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JANUARY 2008 £3.40

## COMFORT & JOY

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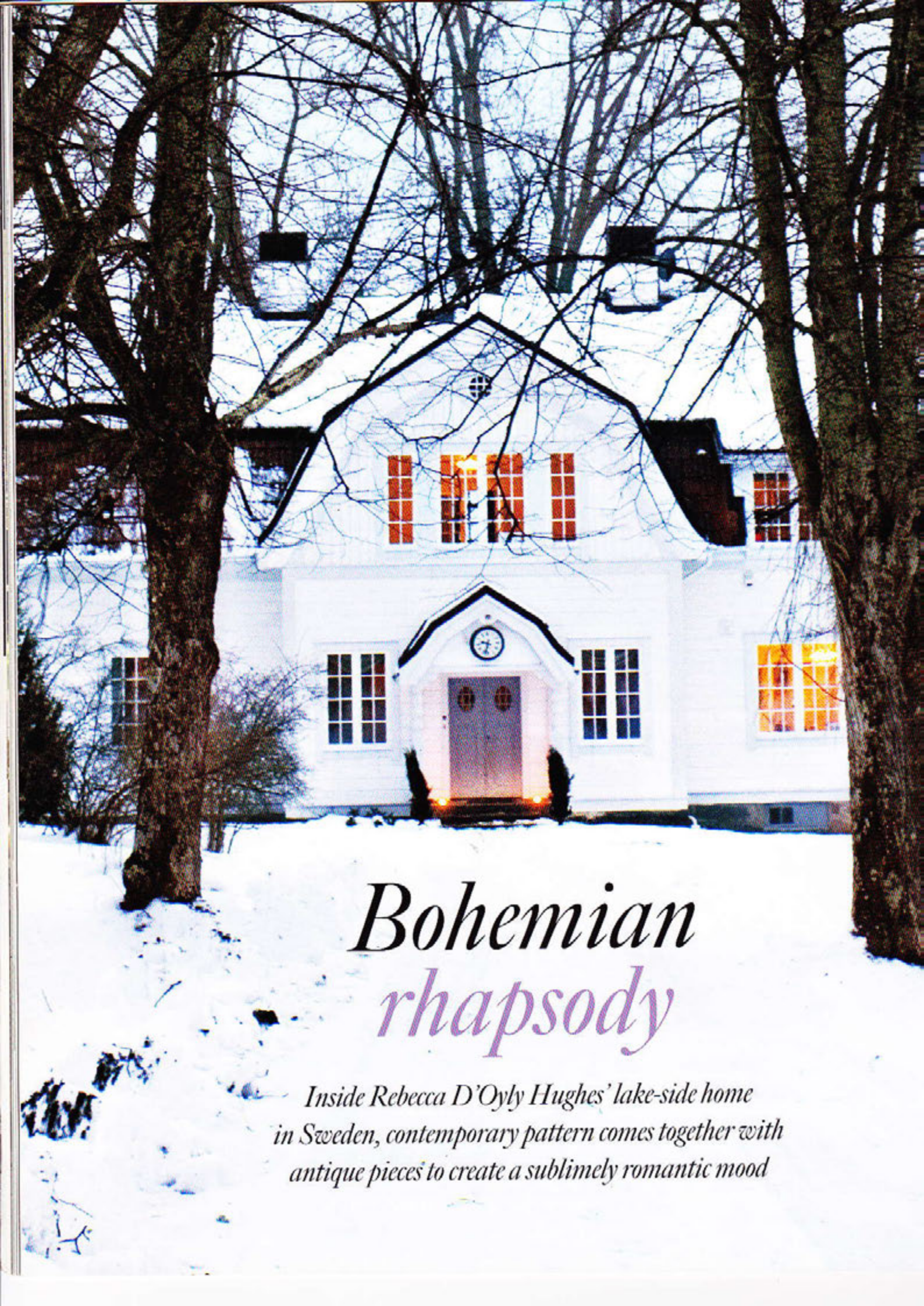
**LAST-MINUTE  
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Elegant table lamps  
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Gourmet treats

## FESTIVE DINING

- INSPIRATIONAL TABLE SETTINGS
- COOKING WITH WINES & SPIRITS



RECALL 03/01/08



# *Bohemian rhapsody*

*Inside Rebecca D'Oyly Hughes' lake-side home  
in Sweden, contemporary pattern comes together with  
antique pieces to create a sublimely romantic mood*



# RIVIERE

Contemporary Handknotted Rugs



## MANOR HOUSE

*Built in the 1880s in traditional Swedish style, the house has glorious views across the nearby lake from all the main rooms. The property has its own jetty and beach from which the family can skate in winter and swim and row in summer.*

