

Stanford
armchair from
Poltrona Frau.
Apollo table
lamp by Oluce.
Baba side table
by Poliform.

OPPOSITE
Eames lounge
chair and
ottoman. Coffee
table by Isamu
Noguchi from
Vitra. Sofa by
Vitra. Sofa
by Edra.



THE ART OF JUXTAPOSITION

Young architect Carmine Abate shares with Karine Monie the fascinating tale behind the design of this chic Italian home that is filled with 1970s influences.





The Italian entrepreneur who lives here with his Cuban wife and their son gave carte blanche to Carmine Abate for the renovation of the 200sqm interior spaces and 300sqm outdoor areas.

"I trusted Carmine blindly," says Luigi, the homeowner, who had previously worked with the architect for the transformation of the historic headquarters of his business and offices in Naples, Italy. Located in that same city, the apartment needed to be close to the airport as Luigi

spends about half of the week all over the country for work.

"Carmine and I both admire the charm of the 70s," confesses the homeowner. This aesthetic was the inspiration behind most of the decorative elements, including the furniture and materials. One specific feature particularly honors this approach: About 13 metres long, the corridor comprises a large wardrobe in pleated canaletto walnut on one side – which hides the laundry, shoe rack and bedroom doors – contrasting ►

ABOVE
Stanford armchair from Poltrona Frau. Pouf by Missoni.

RIGHT
Kitchen by TM Italia. Blue Bramante, cabinet by Cassina.

BOTTOM
Vic metal 649 stools by Sgabelli. Faucets by Gessi.



Capitol Complex
table and chairs
by Hommage à
Pierre Jeanneret
from Cassina.
Chandelier by
Fontana Arte.



with the other side made of panels decorated with herons on a gold background.

The corridor culminates to what is called the “agora” of the home – a circular antechamber that leads to the different rooms and is adorned with 16 sliding panels in solid oak, in addition to warm materials and bright colours, such as the Missoni fabrics and art by Riccardo Dalisi.

The open living space consists of three main areas that have different flooring, such as the black-and-white triangle motifs in marble for the living room, which hosts an Edra sofa with Blooming cushions, a Vitra coffee table, Viabizzuno lighting, Baxter bar cabinet, and Nobilis and Misha wallcoverings; wood for the dining area, where a Fontana Arte chandelier combines with a table, chairs and sideboard by Cassina; and stone for the TM Italia kitchen furnished with Pedrali stools.

The curtains, by Dedar, filter the natural light from outside, where tropical plants from Brazil, Australia and the Mediterranean create the perfect backdrop for the swimming pool.

Designed as a dreamlike environment, the bedroom is an invitation to an imaginary exotic journey with its wallpaper by Misha, which was framed to give the feeling of an artwork. In the bathroom, the magic continues with a decor that evokes majestic mountains and rocky terrain.

In this apartment, Carmine Abate succeeded in visually connecting inside and outside, finding the perfect balance for a chic yet inviting home.

“The resulting design is so eclectic, I liked it immediately,” says the homeowner. ■



TROPICAL PLANTS FROM BRAZIL, AUSTRALIA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN CREATE THE PERFECT BACKDROP FOR THE SWIMMING POOL.

ABOVE
Poufs by Missoni. Zellige tiles from Galleria Elena.

OPPOSITE, ABOVE
Twelve a.m. bed and bench by Molteni&C. Mad chair by Poliform. Sliding panels by Glas Italia.

OPPOSITE, BELOW LEFT
Sikkens paint. Wallpaper by Misha.

OPPOSITE, BELOW RIGHT
Bathtub in Cristalmoody by Antonio Lupi. Lighting fixtures by Tom Dixon.