







S

urveying the scene from this two-bedroom, 19th-century Naples apartment, with its expansive rooftop terrace and panoramic views, you can see architectural treasures like the baroque Santa Caterina a Chiaia church and the ancient, rose-tinted Cellamare Palace. It was this historic grandeur that attracted a prominent local industrialist to make it his home.

To restore it to its former glory and add a modern twist, he commissioned local architect Giuliano Andrea dell'Uva. The creator of several refined homes around Naples, as well as a hotelier and a designer (he's the artistic supervisor for Livio de Simone, a heritage brand making hand-painted fabrics), Giuliano was just the man to fulfil the homeowner's ambitions.

'He requested I make the design as open as possible for him to receive guests,' explains the architect. 'He wanted a space where he could host dinners and parties, so I decided to remodel the rooms on a circular plan, linking the living and dining areas, and spotlighting the terrace in the centre.'

With this sense of connection and entertaining in mind, Giuliano also installed a new kitchen surrounded by iron-framed glass walls, which were custom-made by local craftspeople. 'The idea is that it resembles a glass box at the heart of the living areas, visible to everyone in the apartment,' he says. 'I like to use iron, glass and brass in old buildings for their modernity, elegance and practicality.' The contemporary feel is reinforced by a predominantly black colour scheme, which is echoed in the rest of the rooms.

Many of the apartment's architectural features have survived intact, including original tiles and paintwork that inspired pops of vivid colour. 'Working with a team of restorers, I was able to uncover layers of old wall decoration in blues and Pompeii reds,' says Giuliano. The tiles on the kitchen walls and bathroom floors were re-laid in geometric patterns and stripes to bring them up to date, while plasterwork was left in its stripped-back, beautifully patinated state. 'My style is very Mediterranean, so it was all about prioritising the light and bringing in touches of white, blue, red and yellow,' he adds. 'I also used lots of Scandinavian and American modernist furniture to give the space creative verve.'

As its owner wished, it's the perfect spot to enjoy al fresco dinners on balmy Neapolitan nights. [delluvaarchitetti.it](http://delluvaarchitetti.it)

**Living room** (and previous spread) The choice of colour for the 'Extrasoft' sofa by Piero Lissoni for Living Divani was inspired by blue pigments found when restoring the apartment's walls. It is paired with a vintage leather armchair by Robin Day. The painting is by American artist Melissa Kretschmer, its yellow hues reflected in the brass sideboard and bookshelf supports (left) – architect Giuliano Andrea dell'Uva (pictured top) likes to use this material in old interiors for a modern feel. The black side table is from Jaime Hayon's 'Réaction Poétique' collection for Cassina, while the floor lamp is the 'Claritas' by Vico Magistretti for Nemo ►





ESCAPE to the UK's most creative city, *plus* rural restaurants serving design

# ELLE DECORATION

THE  
STYLE  
MAGAZINE  
FOR YOUR  
HOME  
OCTOBER 2020 £5

## MAKE A CHANGE

THE PEOPLE BRINGING  
DIVERSITY TO THE  
DESIGN WORLD NOW

*Homes that dare to be  
different - Hamburg,  
London, Milan & beyond*

108  
*sensational  
fabrics &  
wallpapers  
to transform  
any room*



## THE POWER OF PATTERN

IN PRAISE  
OF POTTERING  
THE ART AND JOY  
OF AIMLESS  
ENDEAVOURS

BOLD, BRIGHT AND COLOURFUL  
DECORATING TO LIFT YOUR SPIRITS

# ELLE DECORATION

