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25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

MAGIC & SPARKLE

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THE SEASON**

**Cosy living spaces
and dining room
inspiration**

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the outside in at
this time of year'**

FLORIST WILLOW CROSSLEY

A CHRISTMAS TO REMEMBER

Delightful houses full of festive decorating ideas



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY

Apartment built in the 1950s and remodelled in 2014 on the fifth floor of a Estado Novo building

LOCATION Lisbon, Portugal

ROOMS Sitting/dining area, kitchen, home office, library/music room/guest room, two bedrooms, two bathrooms

RENTED Since 2018

PREVIOUS PROPERTY

'I lived in a two-bedroom flat also in Lisbon,' says Joanna.

Personal STATEMENT

The apartment artist, architect and designer
Joana Astolfi calls home reflects her life and artistry

FEATURE KARINE MONIÉ | **PHOTOGRAPHY** FRANCISCO NOGUEIRA





Renting a place doesn't mean that the space can't be personal — and the home of creative mind Joana Astolfi is proof of that. Located a five-minute walk from Avenida da Liberdade (the 'Champs-Élysées of Lisbon'), the 130-square-metre apartment was transformed by Joana to fit the lifestyle of an artist and her daughter Duna (along with their dog Lola). Among the four bedrooms, one was transformed into a home office and another into a library and music room with a daybed for occasional overnight guests.

Particularly keen on the many windows that flood every room with natural light, Joana created several nooks — including in the main living area which is mostly furnished with vintage Scandinavian furniture. 'If I had refurbished this apartment, I would have kept the layout more open and reduced the number of rooms,' says Joana.

Despite being unable to change the layout, Joana found a way to reflect her creative vision and personality through other aspects, such as the dusty green and weathered blue on the walls. 'There are rich pigments with roots in earthy neutrals for the main living space and main bedroom, and in the bathrooms and the office, there are what I call "in-between" tones for the way they respond organically to the shifting light throughout the

LIVING AREA

A modern fire has become the focal point with a beautiful gallery of art above.

Vintage leather chair and stool, €900, Vintage Department. Bioethanol fireplace, €700, Clearfire. Try City Cows for a cowhide rug, from £189. Find a mid-century side table with tripod legs, from £250, Vinterior

LIBRARY/MUSIC ROOM/GUEST ROOM

The compact table and chairs create another space that can be used for work or socialising.

1970s Scandinavian table, €500, Vintage Department. The ceiling lamp is vintage Danish; the Dyberg Larsen DL45 hanging lamp, £162.90, Lights.co.uk, is a good alternative

KITCHEN

Pale wood shelves and worktops in traditional Portuguese Lioz stone keep things light and bright in this compact space.

Walls and cupboards in Worsted estate eggshell, £67 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Terrazzo pendant lamp, €50; metal table lamp, €70, both Area Store



day,' she explains. The carpets, curtains and upholstery feature tones from sand to straw, and stone to ash, while lush plants bring even more freshness to all the spaces.

Joana has brought items back with her from each place she has travelled to. She has sourced from flea markets, street fairs and artisan workshops. These collections have now found a place in her home. 'I like an eclectic mix of modern pieces with second-hand and rustic handmade objects,' she says. 'Ceramic and wooden pieces and vintage toys and furniture populate my home. In my work, my focus is on the history and memory of each place. I see objects and spaces as experiences, caught in time, but also capable of transcending and bridging time.'

Among her treasures are also gifts from friends and items that Joana has discovered during some of her epic adventures. 'Here, they become like touch-relics of beloved people and favourite places, and all of those technicolour memories infuse the space with the energy of a life lived boldly and full of love,' she notes.

In this apartment, Joana feels truly herself and at peace. But she has a bigger dream — where she buys a three- or four-storey building in Lisbon and refurbishes it with her studio and furniture showroom on the ground floor, a few flats to sell in the middle and her house on the top level. 'One day, I'll do it,' she says with confidence. 'Home is an extension of me — and so is my work.' 🐼



OFFICE

A potted plant brings vibrancy to this work area.

Desk chair, €180, Area Shop. The Nelis plant basket in Natural, £12.99, Hortology, would also work well here

DUNA'S BEDROOM

'With its bold art and modular furniture, this is a playful and dynamic space,' says Joana.

