



# TO BOLDLY GO

Interior designer Maria Vittoria Paggini's home in Milan is a kaleidoscope of dynamic colours and daring designs that is simply divine

✦ **PHOTOGRAPHY** Helenio Barbetta/Living Inside  
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## DINING ROOM

The main entertaining space is one of the few rooms with pale walls, allowing the daring colours of the furniture to do the talking.

Table and chairs, developed by Maria Vittoria Paggini; for similar, try Chaplins. Blue artwork, Sergio Fiorentino







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### THE OWNER/ DESIGNER

**Interior designer Maria Vittoria Paggini uses this as a bolthole for her working life, a place to stay when she's in Milan during the week. As well as running her own practice, she has collaborated with brands such as Filippo Salerni and Oltrarno Design.**

### THE PROPERTY

**A recently renovated historic home in the centre of Milan. It has a generous entrance area, leading off that is a living room, dining room and additional dining/office space. A hallway leads to the main bedroom, two bathrooms and the kitchen.**

Inside this Milanese abode there is a vivid sparkle of a perpetual motion, spontaneous and joyful, reminiscent of a dance. Music floats around the home constantly, as buoyant and as important to the overall feel as the colour scheme itself. And yes, that colour scheme. Primary colours against white walls, or jewel tones shimmering in front of rich, deep greens, the kaleidoscopic brilliance straight from the mind of the owner, Maria Vittoria Paggini.

Originally from Tuscany, after seeing the family goldsmith company in Arezzo close, Maria took her first steps in what had always been just a passion: design. Completely self-taught, she was soon working on spaces in Milan. 'After a few years working within my province, I wanted to raise the bar and throw myself on more stimulating and challenging projects,' she explains. 'I started working on stylistic exercises for myself, creating renders of environments that I posted on social media. Then came my first private commission in Milan, and here is where I work the most today.'

With a life split between Milan and Arezzo, where Maria's two kids reside, the need for a Milanese pied-à-terre was unquestioned, and yet the space – called *Ornella Casa Nomade* – doesn't look like a family nest at all, but a multidisciplinary project in which different souls coexist. It is a creative hub, it is a movie set, it is a place to live culinary experiences, but also a domestic art gallery. A crossroads of possible encounters.

At the design level, the house was to be renovated without changing the original floor plan – to keep expenses contained and achieve the most in the shortest time – a challenge for the designer to find radical stylistic solutions. How? 'Transforming the limit into opportunity,' explains Maria. 'I worked with colours, furniture and materials, focusing on decoration and textiles. This has been the frame in which ideas, projects and collaborations took place.'

Starting with the home's original wooden floors, which are now reinvented by micro-resin work, bringing colourful geometries and graphics to them, the focus shifted then to the strong palette chosen for the walls – olive green in the living room, burnt orange in the hallway and total black in the kitchen. Thanks to the paintwork, everything changed its appearance, even the jambs of the French doors, which turned apricot orange, and not to forget the ceilings, which in a collab with the decoration studio, Gouache, became white canvas to fill. Playful motifs that are guaranteed to raise a smile.

With its outstanding atmospheres, thanks to the cosiness of the textiles and the confidence of the colours, Casa Ornella has intrigued many. Maria's vision has created a space filled with personality: cheerful, exuberant and full of life. 'I believe in the house that conveys emotions, a home that lives and lives again, where colours follow the rhythm of moods,' she says. 'Never a project for its own sake, but an emotional path that every day reminds you that you are inside your journey.'

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## LIVING ROOM

This space was decorated to feel like a jewel box, and the sofa looks even more opulent against the richness of the walls.

For a similar wall colour, try Brompton Road by Mylands. Ceiling mural, Gouache. Sandra & Raimondo octagon tables, Maria Vittoria Paggini. Metal sculptures (on the wall), Filippo Salerni. Brutalist glass chandelier, Carlo Nason









## KITCHEN

A contrast to the brightness seen elsewhere, the dark colours work thanks to the generous ceiling height which stops the room feeling enclosed.

For similar wall colours, try Railings for the upper section and Tar for the lower part, both by Farrow & Ball. **Cabinets and bench,** Maria Vittoria Paggini





## HALLWAY

This may be where the bedroom, bathroom and living areas branch off from, but it's far from just a place to pass through.

Hari, by Atelier Ellis, is a similar wall colour. Table, Maria Vittoria Paggini. Chairs, vintage pieces reupholstered by Maria. Blue artwork, Nicolas Denino. Similar custom silk carpet, Loomah





**BEDROOM**

The original wooden floors were brought back to life through painstaking micro-resin work.

Bed linen, C&C Milano.  
Try Selency for similar bedroom furniture





BATHROOM

This space was decorated intentionally to feel more like a boudoir than a functional room. Gloss surfaces and plush seating combine to create a glam sense of comfort.

**Cabinet**, Maria Vittoria Paggini. **Gio Ponti tap** by Mamoli. **Blind** in a Dedar fabric