## THE GROUNDS

*Hugo and Rebecca enjoy walking their dog, Flo, in the woods in front of their home.*



## DINING ROOM

*The dining room is conveniently located between the living room and kitchen. Biedermeier chairs introduce an attractively informal note to the room scheme.*

**Similar table** Victorian walnut dining table, £1,450, Driscolls Antiques, 0845 241 5518, driscollsaniques.co.uk. **Biedermeier chairs**, from £2,000 set of four, The Chair Set, 01428 707301, thechairset.com. **Wallpaper**, Folia, £49 for a 10m roll, Paint Library, 020 7823 7755, paintlibrary.co.uk. **Similar chandelier**, Geraldine crystal pendant light, £895, Christopher Wray, 020 7751 8701, christopherwray.com. **Similar candlesticks**, Mercury silvered candlesticks, £22 each, Cox & Cox, 0870 442 4787, coxandcox.co.uk.



# STUDY

*Contemporary and antique furniture is united by a warm but daring paint colour on the walls.*

**Similar sofa.** Miss Clementine, £2,909, Sofa Workshop, 01798 345345, [sofaworkshop.com](http://sofaworkshop.com)

**Similar chairs.** Finmere, £1,555 each plus 2.5m of fabric, Wesley-Barrell, 01993 893100, [wesley-barrell.co.uk](http://wesley-barrell.co.uk) **Chairs covered in** Casino viscose/cotton mix, 140cm wide, £227.95m,

Donghia, 020 7823 3456, [donghia.com](http://donghia.com)

**Similar coffee table.** Kelso stool, £470, Clockhouse Furniture, 01620 860968,

[clockhouse-furniture.co.uk](http://clockhouse-furniture.co.uk) **Similar mirror.** Large convex mirror, £1,111, DOM Furniture, 020 8538 9592, [domfurniture.co.uk](http://domfurniture.co.uk)

**Burlington Old Gold rug.** £430sq m, Riviere, 020 7627 0031, [riviere.se](http://riviere.se) **Paint on walls.** Plum Brandy, flat emulsion, £27.99 for 2.5 litres, Paint Library, 020 7823 7755, [paintlibrary.co.uk](http://paintlibrary.co.uk)

## H&G MANOR HOUSE

A house of her own in the beautiful Swedish countryside had been Rebecca D'Oyly Hughes's dream since she was a girl. Although she was brought up in Brighton, she spent a lot of her summer and winter holidays with her Swedish mother's family in Sweden. There she experienced an immense sense of freedom – running through the woods, swimming in the lakes during the warm summer months; skiing and ice-skating in the fairytale landscape at Christmas.

Those blissful childhood memories never left Rebecca and when she became engaged to Hugo, naturally she was keen to show him the places she

so adored. Fortunately for her, he too fell in love with the country and was happy to embark on a quest to find a summer house there.

At the end of what seemed like a very long year of looking at pictures and reading agents' details, they thought they had found the perfect house. Rebecca's mother had by then moved back to Sweden, so she was asked to take a look at it. "She called immediately to say it was incredibly beautiful, if in need of a great deal of love," Rebecca recalls. The couple wasted no time in flying to Sweden and putting in an offer at the asking price, which was





#### THE FAMILY

*Rebecca and Hugo with their children Benjamin, aged four, and Tatiana, two.*

#### KITCHEN

*New units were designed to match the original cupboards, while streamlined Italian pendant lighting adds a contemporary twist.*

**Similar kitchen.** Plain English, 01449 672767, [plainenglishdesign.co.uk](http://plainenglishdesign.co.uk). **Similar table.**

Classical French carved dining table, £445.

Sweetpea & Willow, 0845 257 2627,

[sweetpeaandwillow.com](http://sweetpeaandwillow.com). **Ge pendant lights.**

£111 each, Ferruccio Laviani for Kartell at Aria,

020 7704 6222, [ariashop.co.uk](http://ariashop.co.uk).



**HA**  
To soften the pared-down look in  
hall, Rebecca used a subtle, gilded  
blocked wallpaper from 1900 which  
found in a Swedish antiques s

**Similar French antique console  
mirror.** Jill Palmer Antiques, C  
328669, jillpalmerantiques.c

**Similar chairs.** Regency side ch  
from £795 pair, The Chair Set, 01  
707301, thechairset.com. **Ch**

**covered in Sienna in Nattier/Ma**  
04564-05, cotton/viscose mix, 13  
wide, £85m, Manuel Canovas, i  
8877 6400, manuelcanovas.c

**Sornay Indigo rug.** £350s  
Rivers, 020 7627 0051, rivier

immediately accepted. "We thought it was ours and happily went back home to England and got married. But while we were on our honeymoon in Marrakech, the horrible news reached us that we had been gazumped. We spent a nail-biting week and a bit more money before the house was thankfully back in our hands," Rebecca recalls.

