



SHADES *of* the EAST

A collection of vintage Japanese obis was the starting point for this glamorous home, resplendent in a palette of intense hues

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SITTING ROOM

A deep teal hue, chosen not only for the walls but also for the joinery, window frames and curtain fabric (left), serves as a foil for the russets and golds of a vintage obi fabric on the cushions. The Mexican pheasants (this page) were a present from Céline's parents.

Walls in Canton, Absolute Matt Emulsion, £38 for 2.5 litres, Little Greene, littlegreene.com.

Jensen Bergère chair, from £4,475, Minotti, minottilondon.com.

Outline console table, from £1,146, Richard Taylor Designs, richardtaylor designs.co.uk.



SITTING ROOM

Antiqued mirror glass on the chimney breast helps give the room an extra sense of depth. Interior design, Hannah Brown at Wilding & Wolfe, wildingandwolfe.com.









When creating the schemes for a new home, it is sometimes helpful to consider what one really does not like and for Swiss-American Céline Beaulieu, the answer was simple: "I'm really not a fan of white," she confides. "For me, colour is so important and I like quite intense shades. I'm not afraid to be bold." It was with this mantra that she approached the renovation of her home, a 1930s property in central London.

CREATING A SOCIABLE SPACE

As a young professional with a wide network of friends and family, Céline was keen to adapt the layout of her home to suit her love of informal entertaining and to help her remodel the spaces, she contacted a design and build firm. On the ground floor, the kitchen was moved from the front to the back of the house and a tiny courtyard was incorporated into the footprint to provide an adjoining dining area. On the first floor, the sitting room was reduced in size to create a second bedroom, enabling the top floor to be devoted to Céline's bedroom and bathroom. The Crittall windows were replaced with new black-framed ones, and their design is echoed in glazed interior doors that allow light to flow throughout the entire ground floor.

NOD TO THE EAST

Before moving to London, Céline had spent several years living in Japan and when she first met with interior designer Hannah Brown, of Wilding & Wolfe, she came

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CLOAKROOM

Céline cites her love of Japanese art as the inspiration for this rich black, gold and red scheme (above left), which also features a screen-printed paper from Japan. Cheltenham wall lights in antiqued brass, £157 each, Jim Lawrence, jim-lawrence.co.uk.

ENTRANCE HALL

A faux linen wallpaper creates a subtly textured backdrop to a collection of artworks (left). Biella flatweave runner in Turquoise with linen edging, around £90sq m,

Warp & Weft, warpandweft.co.uk. Flamant Suite Five Mystic Impressions wallpaper, £123 a roll, Arte, arte-international.com.

KITCHEN

Smart brass handles and a striking Poul Henningsen pendant light elevate this scheme (right), while encaustic cement tiles add a burst of energy. Somerton Fern kitchen, from £590.50 for a 60cm base unit, Magnet, magnet.co.uk. Shine tiles in Aqua and Milk, from £180sq m, Popham Design at Ann Sacks, annsacks.com.



armed with ten vintage obis. "The fabrics are incredibly beautiful and I hoped to incorporate at least some of them into the schemes," she recalls. "I had also come across some exquisite Chiyogami (hand screen-printed paper) in an art supply shop and I wanted to investigate the idea of using it on some of the walls."

INSPIRED BY AUTUMN

Hannah took the obis as a starting point for the colour schemes, drawing on Céline's love of rich autumnal hues to develop a palette that spans antique golds and burnt oranges to intense shades of turquoise and teal. As a contrast to the more traditional textiles, Hannah suggested bold geometric patterns on rugs and encaustic cement tiles. "I really wasn't convinced that these would be for me," says Céline, "but I fell in love with them and I now see them as a really crucial part of the design." Touches of brass and bronze run through the rooms, lending subtle glamour, while the Chiyogami, which was supplied in wrapping-paper size sheets, was painstakingly applied to the walls of the study and cloakroom.

FINISHING TOUCH

Céline owns a considerable collection of art, although it was only after the house was decorated that she hired a consultant to help decide where the pieces would hang. "I think it's a myth that you need white walls to display art well," she says. "It's surprising how different backdrops can bring out the colours in a photograph or painting." With its bold, jewel-like tones, her home testifies to this, and reflects the warmth and energy of its owner.



DINING AREA

A bespoke banquet (above left) makes good use of the limited space and incorporates large drawers that house Céline's collection of serving ware.

Paris table in bronze finish with Character oak top, £7,650, Tom Faulkner, tomfaulkner.co.uk.

Thea dining chairs, from £625 plus 2m of fabric each, Gallotti & Radice, gallottiradice.it.

TELEVISION AREA

Good storage was crucial to the redesign of the home and includes this fitted cabinetry (left), which conceals a television behind sliding panels.

tami rug, £729sq m, Riviere, riviererugs.com. **Bristol sofa**, from £5,499, Poliform, poliformuk.com.

GUEST BEDROOM

A rich teal velvet headboard and subtly toned bamboo rug (above right) add tactile notes to this welcoming, luxurious scheme.

Tini bedside table, £379, Nina Campbell, ninacampbell.com.

Springfield downlight, £198; **lampshade**, £59; both Vaughan, vaughandesigns.com.

SHOWER ROOM

A clever combination of pale blue crackle-glazed metro and iridescent glass mosaic tiles on the wall and a neat hexagonal design on the floor brings pattern and interest to this slim, corridor-like space (right).

Geometric White Matt Hexagon tiles, £40sq m, Mandarin Stone, mandarinstone.com.



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MAIN BEDROOM

An obi fabric in pale aqua and platinum informed the colour palette here (above). Stylish double curtains frame an inviting window seat (above far right) to superb decorative effect.

Albany bed, £3,645 for king size plus 10m of fabric, The Sofa & Chair Co, thesofaandchair.co.uk; **Scruffy Ribbon wall lights** in White Gold, £660 each; **lampshades**, from £129 each; all Porta Romana, portaromana.co.uk.

MAIN BATHROOM

A floating vanity unit and mirrored storage enhance the sense of

space in this scheme (right and far right). The gap between the two is tiled in a lively glass mosaic, echoed in the handy storage niches in the shower and above the bath. **High Society glass mosaics** in Forbes, £649.74sq m, Fired Earth, firedearth.com.

ENTRANCE HALL

The glorious shade of turquoise that greets guests upon arrival (above right) is a recurring theme, uniting upstairs and down.

Seat pad in Knotty in Queen of Hearts 3029/02, £348m, Pollack at Altfield, altfield.com.



SITTING ROOM

As in every room, the walls here are in two shades of grey paint, by Norwegian paint company Jotun, creating a warm backdrop for the informal arrangement of furniture, including three round coffee tables: "I don't like things to be symmetrical," says Wanjia.

The Green coffee table in iron and marble, £134, House Doctor at Living and Co, livingandcompany.com. Corinth convex mirror, NOK6500, Eske, eskeinterior.no.

ENTRANCE HALL

Having seen this picture of the sea (right) on the wall of a shop, Wanjia contacted the photographer and persuaded him to make a print for her.

Eames house bird in Black, NOK1,634; Siena vase, NOK465; both Eske, eskeinterior.no.

