

# MILLEU

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“Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.”

Leonardo da Vinci



# UP IN THE AIR

A couple goes up to scale down

**W**hen Ruth Davis tires of an item of furniture or decorative accessory, she doesn't store it away in a basement or attic. Instead, she sells it. As co-owner of Houston's highly popular Found, a source for everything from a Dutch armoire to an old horse trough to elegant Louis XVI-style giltwood chairs, Davis admits to rotating items in and out of her home and store.

A year ago, she and her husband downscaled from a 6,000-square-foot traditional house to a 2,200-square-foot rental in a contemporary high-rise, while building a new, smaller residence. Davis enlisted her business partner, Aaron Rambo, who co-owns Found, to help furnish the apartment. “Aaron pushed and pushed me to add a lot of contemporary art and furnishings,” says Davis. “I was content with my antique prints, but he said, ‘No, you have plenty of those. Time for something different.’ And so the apartment just evolved with things I love. Now, my husband and I are even tempted to stay here. I love high-rise living. The views at night are fantastic. When we travel, we can just shut the door and leave – and because this is a rental, there's always someone on hand to fix things.”

No room in the three-bedroom unit is predictable. A mix of furnishings and artwork characterizes every area. “I've learned that when you really mix up elements,” says Davis, “you wind up with a young and fresh look.” ■

*Opposite: A 17th-c.-style reproduction bust in concrete composite. Splash of paint by Aaron Rambo. Vintage lucite table by Karl Springer. This page, top to bottom: Composite coffee table, custom designed by Aaron Rambo and tuxedo-style sofa with pillows by Allegra Hicks. A Saarinen table, vintage Lightolier fixture, and 18th-century Swedish chair. Coffee table draped in 18th-c. Flemish verdure tapestry. Milo Baughman chair, Curtis Jere sputnik.*

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