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Story by Judith Fertig
Photos by Aaron Leimkuehler

The living area in Janet Rose's contemporary condo is defined by raw concrete pillars and filled with iconic mid-century modern furniture pieces. Opposite: The vibrantly colored Don Kottmann painting faces the entry.

Open House

Wide-open spaces lend a lofty feel to this small condo on the Plaza



PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN GLASS HOUSES...JUST LOVE IT.

Janet Rose counts herself among them. She recently traded her small house on a quiet, tree-lined street in Fairway for a small glass-walled, contemporary condo on the Plaza that lives large.

"I was living and working in New York when I decided to sell my house," recounts Rose. "I had two offers in one day and sold it fast. And then I realized—I'm homeless!"

Her second thought was "I'm going to buy one of those glass places on the Plaza that I love so much." In May of 2008, Rose moved to the glass and concrete 4646 Broadway condominium that gets the clear, north light that she loves so much.

After putting furniture and objects she didn't want out on the curb—where they disappeared minutes later—Rose brought all her favorite pieces to the new space. And then she shuffled the deck, finding new ways to enjoy her clean-lined furniture, contemporary art, textured fabrics, and sculptural objects in the open space of her condo. And a new home for Spike, her miniature long-haired dachshund.



"There's almost a Parisian, St. Germain feeling about this place," she says, of being able to look out from an upper floor to look down at passersby. "I feel more connected to nature and more connected to the world living here," she says.

And then she draws a parallel to the business world: "It's so important right now for companies to have a porous sense of the world, not to box themselves in," says Rose. "To engage in a dialogue."

"When I work with ideas," says Rose, as vice president of planning for Barkley, "they take a shape." Much the way her see-through glass box with 10-foot ceilings has taken shape. "You're living with the inside out and the outside in," she says.

Glass outer walls surround the space, where white interior walls, hardwood floors and charcoal carpet, as well as concrete pillars and ceilings, add neutral texture. The concrete has a sensuous, smooth yet patchy quality, almost like drying clay. "I love it," says Rose.



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Opposite, top: Janet Rose and Spike. Opposite: In the living room, two rustic wooden stools from Black Bamboo can serve as seats or side tables. Above: Custom Pedini cabinetry from Portfolio Kitchen & Home, top-of-the-line appliances and a striking Michael Eastman photograph make up the kitchen.



These pages: Two views of the dining area, with its classic Eero Saarinen table and chairs. The graphic Fossarina chandelier brings movement, light and a jolt of color to the space. Flower arrangement from Bergamot & Ivy.

