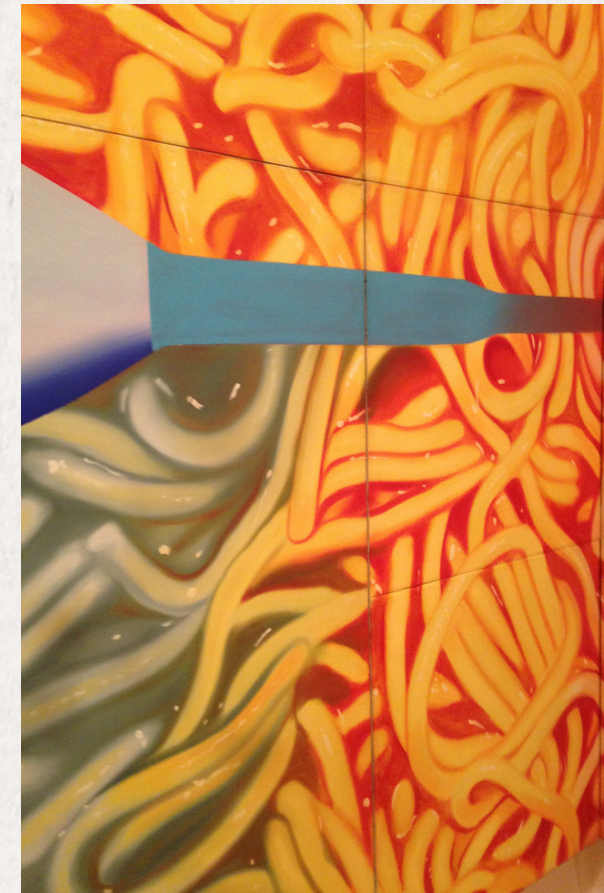


Wallpaper



Wool Rugs

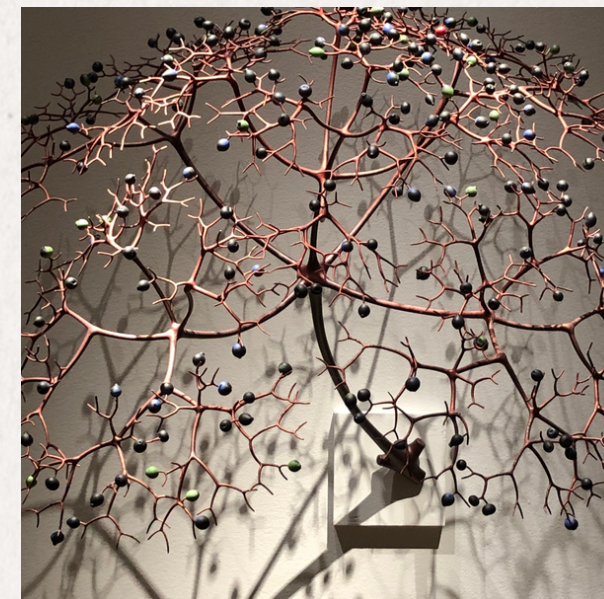
ART



The family loved irreverence, and had a quirky sense of humor. I presented them with inspirational images from American modernist artists in the National Gallery.

They took the kids on a field trip to inform the selections proposed. They wanted contemporary art that had the visual appearance of Jackson Pollock, Pop-art, kinetic and mobile sculpture works, art that incorporated neon, some digital experiential works, photography, land art and even art inspired by canned spaghetti.

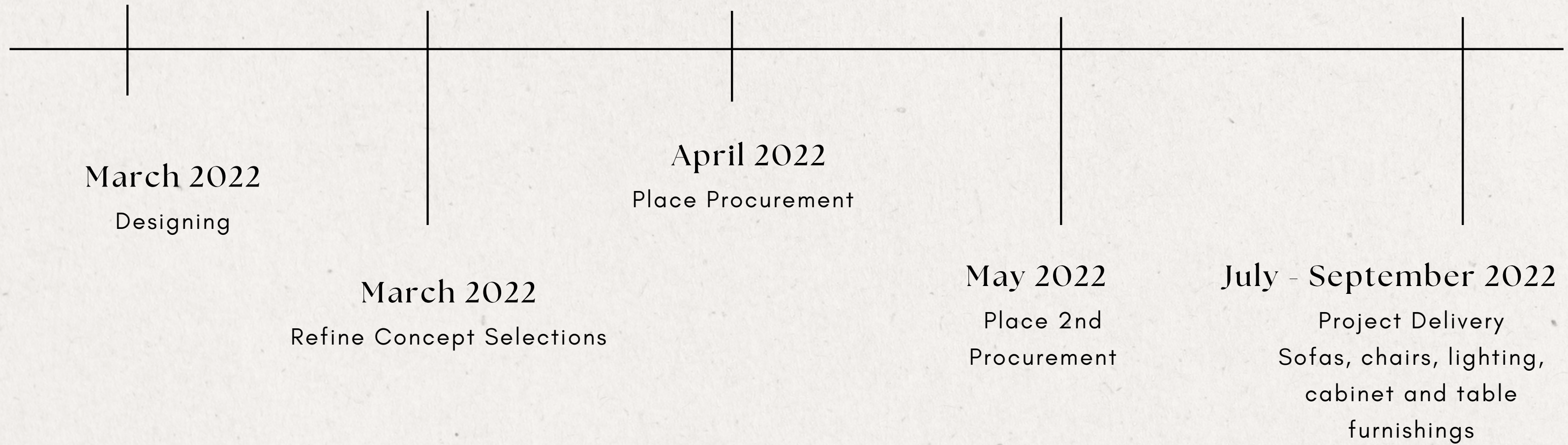
Ultimately, they selected floor and pendant lighting that had the feel of a mobile sculpture, a large bronze panel from a local artist as a focal point in the living room, A wall paper for the dining room (that felt like art) and a large photograph.



BUDGET

Interior Design	\$2,250
Materials	\$7,500
Lighting & Art	\$15,500
Furniture	\$27,000

TIMELINE





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“Suzanne,

Our home is better than we ever imagined. You really understood us. We were ready for change, but you were a very different designer. Everyone had input, and it has changed everything about how we feel and live together now. Thank you.”

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