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SUMMER LIVING

PRIVATE POOL IN **SOHO**
SOUTHAMPTON RETREAT
BROOKLYN RENOVATION
AMAGANSETT GETAWAY

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With its angled vases and gold-toned table, the first vestibule sets the stage. Right: Defining the meeting area is a table by Egg Collective under pendants from Bocci.



The showroom has a definite residential vibe, with displays and lounge seating side by side.



BE DAZZLED

WITH DESIGN HELP FROM ARCHITECT ULI WAGNER, Yael Sonia moves her headquarters to SoHo

AS A DESCRIPTOR FOR Yael Sonia, a fine jewelry designer who sambas between Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Manhattan, multifaceted doesn't quite cut it. Sparkling, ingenious, kinetic—all come closer to the mark. The same fit her recently opened, luxe-with-an-edge SoHo showroom, designed with Brooklyn-based interior architect Uli Wagner and Interior Management's Mark Martinez.

As Sonia decided to convert her New York operation from a retail format to by appointment only, she took a hard look at the merchant's first principle—i.e., location. That's when she opted out of her Madison Avenue storefront and into this airy 8th-floor space on Lafayette Street. To ensure that the 1,400 square feet functioned effortlessly and welcomingly as showroom and design studio—and reflected the sophisticated, playful spirit of her remarkable baubles—Wagner zoned, finished, and furnished the once-raw interior with an elegant mix of custom, handmade, and high-design components. "All the visuals and geometrics are inspired by her jewelry," says Wagner.

Off the elevator is a secured entry with two successive vestibules, the second with a gilded feature wall by plaster artist Michael Allen. The open showroom, which hosts sales events as seamlessly as it embraces private clients, reveals just how Wagner transformed Sonia's characteristic details—beveled edges and metallic tones—into a richly evocative environment. For the two offices and service area, Wagner incorporated materials of Sonia's Brazilian heritage, including Brazilian rosewood. Lighting by Nathan Orsman of Orsman Design was key to enhancing the jewels. SEE RESOURCES <

A sofa from Holly Hunt does double duty for casual conversation and jewelry viewing, while a banquette in the window adds seating for events. Wagner designed the vitrines and cases to capture the spirit of Sonia's pieces.

TEXT JUDITH NASATIR