Their wooden house, known as a "gard" (manor house), is situated in the middle of Södermanland, south-west of Stockholm, an area renowned for its beauty, huge number of lakes and wildlife. "Apart from deer, elk and boar, we have lots of red squirrels, golden eagles, ospreys and cranes," says Rebecca. "In

fact, if you are interested in birds of prey, you see so many raptors that you become quite blasé about it."

The property offers the ideal environment for their two small children, Benjamin (aged four) and Tatiana (two), and is also handily placed for Stockholm Skavsta airport. Rebecca and Hugh recently launched Riviere, a rug company with a showroom in London, and they shuttle to and fro to meet clients there, as well as flying to Nepal several times a year where their hand-crafted rugs are made.

The gard was built in 1880 and its sturdy construction, complete with the original double-glazed windows, keeps out the bitter cold of Swedish



#### LIVING ROOM

*Calming shades of taupe and mushroom prevail in the living room, where an exquisite mix of styles resonates through Rebecca's furniture and accessories.*

**Similar sofa.** Burligh four-seater, from £1,930 plus 17m of fabric, Wesley-Barrell, 01993 893100, wesley-barrell.co.uk. **Sofa covered in** Capri, Trevira, 140cm wide, £95.64m, Fadini Berghi at Pierre Frey,

020 7367 5599, pierrefrey.com. **Bourgie lamps** in chrome plate finish, £226 each, Ferruccio Laviani for Kartell at Aria, 020 7704 6222, ariashop.co.uk.

**Venetian mirror.** Jill Palmer Antiques,

01273 328669, jillpalmerantiques.co.uk.

**Flore Mountbatten Pink rug.** £490sq m,

Riviere, 020 7627 0031, riviere.se.

winters inside. Huge windows in rooms with high ceilings afford striking views across the lake. "In the beginning we had to pinch ourselves whenever we looked out of our bedroom windows at the glittering water," says Rebecca.

Rebecca has no formal training in interior design or building renovation, but her natural sense for mixing good antiques with contemporary design is one she shares with her husband. "We love visiting auctions; they can be really exciting and you can buy things at a fraction of the price in a shop."

"I tend to make my decorating decisions quickly, as sometimes the more you think about

things, the more confused you can get," she says. "I follow my gut instinct and it normally comes together quite well. A friend of mine described my look as *Luxury Bohemian*, which sounds rather good," Rebecca says.

She adds, "I have always made sure there are beautiful views from the windows when buying a house, as that is something you cannot change." As the winter sun sets across the other side of the lake and the cold evening air transforms the white snow on the trees into sparkling diamonds, who could possibly argue with her? This surely must be one of the most beautiful scenes one could wish for. ■

#### TATIANA'S BEDROOM

*All the bedrooms have eye-catching wallpapers, including Tatiana's with its pretty trailing floral.*

**Similar bed:** French antique bed, from £700, La Maison, 020 7729 9646, [atlamaison.com](http://atlamaison.com).

**Similar bedside table:** classical two-drawer cabinet, £155, Sweetpea & Willow, 0845 257 2627, [sweetpeaandwillow.com](http://sweetpeaandwillow.com).

**Wallpaper:** Nostell Priory in Blue and Ivory, £55.66 for a 10m roll, Zoffany, 0870 830 0350, [zoffany.com](http://zoffany.com).



#### MAIN BEDROOM

*Intricate wooden Thai carvings behind the bed remind the couple of trips abroad.*

**Four-poster**, from £4,700, Simon Horn, 020 7731 1279, [simonhorn.com](http://simonhorn.com). **Mirrored tables**, Jill Palmer Antiques, 01273 328669. **Cylinder sconces** £1,220 each, DOM Furniture, 020 8538 9592, [domfurniture.co.uk](http://domfurniture.co.uk). **Similar silk cushions**, £37.50 each, Graham & Green, 0845 130 6622, [grahamandgreen.co.uk](http://grahamandgreen.co.uk). **Similar bed cover**, Bibin Dusky Pink, from £120, The White Company, 0870 900 9555, [thewhitecompany.com](http://thewhitecompany.com). **Wallpaper**, like the £101.90 for a 10m roll, Knowles & Christou, 020 7352 7000, [knowleschristou.com](http://knowleschristou.com). **Aqua Marble silk and cotton rug**, £530sq m, Riviere, 020 7627 0031, [riviere.se](http://riviere.se).

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