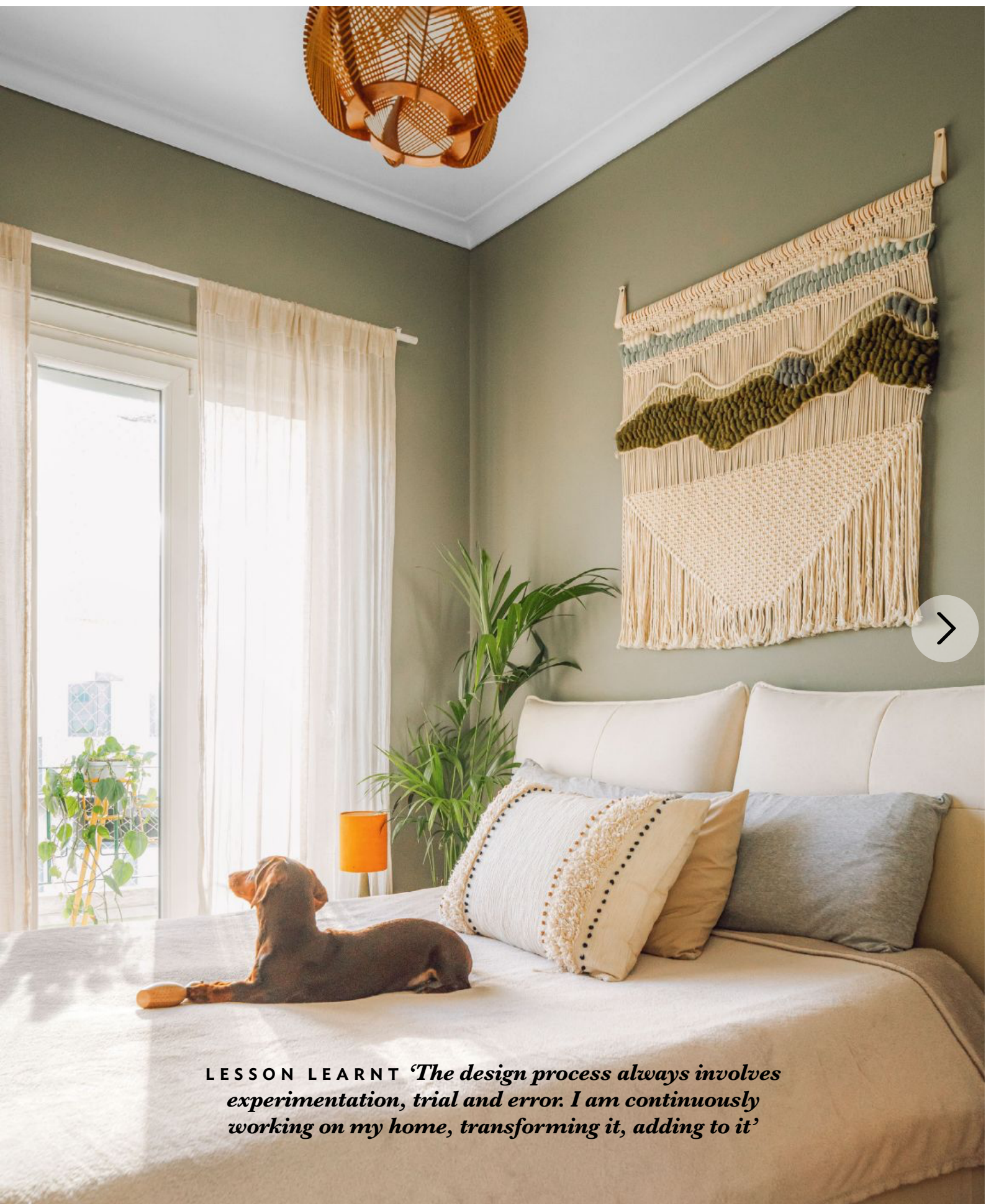
Walls in Vert De Terre estate emulsion, £49.95 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Wall composition with coloured pencils, €4,763, Joana Astolfi. JWDA bedside table lamp, €200, Menu. Danish 1950s armchair, €350, Cantinho do Vintage

MAIN BEDROOM

'This space, which opens onto the terrace, features a relaxed atmosphere and great natural light,' says Joana.

Macramé wall hanging, €500, Vasco Águas aka O Barbudo Aborrecido. Ikea's Teresia sheer curtains, £7, would suit this space





LESSON LEARNT *'The design process always involves experimentation, trial and error. I am continuously working on my home, transforming it, adding to it'*