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LINDA O'KEEFE  
THE MONACELLI PRESS

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Rooms that boast a wealth of natural light take best to lamps, sconces, or chandeliers that are strong, sculptural objects in their own right. John Wigmore's formation of Japanese paper cylinders, suspended low on steel rods, humanizes the scale of the eighteen-foot ceilings in a Hamptons house designed by architect Bruce Nagel. Interior designer Betty Wasserman used a tranquil range of ivories, creams, and whites throughout the house, but the living room's window wall, dressed in yards of Larsen's cloud-covered sheers, is her most dramatic gesture.

This space, on a narrow floor of a triplex in Chelsea, New York, has an open floor plan by architect Eric Gartner; lighting designer Todd Rugee defined the width of the dining room with a lead crystal chandelier that mirrors the length of the table. Interior designer Charles Allem's all-white furnishings and extensive use of mirrors attract light from the Hudson River.