

THE HOME OBSERVER

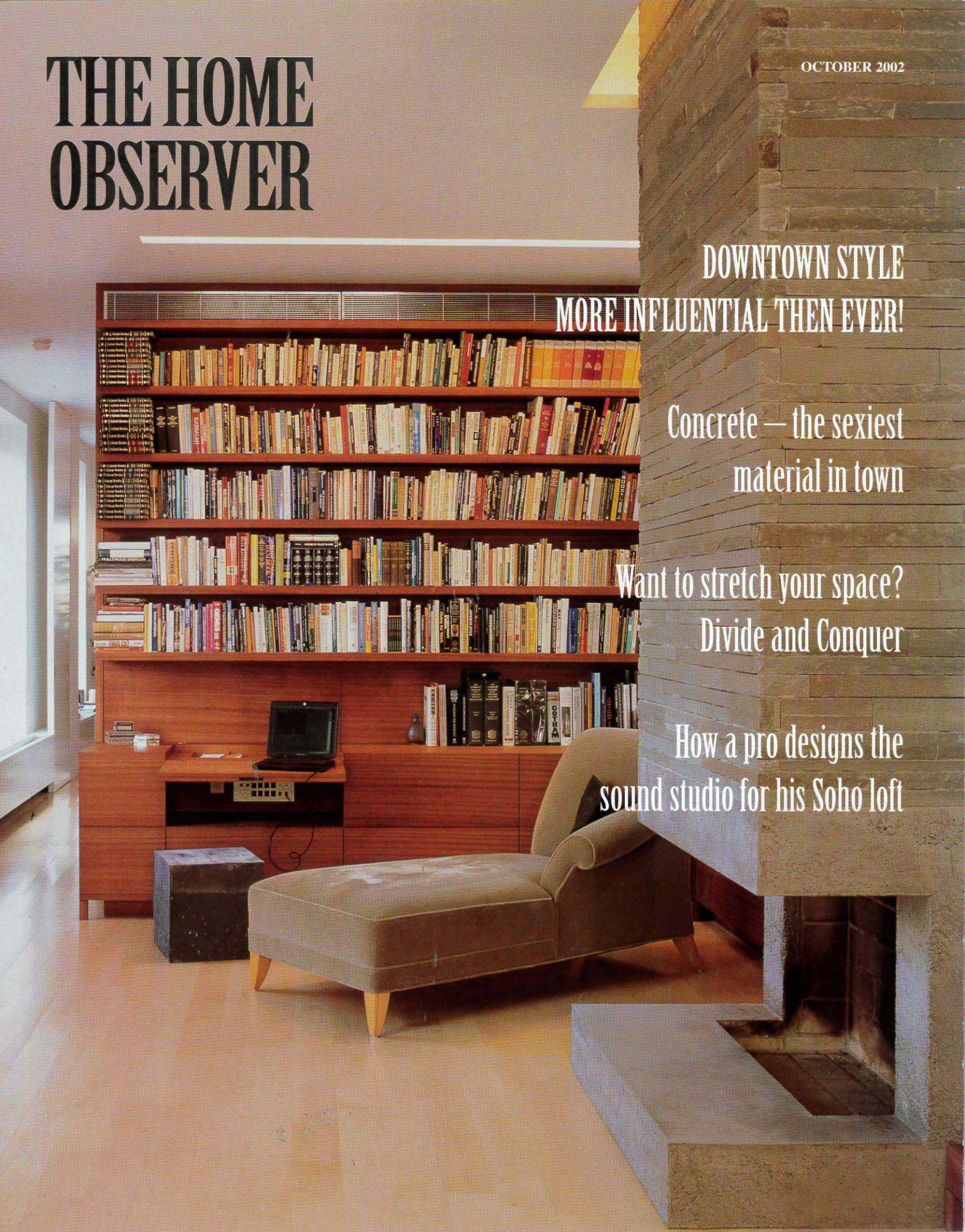
OCTOBER 2002

DOWNTOWN STYLE
MORE INFLUENTIAL THEN EVER!

