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YEARS  
OF

'WHAT I'VE LEARNED'

# Esquire

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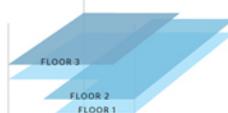
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# 11 Rooms with a View

When a writer trades his cramped one-bedroom for our tricked-out penthouse on Central Park, he's on top of the world. Too bad it's only for the weekend.

Photographs by Robert Trachtenberg



BY PETER MARTIN

**FOR THE FIFTH YEAR** in a row, Esquire has taken over an incredible home—this one an \$8.5 million triplex penthouse apartment overlooking Central Park in New York City—and worked with the world's top designers and luxury brands to transform it into the ultimate bachelor pad. We use it to raise money for charity, host the occasional shindig, and, this year, to record Jay-Z's newest video, "Blue Magic." But while it's great for parties, no one knew what ▶

## Living Room

DESIGNED BY CAMPION PLATT FOR VERSACE

Platt said he imagined this 572-square-foot space as if it were God's living room: monochromatic and spare, with nothing to take away from the view (see page 56) through the 22-foot windows. The seemingly omnipresent *Cluster*\* is a four-LCD installation mounted on the wall that records and plays back up to two minutes of new video a day. But after it played one shot of me in my underwear on those huge LCDs the first morning, I figured out that I should probably start putting a napkin over its camera. One thing I practically never turned off was the pair of \$140,000 Kef Muon speakers—one of only a hundred sets in existence and the first pair in the U.S. Even with Bruce Springsteen's *Magic* playing so loud we couldn't talk, every sound was incredibly distinct.

\*Esquire North art curated by Steven Sacks for Bitforms Gallery in New York City.