

AUGUST 2019 £4.80

ELLE

CELEBRATING
30
STYLISH
YEARS

DECORATION

THE FORECAST A/W 2019

DISCOVER THE
TRENDS SHAPING
OUR HOMES
THIS SEASON

SHOP THE EDIT
THE MOST EXCITING NEW
FURNITURE BUYS REVEALED

SUSTAINABLE STYLE
WHY IT'S COOL TO BE
KIND TO THE PLANET

MADE IN CHINA
HIGH-END DESIGN IS ON
THE RISE IN THE EAST



IN THE KNOW

Looks, launches, innovations & the newest names



HOME TREND

OFF

Colour confidence is key to creating a space

THE

where clashing hues exist in harmony. This

SPECTRUM

Milanese home-turned-gallery shows how it's done

Words KARA O'REILLY

Photography MONICA SPEZIA/LIVING INSIDE

For Milanese interior designer Sophie Wannenes, the biggest pitfall to avoid when decorating is 'using two very similar colours together'. This aversion to safe, expected shades should come as no surprise to anyone who has entered her gallery, PalermoUno, which she set up in her own apartment in the city's stylish Brera district.

'You make better colour choices if you know it's okay to change your mind,' says Sophie, whose own decisions demonstrate the current trend for clashing home hues. Her approach may be bold, confident and ahead of the curve, but it's practical, too. 'Choose the main entrance colour and start from there,' she advises. 'Make it neutral, so, for example, I picked a brick-like shade as it fits with most other tones. From there, you can select other colours you like, holding them next to it to see if they're suited.'

Work on the gallery – where everything from the light fittings to the wall paint is for sale – began in September last year, and it opened in November. 'Let's just say I had to do everything pretty fast,' says Sophie. The two-bed, two-living room, second-floor apartment is classically Milanese, with high ceilings and parquet flooring. It's a stylish canvas that's given Sophie the space to be experimental. 'I am never insecure when decorating,' she says. 'I trust my taste and follow my instincts.' This confidence shows – Sophie has created an elegant space that packs a visual punch. 'The colours are exaggerated because we want to impress,' she says. 'But I always like to be daring.'

A large part of Sophie's motivation for establishing PalermoUno was to create a community as well as a place to display the work of designers she likes. The plan is to rearrange the gallery twice a year, with a special showcase for the annual design pilgrimage, the Salone del Mobile. 'It's about putting together many different creatives – some known and some unknown, but all very talented,' she says. It's a very personal project, but one that, luckily, has a wider appeal. 'I noticed I had an eye for choosing objects and I love the idea that other people appreciate my selection.' palermouno.it

Entrance hall Paints used throughout the apartment are all by Ressource – this shade is 'Della Robbia Aubergine'. The table is a vintage piece, as are the statement mirrors. The rug is from Ilo Rugs and the light fittings are the 'Apollo' by Pholc. The decorative objects on the table include items by Simona Cardinetti **Stockist details on p194 ►**