Concrete — the sexiest
material in town

Want to stretch your space?
Divide and Conquer

How a pro designs the
sound studio for his Soho loft



Divide and Conquer

Low walls create areas
without visually dividing the space

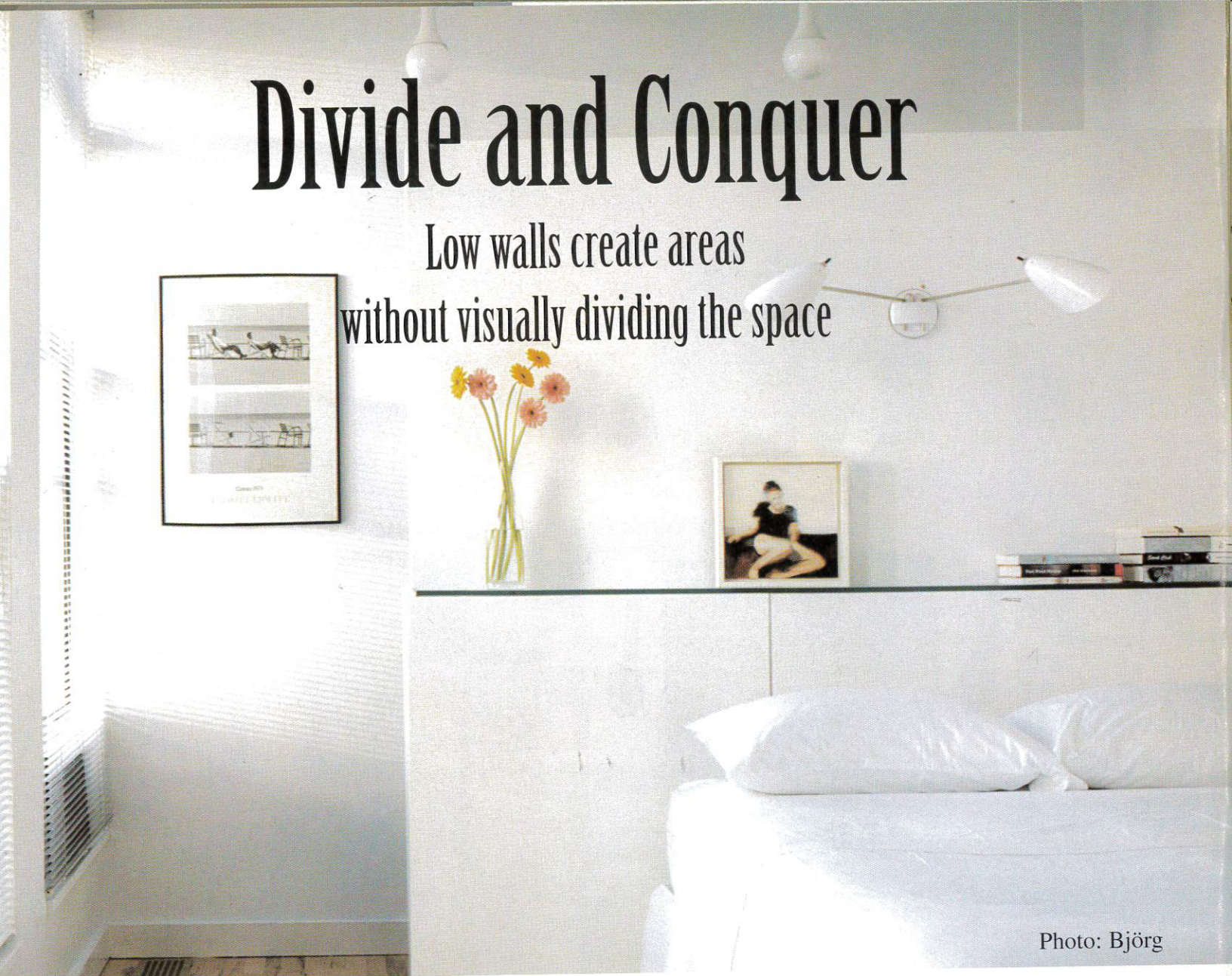


Photo: Björg



“The primary focus for a couple who work in publishing,” says Abigail Shachat of AJS Designs, “was to find an aesthetically pleasing way to house their massive collection of books and manuscripts, while also allowing easy access to them. In addition, one of them works from home, so it was especially important that the design allows them to switch gears, so to speak, from day to night.”

Small changes bring big benefits: In the bedroom (above), a low wall hides a spacious closet. Little was done to the kitchen (left) save for adding the lemon-topped, four-legged stools and fresh turquoise paint to coordinate with the original back splash of bright variegated glass tiles. Recessed lighting, as in the rest of the loft, and maple strip flooring tie the design together in a clean and breezy fashion.



This loft is filled with sunlight and exudes a feeling of order, art and harmony. The solution to the challenge of fitting so much into the 1,500-square-foot space was adding sliding panels and half walls. Approximately nine-feet high and four-feet wide, the maple panels were the most extravagant aspect of the re-do. They can be positioned to close off the workspace, add an architectural element or even hide a sofa bed.

The Ikea bookcases were massed together for a custom effect, and, brimming with volumes, add a brilliant stroke of color to the predominantly white design.