

www.elledecor.in

ELLE DECOR

Exclusives

SANJAY &
INA ARORA
YABU
PUSHELBERG
JAIME
HAYON

JUNE - JULY 2016, ₹150

Reporting
from...

SALONE DEL
MOBILE, MILAN
SINGAPLURAL,
SINGAPORE

**Monsoon
Trend**
HOMES
THAT EVOKE
NOSTALGIA

**15
YEARS**

FOREVER YOUNG

CREATIVE DECOR IDEAS: INORGANIC KINGDOM, COY PINK & TENDER BLUE
PLUS, IMAGINATIVE ROOMS & FURNITURE FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

INSIDE A PLAYHOUSE

Graphic designer and illustrator Anne-Sophie Gerin's family nest in the heart of Lyon, France, is styled with her distinctive, free spirited touch along with generous doses of light and colour

PHOTOGRAPHY AND PRODUCTION BY **ANNE-CATHERINE SCOFFONI**

Lyon is known for its historical and architectural landmarks. At its core one can find charming streets, old *traboules* (alleyways, in French) and buildings standing since the 19th century. Wandering around this city is like embarking on a fascinating journey through time. During an apartment hunt, Anne-Sophie Gerin and her husband Guillaume fell in love with a haunt located in an old establishment. What was once a rundown place that had been left untouched since the '50s is now a cosy, fresh and lively interior of approximately 1,100 sq ft.

"Everything that could be imagined was done. Here we could tailor-make all our ideas and design a flat that would fit our needs," explains Anne-Sophie. The dwelling offered an unusual layout of eight rooms and an alcove. The couple first decided to modernise its layout. "With the help of architect Fabien Orecchioni, we gave a new story to the apartment – clearer and more proportionate. As a mother of three children, I wanted above all to give them a clean space where they could evolve peacefully, with well-sized bedrooms and a shower area with a bath. Their boudoirs had to face the courtyard and the living areas had to be located next to three large windows," says Anne-Sophie.

The space was relieved of all unnecessary corners. The entrance extends to the long corridor leading to the master suite, before disappearing into the lavish living room, cosy kitchen, dining and living area, and office. The rhythm of each space is perfectly balanced, providing as much light as possible. The master bedroom is a perfect example – within 161 sq ft, the architect was able to incorporate a generous bed, dressing room and a bath with a large Italian shower.

"In terms of inspiration, I knew that I did not want an "industrial" feel, rather wood for a more "artist workshop" atmosphere that would be warm and cosy. Also, 10 years ago I had noticed a kitchen with a glass partition and knew that I wanted one too. This flat offered me the possibility to realise everything I had kept aside in my mind for so many years," avers Anne-Sophie. The glass panels with frames made of wood separating the living area from the kitchen was an optimal solution for visibility, significant with three children, while partially blocking odours. "I took the advantage of wood, so that it could fully interact with the library, defining the fireplace," adds the owner. On both sides of the cooking space, old existing doors were reused by the couple to conceal the storage, and dark and lighter blue shades were chosen to paint the window and the cabinets. "These colours were an evident choice. They are very easy to match with most things. I had seen enough of grey and beige in my previous apartments (seven moves in 10 years)," mentions the designer and owner.

Her sense of creativity can be felt throughout the house. "My husband and I are always on the lookout for new things, with the flea markets we visit, the people we meet or the trips we take. We like to customise furniture and love second hand and salvaged items. We also end up composing new objects by combining various elements," she explains. With lighting created from scratch, curtains from stretched linen sheets, vintage Baumann chairs surrounding the dining table painted in unusual hues and the suspended Indian drainer... everything was bargain hunted and then shaped by the pair. Here, nothing was left to chance, thanks to tricks, patience, optimisation and talent. ♦

Right Anne-Sophie wanted to create a cosy environment in her new home. For the living room, therefore, she chose a "Bleu Abaya" wall colour bought from the brand Seigneurie. Above the striking yellow sofa, she suspended a contrasting red-green lamp, both from Made. A multi-hued carpet, wall mounted artwork and pretty flowers on a wooden table helped accentuate the fresh and lively interior





“In terms of inspiration, I knew that I did not want an “industrial” feel, rather wood for a more “artist workshop” atmosphere...”



Above, from Left The owner, who was tired of beige and grey, wanted to experiment with a versatile colour. In the living room, the walls and doors, drenched in the “easy to match” blue shade provide the perfect backdrop for displaying art and even books; A closer look at the wooden desk reveals a frame of butterflies, containers and a large sunburst wall mirror hung above, creating the “artist workshop” aura envisioned by Anne-Sophie Left View of the dining area within the same room: An old family table and vintage Baumann chairs in different hues complement the azure setting



peinture porte
stores ch6 50

peinture
stores

“My husband and I are always on the lookout for new things, with the flea markets we visit...or the trips we take”



Above The kitchen (left) and living room (right) are separated by a glass partition, framed in wood. This provides an optimal solution for Anne-Sophie: While it allows her to keep an eye on her three children, it also partially blocks odours emanating from the fireplace. Left In the cookroom, old existing doors were reused and painted blue by the couple to conceal the storage. The open room plan, patterned flooring and dark wall reflecting cute scribbles done by her children create a warm atmosphere

HOME LYON

“We like to customise furniture and love second hand and salvaged items. We also end up composing new objects by combining various elements”



Above For the parents, it was paramount that the children had clean and large spaces in which they could grow peacefully. The two views of one of the children's bedroom reveals a wooden cot and a humming birds printed wallpaper from Cole and Son **Right** Another kid's room: Sprawled in an oasis of comfort, the two siblings can be seen sitting on a metal bed inherited from Anne-Sophie's grandmother

