

HOUSE OF FUN

By embracing colour, one family has turned their Notting Hill home into a place that boosts everyone's mood

Words **CLAIRE BINGHAM** Photography **PAUL RAESIDE**



Living room A bespoke rug by Marguerite Le Maire is the focal point here, anchoring a collection of furniture that includes a green Pinch 'Roubel' sofa, an 'Origami Stripes' marble coffee table by Patricia Urquiola for Budri, and a cane-backed sofa from The Socialite Family with its seat upholstered in a striped fabric by Raf Simons for Kvadrat. The 'Butterfly' stool is by Sori Yanagi and the floor lamp is an 'Akari' design by Isamu Noguchi, both for Vitra. Artist and lighting specialist Eva Menz created the pendant light. The pink 'Charlotte' chair is by India Mahdavi and was originally designed for London gallery and restaurant space Sketch ►





If ever there were a house with a demeanour that could be described as sunny, it would be this one. The front door is painted Mr Happy yellow, while the hallway features a patchwork of coloured hexagonal tiles. From the moment you enter this property in London's leafy Notting Hill, the atmosphere is bright, positive and ideal for family life.

Its owner, Gabrielle, a Parisian property specialist with a finely tuned personal taste, moved to this four-storey townhouse with her husband and two children two years ago, drawn to the wide rooms, high ceilings and large windows that overlook a garden square. 'For a Parisian, Notting Hill feels like living in the countryside,' she says.

The daylight and garden may have been what first attracted Gabrielle, but the interior transformation by K&H Design is what truly brought this house to life. Continuing with the joyful entrance as an example, there are contrasting graphics on the floor, staircase and wall, all unfolding in a variety of colours. Kudos to the mastery of Henry Miller-Robinson, co-partner and creative lead at K&H Design – the blend is far from outlandish.

'It was an amazing opportunity to combine pattern and colour in a way that many clients wouldn't embrace,' says co-partner Katie Glaister on the daring combinations that lead from the celadon-painted glazed divider separating the ground-floor rooms. 'The colours are different, but the way the tones blend is satisfying. It works.'

Each room has its own focal point. In the living room, the rug by Marguerite Le Maire is the eye-catcher. It zones this part of the open-plan space from the kitchen and dining areas. Beyond the pattern play, K&H also specialise in bespoke cabinetry. In the kitchen, a central island, topped with green Pyrolave (a type of enamelled lavastone), sits in front of an indispensable larder. 'Without that cupboard, the room wouldn't operate as a practical space,' says Katie. In slight contrast to this fresh, functional look, the adjoining dining area has a relaxed bistro feel, with custom-made tobacco-leather banquette seating.

Downstairs, there's a yoga studio/homework area for the children, where a jungle-themed wallpaper by Cole & Son offers a playful take on zen style, and on the first floor the main bedroom, dressing room and bathroom are also dominated by pattern. It's here that we find the botanical wallpaper Gabrielle fell in love with: 'Oasis Mural' by Woodchip & Magnolia. It is used on the wall that divides the bed from the abundance of wardrobe space behind.

Throughout this whole interior, confidence is the vital ingredient. 'Gabrielle has an incredibly strong aesthetic,' says Katie. 'She gave us the chance to feed her boldness in a controlled way.'

Indeed, the idea to include that dazzling front door came directly from the homeowner. 'The yellow makes me smile,' explains Gabrielle. 'In comparison to Paris, the light in London is grey and it can be dull. For me, this recreates the sun.' kandhdesign.co.uk ►





Entrance hall Tiles from London Mosaic greet people as they enter. A bespoke glazed-timber screen, painted 'Tabernacle Green' from Little Greene, separates the living room and kitchen without blocking light

Kitchen A Parisian bistro inspired this room, with its bespoke cabinetry and island by K&H Design. Tiles from London Mosaic define the food-prep area, while the wooden flooring elsewhere is from Ted Todd. The lights are vintage and the bar stools are by Arnold de Vinck ►





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Dining area A selection of colourful chairs from Philippe Model Maison join a custom-made banquette, upholstered in soft leather, around this ‘Copernic’ table by Arnold de Vinck. The pendant light above is sourced from Espace Lumière in Paris and the large photograph is a piece by Tom Blachford. It is flanked by vintage wall lights designed by Carl Fagerlund for Orrefors ►





Staircase K&H Design created the bespoke runner with its geometric design. The wallpaper that leads down into the basement is the 'Persian Palm' from Ottoline

Family bathroom This room features a multicoloured toilet from Broken Bog and a shower curtain from Quiet Town. The floor has been painted to create a chequerboard effect and a coat of 'Confetti No.274' pink paint from Little Greene, with a border of 'Lemon' yellow from Bristol Paint, has been applied to the walls

Kid's room A bright yellow 'Chaise A' chair by Xavier Pauchard for Tolix matches the paint in one child's room (top right), while in the other a raised ceiling provides extra space for bespoke storage. The wallpaper (bottom left) is 'Woodlands' by Jimmy Cricket. Designed by Mathieu Challières, the 'La Volière' light, available at The Conran Shop, adds a playful touch, as does the rocking sheep by Povl Kjer, available from Smallable. The seat with bunny ears is from Selency ▶

Ensuite Popham Design's 'Brasilia' tiles add a graphic element to this calm bathroom, while complementing the dressing room's cabinetry. The 'Soho' bath is from The Water Monopoly
Main bedroom 'Oasis Mural', a wallpaper by Woodchip & Magnolia, decorates the wall that separates this area from the ensuite and dressing room beyond. The latter features bespoke wardrobes by K&H Design, painted in 'Green Blue' from Farrow & Ball. The bed's headboard is covered in 'Candy Stripe' fabric from Ian Mankin and the bedding is from The White Company
See Stockists page for details 



