

ELLE DECORATION

MARCH 2024

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THE STRESS-FREE
GUIDE TO STORAGE
FOR EVERY ROOM

BIJOU BATHROOMS
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SMALLEST SPACE

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CLEAR & PRESENT

WHY GLASS IS THE DESIGN WORLD'S NEW OBSESSION



Sunset

*Colour and classicism
intertwine in this home in
Rome, where the palette
takes inspiration from
the city's golden hour*

PHOTOGRAPHY
HELENIO BARBETTA/
LIVING INSIDE



sonata



Living room The blue-velvet 'Ethos' sofa by Valentini is piled with Dedar cushions, while a pair of white-boucle 'Pacha' lounge chairs by Pierre Paulin for Gubi and a 'Sitar' chair by Enzo Berti for Saba complete the seating. The dramatic ripples of Saba's 'Teatro Magico' coffee tables are placed on top of a 'Le Tapis Nomade' rug by Atelier de Troupe for CC-Tapis. They hold a 'Taccia' lamp by Achille and Pier Giacomo Castiglioni for Flos and an *Exhausted But Colourful* sculpture by Wanderart. The piece on the floor is also by Wanderart, while the vases on the mantelpiece are the 'Vasi Comunicanti' by Chiara Berta. Other artworks include a piece by Tano Festa (above the fireplace) and Verdiana Bove's *È chiaro che ci andrei* (behind the sofa) ►

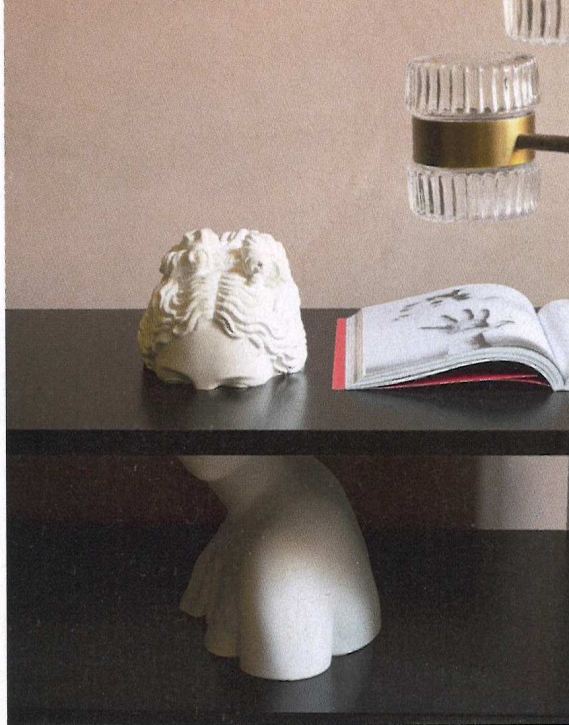
I have always thought a house should be like clothing, something in which one must feel oneself. It's no coincidence that there is a common root between the Italian words *abitazione* (dwelling) and *abito* (dress),' says Giulia Cerasoli, a political journalist and the owner of this home inside Rome's Palazzo Mazio Boncompagni. A lover of fashion and interior design, she worked with architect Francesca Venturoni of Venturoni Studio to reshape the property, which sits on Via della Scrofa, a stone's throw from the Mausoleum of Augustus. Together, they decided to play with contrasts, alternating between high-shine enamel and terracotta-plaster wall finishes.

In fact, the pair chose to bring colour into almost every room – preserving the building's bones, including its original cornices, while modernising. 'We've worked on various projects in Rome, and it's impossible not to engage with classicism, especially in historical buildings like this one,' says Francesca. 'The important thing is to enter into a dialogue with the past without fear. After all, as [Maurizio] Nannucci wrote, "All art has been contemporary".'

With its buttery-yellow gloss ceiling and pinkish textural walls, the living room's palette brings to mind a hazy sunset in the capital. The kitchen, meanwhile, is a glossy blue-grey, with the reflective quality of the paint finish enhancing the light that floods into the room via glass doors framed with matte brass (a material that appears in the design of almost all of the lighting in the house). The mood shifts again in the main bedroom, where soft blue is paired with a plum-coloured lacquered wardrobe, a bespoke piece by Venturoni Studio.

The architect wasn't only fearless with her use of colour, though. This home's layout also underwent a complete rethink. Originally, it was made up of small, fragmented rooms, with one of the two staircases hidden, bafflingly, within a study. With the agreement of Giulia, who prefers large, bright spaces, Francesca eliminated the tiny office, allowing the stairs to lead directly into the now much larger and more symmetrical living room.

'Although the lounge is wonderful, I love the intimacy and light of the kitchen,' says Giulia. 'In the afternoon, marble and metal shine in the sun, and the glass separates this space from the rest of the house without hiding it. I often stop here with my friends to have a coffee or sit alone to write. It's a very elegant environment.' Elegant, but adventurous: a very fashionable mix. venturoni.it



Living room On the pink plaster wall behind the 'Venus' console by Fabio Novembre for Driade hangs *Pixel* by Cristiano Pintaldi; on the right, the brass-and-glass floor lamp is by Soho Home

Portrait Homeowner Giulia Cerasoli is a political journalist with a passion for interiors and fashion ▶

