

TREASURE TROVE

PHOTOGRAPHY Helenio Barbetta/Living Inside

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An apartment in Vicenza owned by a young creative couple acts as their personal cabinet of curiosities



DINING ROOM

'Creating the *délabré* [dilapidated] wall effect took almost a month of work with a sponge and water, but we are super proud of it,' says Nicola.

1950s rattan armchair by Lio Carminati and Gio Ponti for Casa e Giardino. *Coca-Cola and Mentos* artwork by Bruno Fantelli, Cellar Contemporary

DINING ROOM

The couple's dream of a green marble table became a reality after the discovery of a striking marble slab.

Custom **table**, Giacomo Totti, POL Polloniatto, 1950s **candlesticks**, Aldo Tura for Macabo, 1950s **pendant**, Stilnovo, 1950s Chiavari **chairs**, Fratelli Levaggi, 1950s **sideboard**, Carlo De Carli for Galleria Mobili D'Arte Cantù. *Quando il lupo si accorse che...* **artwork** by Bruno Fantelli, Cellar Contemporary. Floral **artwork** by Donald Baechler. **Ro lamp** by Studio BBPR for Artemide



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THE OWNERS

Nicola Tamlozzo, who is a musician, and his partner, Arianna Bartolomeo, who works in communications. They have also paired up to launch Studio TIBI, a creative consultancy studio.

THE PROPERTY

A single-storey apartment on the second floor of an early-20th-century building in Vicenza, Italy. There is one bedroom, a bathroom, a living room, a dining room, a study and a kitchen, all of which lead off a generous entrance hall.



this house is our very own cabinet of curiosities,' say Nicola and Arianna, the owners of this striking Italian apartment. 'We live surrounded by elements that inspire and stimulate us: colours, objects and wonders found during travels or browsing in vintage markets. We have played on the similarities and contrasts between furniture from the 1960s and 1970s and modern works of art by local artists. Each object tells a story.'

On the hunt for a period property, they found their 'place to be' just outside the city walls of Vicenza. Many of the apartment's original features had luckily remained intact, requiring only a delicate restyling to return them to their original glory. In addition to this was the good fortune of the early-20th-century apartment having a great layout. 'The house faces both east, where you'll find the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom, and west, where the living room, dining room and study are situated. It is wonderfully bright, thanks to the numerous windows, two of which have balconies.' While interested in interiors, Nicola is a musician by profession and Arianna works in communications, so they turned to their friend, interior designer Giacomo Totti, for help in making the apartment their own. Giacomo is known for his love for the past and the way he mixes hits of mid-century-modern furniture with custom-made pieces, as well as his savvy use of colour. 'As well as our friendship, we share similar tastes and interests,' explain the couple. 'Everything he proposed reflected our tastes and our aesthetics. Just like him, we are crazy for original Italian designs from the 1960s and 1970s by iconic names such as Ponti, Castiglioni, Munari and Bellini.'

The colour choices were made to complement these furniture icons, although in the dining room, how the beautiful colour scheme came about was a happy accident. 'By chance we discovered that under the butter-coloured plaster were layers of overlapping colours going back many years - including the 1950s sky blue that we wanted to bring back to life.' The new finish now resembles a rather dreamy trompe l'oeil sky scene. And while on first glance these kinds of details give the apartment its slightly boho-leaning vibes, when you look closely you see that it is actually a tightly edited combination of design-gallery-quality pieces. Living in a home they find so inspiring prompted the couple to take the leap to launch Studio TIBI - their creative consultancy project. 'We truly love our home because we never feel bored in it,' say the couple. Their cabinet of curiosities has worked its magic.

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giacomototti.com, @studio_tibi



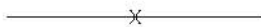
LIVING ROOM

'We wanted Mario Bellini's Camaleonda sofa so it dictated the colours of the room' says Nicola.

1920s Nichols **rug**, Pashà Vicenza. 1970s Kyoto **coffee table** by Gianfranco Frattini, Knoll. Wooden **busts**, Luca Mommarelli. *Acqua Che Vuoi Diventare* **artwork** by Denis Riva, Cellar Contemporary. 1940s **side table**, Paolo Buffa. 1950s **lamp** by Stilnovo. 1970s Kaori **lamps** (above) by Kazuhide Takahama for Sirrah. Elettra **chair** by Studio BBPR, Arflex. **Tapestry**, Lucia Veronesi. **Bookcase**, Giacomo Totti



WE DECORATED OUR APARTMENT IN A WAY THAT
WOULD STIMULATE US AND INSPIRE CREATIVITY



KITCHEN

'The kitchen block made with a Carrara marble top and round brass sinks belonged to my family. After a long colour study, we decided to paint it blue and then matched it with an ancient smoky pink for the walls,' says Nicola.

The **kitchen unit** is vintage; for similar, try Lasso. 1950s pear wood and brass **table**, ISA Bergamo. 1950s curved plywood and yellow Formica **chairs** by Gastone Rinaldi, Rima. Viscontea **pendant lamp** by Achille and Pier Giacomo



HALLWAY

'The apartment was built in 1910 and our beautiful entrance hall features a marble palladiana floor,' says Nicola.

1920s Chinese **sideboard**; for similar, try Selling Antiques. 1960s Murano glass **vase**, Barovier&Toso. Vintage wicker **chair**; for similar, try Vinterior. 1960s Lanzicheneco suspension **lamp** by Gianemilio Piero and Anna Monti, FontanaArte

BATHROOM

'This is the most restored room,' says Nicola. 'Originally there was a tub, but we wanted a big shower so we decided to overturn the place by adding a black marble shower slab surrounded by white metropolitan tiles and a Liberty-style Tuscan basin with brass taps.'

Similar bathroom fittings, Aston Matthews. Stone bust of Giuseppe Verdi, flea-market find



BEDROOM

'We wanted a colour that changes throughout the day,' says Nicola. 'We found this earthy shade that changes with the light: pink in the morning and hazelnut cream in the evening.'

Vintage rattan and bamboo **headboard**, for similar, try Vinterior. Oil **paintings**, from the *Dans la Rue* series by POL Polloniatto, 1960s. Falkland **pendant lamp** by Bruno Munari for Danese. Coconut rope **rug** and **armchair**, Federico Munari

