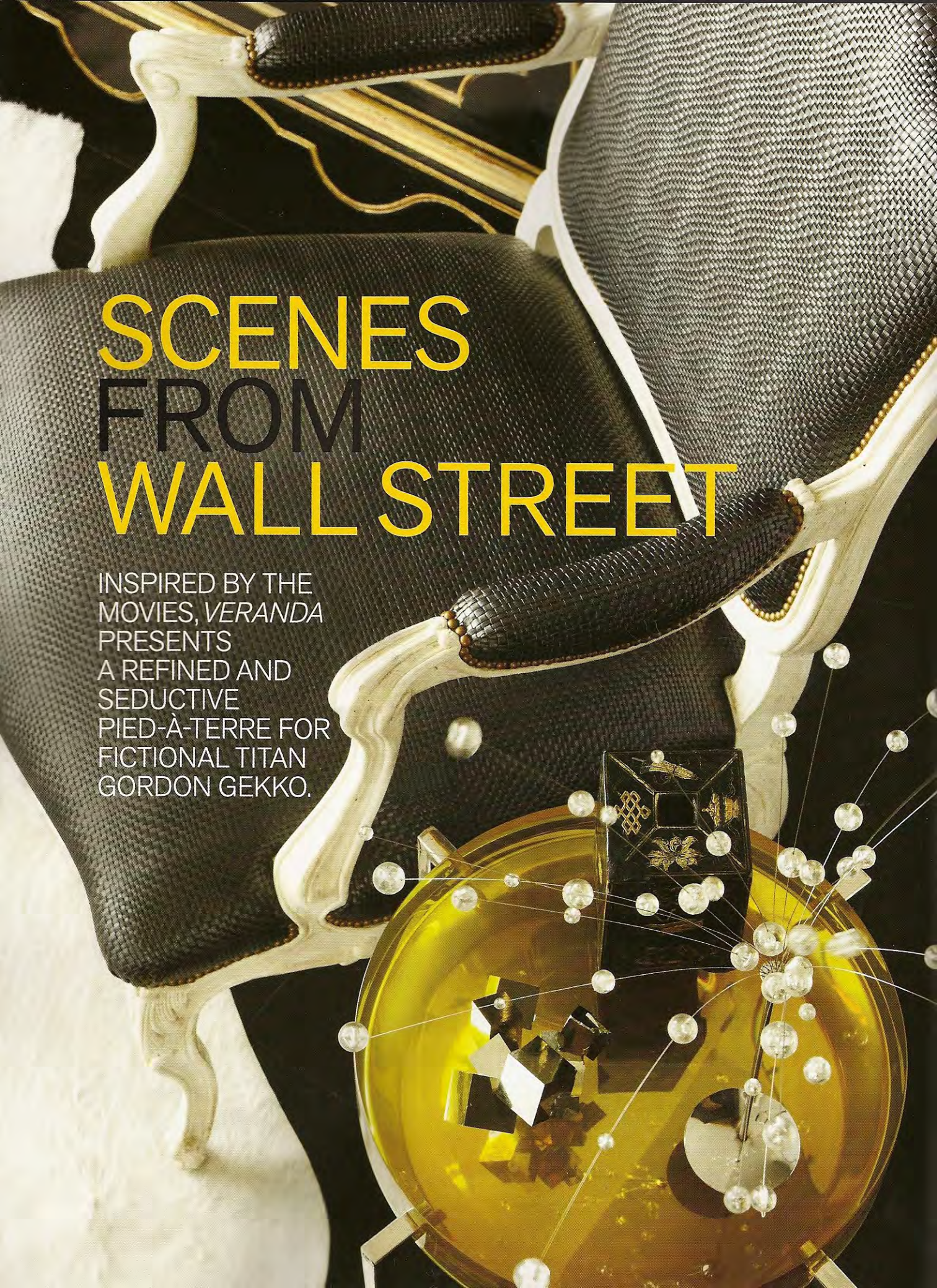

SCENES FROM WALL STREET

INSPIRED BY THE MOVIES, *VERANDA* PRESENTS A REFINED AND SEDUCTIVE PIED-À-TERRE FOR FICTIONAL TITAN GORDON GEKKO.

EVEN A MASTER OF THE UNIVERSE, NO MATTER HOW DRIVEN, EVENTUALLY NEEDS TO REST HIS WEARY HEAD, AND FOR A STATUS-CONSCIOUS MOGUL LIKE GORDON GEKKO, not just any foothold will do. The financier bachelor, played by Michael Douglas in Oliver Stone's two *Wall Street* films, is the client that designer Richard Hallberg imagined living in *Veranda*'s Designer Visions show house in Manhattan, so this urban sanctum needed to pack in gravitas, elegance and a triple-shot dose of seduction. Of course, it also had to boast killer views of the capital of capitalism itself.

The condominium, perched on the fifty-eighth floor of The Setai Fifth Avenue residences, takes in a panorama that stretches from the East River to the Hudson River and beyond, with the Empire State Building looming smack in the middle. The gleaming metropolitan architecture effectively functions as part of the decor. In this setting, Hallberg envisioned a worldly retreat where the boundaries between styles and eras blur, and the discerning eye of an art collector is the unifying factor.

"The way people live now is evolving, so it doesn't have to be this or that style of interior, and they're free to mix things," he says. "Breaking the rules makes things interesting."

That line of thinking led Hallberg to assemble disparate elements—an Alexander Calder mobile and sculptural gilt sconces, a raw steel console and a Renaissance line drawing—that hang together in a way that reads effortless and

Richard Hallberg's black-and-white palette serves as a foil for the Alexander Calder mobile and other contemporary artworks throughout. OPENING PAGES: Armchair, Dennis & Leen, in Élitis woven vinyl. Lens table, Holly Hunt. Vintage Lucite sculpture. Books, Assouline. Bronze bench and sculpture, Formations. Art, Emerson Woelffer and Jef Verheyen. Antique convex mirror. LEFT: Daybed, Formations, in Great Plains linen. Pillows in Jim Thompson silk. Armoire and Roman-style capitol, both Dennis & Leen. Floor lamps, Lumina. Sconces, Vaughan. Paint throughout, Ralph Lauren Paint. Wood floors throughout, Lauzon.