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Not ones for tradition, the Douglasses had Habachy design a communal dining table for the **DINING AREA**, with a custom-made, hand-soldered light fixture from Brand van Egmond. Further back, you can catch a glimpse of the **CONVERSATION AREA** and Ann Thinghuus painting; this area is centered around a table John's grandfather made in the 1940s.

allowing for natural light and gorgeous views of Saint Mark United Methodist Church and the Fox Theatre, both within walking distance.

Every furnishing was designed with respect to the views and architectural lines of the space. A low dining room table specially designed by Habachy brings the eye below the window line and complements the rest of the low-slung, minimalist furniture. Everything—furniture, accessories, light fixtures—works with the space instead of against it. The result is an open, organized sense of continuity throughout the loft.

"One of our primary focuses was keeping every room communal," John says. "There are no chairs in here. Every area is more of a place where you can gather, and we did that on purpose."

The life of newlyweds can be hectic, but with most of the renovations already completed and their home almost perfect, the Douglasses can reflect on the collaborative process with a smile.

"It was a lot easier than we thought," John says. "We had a really good time doing it. We thought it would be super stressful, but it was fun." Any advice for collaborative renovating?

"Have a tie-breaker," Alison says. "I highly recommend it." —ANNA BENTLEY