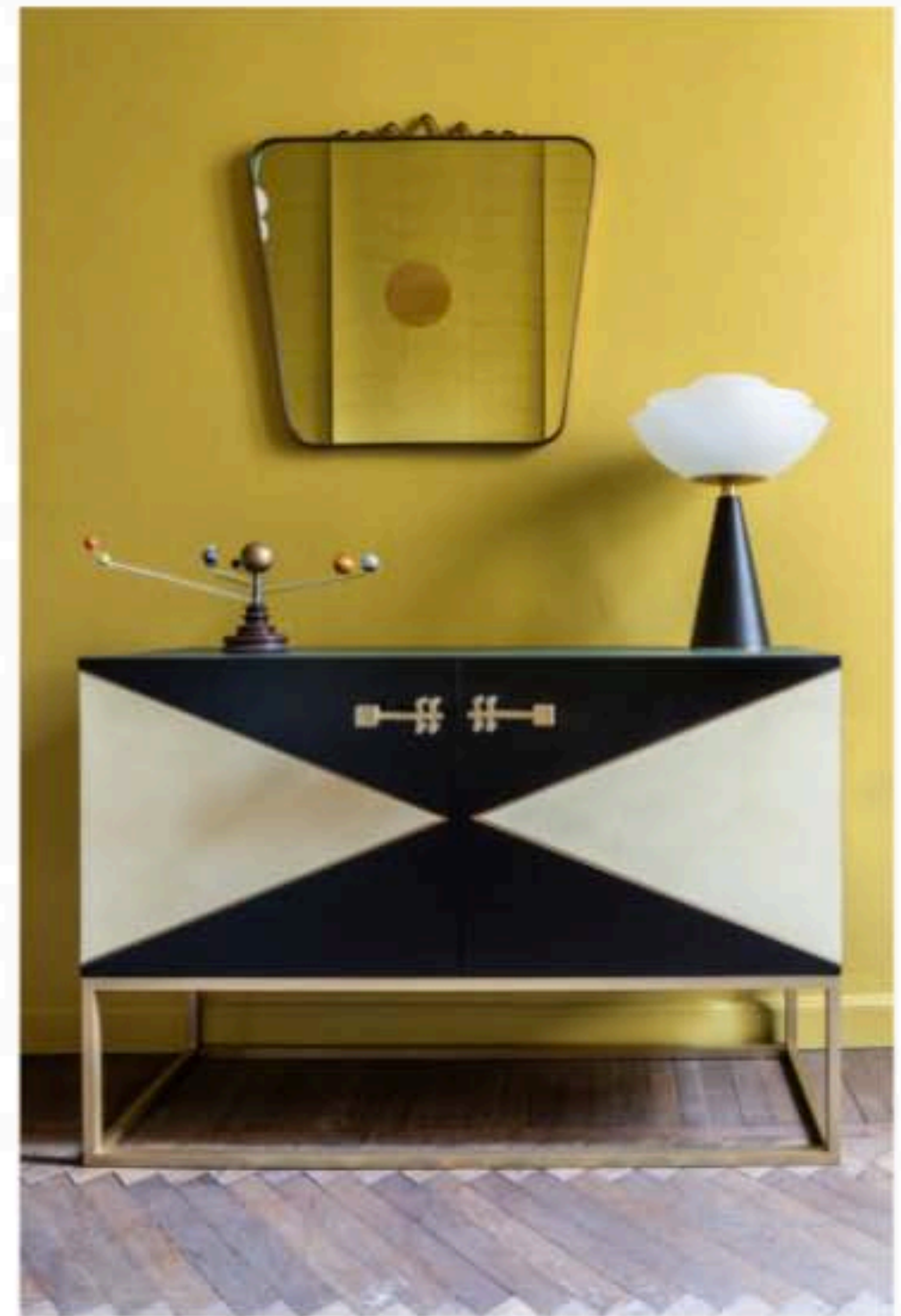
**'WHEN DECORATING, I TRUST MY TASTES
AND FOLLOW MY INSTINCTS'**

Kitchen 'Sebastian' paint by Bessource covers the walls and cabinets. The table is vintage, as is the Pier Luigi Colli chair and the 1930s mirrors on the wall. The light fittings are by Tala, while the ceramics and pieces of glassware are all from PalermoUno. **Dining room** The walls are painted 'Bleu Nuage' and the ceiling 'Thé de Chine', both by Bessource. Sophie designed the table in collaboration with G. Lab Milano, while she sourced the rug in Morocco for PalermoUno. The chairs and cabinet are vintage. The light fitting is by Bomma. Glassware includes pieces by Pffernome and Natalia Chado. **Stockist details on p194 >**





Living room The walls are painted in "Naltée" by Ressource. The sofa is vintage, decorated with cushions by Kirby Design, and the chair is by Mario Milana. The marble side tables are from Marsotto Edizioni, while the "Ventus" pendant lights are by Framu, and the rug from Ilo Bugs. Artworks by Victor Cadene hang on the wall
Stockist details on p194 >



'YOU MAKE BETTER CHOICES IF YOU KNOW YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR MIND'

Yellow room The paint colour on the walls is 'Jaune Raisin' by Ressource. The screen (opposite) and sideboard (above) are both by Decorum. The marble table is from Marsotto Edizioni and the chairs are by Mario Milana. The pendant light is the 'Gamma' by Serena Confalonieri for Mason Editions, while the 'Boegis' brass candelabra on the table is by Carla Bax - try Bonaden. **Stockist details on p194 >**



**PALERMOUNO'S OWNER, SOPHIE, HAS AN
AVERSION TO SAFE, EXPECTED COLOURS**

Bedroom Walls are painted in 'Feuillage' by Ressource. The curtain is a Kirkby Design fabric and the bedding is from Harmony Textile. The aluminium 'Rivet' bedside table is by Frama, while the lamp on the vintage chest of drawers (above) is the 'Lotus' by Serena Confalonieri for Mason Editions. **Stockist details on p194**

