

MORE INSPIRATIONAL HOMES THAN ANY OTHER MAGAZINE

25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

COLOUR CRUSH

**FRESH LOOKS
FOR 2022**
Uplifting,
achievable
schemes

ART & SOUL
A home
created for
paintings
and posters

**INSPIRED BY
A BOUTIQUE
HOTEL**
Bringing
energy to a
run-down
house

NEW YEAR DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Plan your dream spaces — extensions, kitchens,
bedrooms and bathrooms



FUTURE
FEBRUARY 2022



BREAKFAST ROOM

The relaxed seating area includes an unusual coffee table made from wooden cigar boxes and wine crates. Roubel sofa, £4,570, Pinch. Walls in Lavender lime paint, €30 for 1ltr, Bauwerk

KITCHEN

New oak cabinetry incorporates practicalities such as an island unit and an iron rack for the batterie de cuisine. For similar cabinetry, try Naked Kitchens. Try the Toledo swivel bar stool, £79, Cult

SITTING ROOM

Artwork pops against the yellow walls. Penguin and Ostrich paintings, Miguel Macaya. Walls in Peter's Ochre matt emulsion, £36.81 for 1ltr, Francesca's Paints



Planning a house renovation from afar can be fraught with difficulties but when Julia Seppänen was organising her family's move from South Africa to the UK in 2020, she had the advantage of already knowing their future home well. 'The house had belonged to my parents, who had downscaled to a smaller property three years previously,' she recounts, adding, 'They had moved here when I was 11, and my son was 11 when we returned, so it somehow felt like it was meant to be.'

Fortunately, Julia had met with interior designer Ana Engelhorn on a visit to the UK just before the world went into

lockdown. 'The original plan had been that I would travel back to England so that we could work on the house together but of course, the pandemic changed all of that and I had to hand over the reins to Ana,' she says. She continues, 'From the outset I sensed that we were very much on the same page. I loved the fact that she was prepared to push the envelope with colour as I'd always wanted to use it in my previous homes but I had never quite known how to.'

Julia, who is half Spanish and half German, has a creative eye and over the years she and her Finnish husband have amassed a collection of striking pieces, from

art and vintage furniture to one-off designs made by artisans they have met on their travels. 'Ana had the tough job of working out where all these pieces would fit,' laughs Julia, who emailed the designer an itinerary of everything they owned, which includes a chandelier featuring lights resembling shoe lasts and a pair of huge carved clouds that came from an old theatre set.

Ana also had the job of fixing a late Victorian house that hadn't been properly renovated for many years. 'When I brought in the contractor, we realised that a lot of the plumbing and electricals needed updating,' explains Ana, who opted to save the parquet