





HOW TOMMY TUNE'S UPTOWN HIGH-RISE
DUPLEX BECAME A COOL JAPANESE LOFT

Zen City

When Tommy Tune learned he was part Shawnee, it explained a lot. "My tribe was always on the move, following the sun like birds," Tune says, "and I needed to be able to migrate within my own space."

Annexing a conventional two-bedroom on the floor beneath his Upper East Side penthouse, he hoped this duplexification would slake his wanderlust. Interior designer DD Allen of Pierce Allen discovered the ceiling in the second apartment had been dropped to mask the guts of the building. "That was a celebratory day," says the six-foot-six-and-a-half-inch director and choreographer, "when she found three extra feet of headroom."

Exposed pipe wrapped in rope, a floor sheathed in black rubber, and columns with a raw-concrete *fauç*


Produced by JORDAN SCHAPS

Photographed by ANDREW BORDWIN

A New Retreat

Above: Michael Pierce and DD Allen. Left: Tune likes things scaled up for him, like these dyed linen curtains. The two fifties chairs in the foreground came from the shop *Senzatempo* in South Beach; the fifties laboratory lamp came from *Aero*. "Tommy's spent a lot of time in Japan," says Allen, who got the Japanese floor cushion at *Ad Hoc Softwares*. "He's spiritually very Japanese." Bamboo grows in a balcony planter.



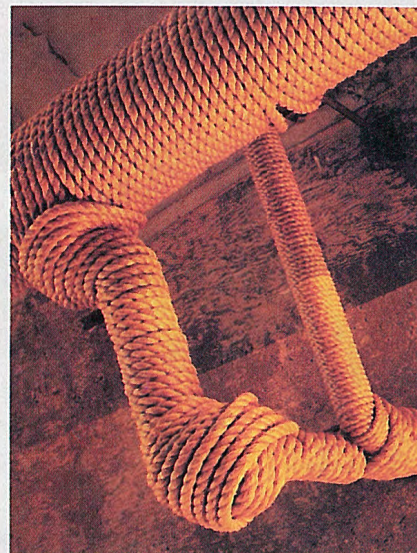
A photograph of a shower stall. The walls are a textured, light-colored material. A large, round, glowing light fixture is mounted on the wall. A showerhead is visible at the top. A wooden tub is placed on the floor, and a birch log stool is in the foreground. A glass block wall is on the right side. A small plant is on the wall.

In the Shower

Tune discovered the Japanese bathing experience when he staged *My One and Only* in Tokyo. The idea is to sit and scrub before taking a shower or bath to rinse off. He uses a Japanese bathing bowl from antiques dealer Amy Perlin, and the stool is a birch log Allen discovered in the Flower District.

A Second Bedroom

Left: Because Tune sleeps on such a large bed, this (mover's) blanket had to be custom-made. Tune plans to use the twelve-foot-long leather-wrapped shelf as a desk, with a rolling chair to shuttle him back and forth. Right: Allen's assistant, Sachiko Matsuka, wrapped every pipe herself, using two thicknesses of Manila-hemp rope. Below left: Mexican beach pebbles in the balcony planter 32 floors above Madison Avenue.



"AS A DANCER, I HAVE THIS THING ABOUT FLOW," SAYS TUNE. "I LOVE CONCRETE BECAUSE IT WAS ONCE A LIQUID."

finish give the place a kind of movie-set industrial look. The walls are mostly gone, and furniture has been minimized; Tune says he'd just bump into it ("Dancers are notoriously clumsy offstage"). In this unofficial loft, he says, he paints, meditates, even writes haiku. "It's a very private retreat," says designer Allen. "You can be in the penthouse and not even know there *is* a downstairs."

