Interior designer Cecilie Starin used exotic accents, inspired by her client's love of travel and childhood in Japan, and a contrasting color palette to add energy to this two-bedroom Pied-à-terre in San Francisco's Nob Hill.

In the living room, Starin kept all elements either light or dark with little pattern to let the client’s collection of artifacts take center stage. The chairs and Asian-inspired coffee table are from Hickory Chair and the painting is by Tom Leiber.
On the other end of the room, Starin painted a white bookcase a black bean color, reconfigured the shelves and added grasscloth to the back to give the piece a more eastern look. Subtle indirect lighting showcases the client’s d’art collected from world travels, including the gong in front of the fireplace, which is from a trip to Bhutan.
The walls in the den were painted a dark navy to create a sense of coziness while the large Asian screen behind the sofa lends a sense of drama to the small space. A coffee table was created by placing two Chinese benches side by side. The sofa bed is from Pearson and the adjacent side tables are from Oly with lamps from Circa Lighting. A chair from Lee Industries is covered in a pale acid green faux-suede and sits next to a small round table from Global Views.

A round dining table seats six and works perfectly in the square-sized dining space. The chandelier is from Circa Lighting and the painting is by Charley Brown from Dolby Chadwick.
The bedroom features pieces reminiscent of the client’s time in Japan, including the large screen behind the bed and the lamps, which were repurposed from vases that the client has had since childhood. The curtains and Euro pillows are made from a linen fabric and embroidered with an Islamic motif.

The dresser in the bedroom is from Hickory Chair and features a graceful curved front. The combination of the antique blue gray finish and black detailing creates a striking look.

The kitchen is light and airy with Calacatta countertops. A delicate mosaic backsplash replaced a mirrored one, which had made the space dark and oppressive.
White walls in the entryway were painted a blue grey to create immediate drama. The doors, also originally white were painted with Benjamin Moore’s Graphic paint to complement the dark doors. The console table is from Hickory Chair and the Khotan rug is from Stark. The trunk is an Asian antique and the art is by Dolby Chadwick.