

# IRISH HOMES

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## BEAUTIFUL KITCHENS

JANUARY SALES PREVIEW

**WILLIAM YEOWARD'S**  
PERFECT  
CHRISTMAS  
TABLE



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- ★ A CLEVER RENOVATION IN **TEMPLEOGUE**
- ★ **FESTIVE HOME WITH A MEXICAN TWIST**
- ★ OPEN PLAN BACHELOR PAD
- ★ AT HOME WITH **HALEY CURRAN**

# THE BOYS' ROOM



A DYNAMIC DUO OF ARCHITECTS HAVE MANAGED TO TRANSFORM THIS DILAPIDATED OLD FACTORY INTO A MODERN OPEN PLAN BACHELOR PAD SUITABLE FOR WORK, PLAY AND VERY RELAXED LIVING

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SURPRESSAGENCIA.COM

**Both pages** A pair of cowhide chairs frame the bedroom. The bedside tables are made from wooden crates painted white. The bookcase grid has the shape of a 60-cm-sided beehive. A spread metal hanging mezzanine frees up the floor area. Over the bed are photographs by Emiliano Descote.



**Both pages** The Turkish bed – located in an alcove – is covered with an eiderdown cover made of thread. The stool is made of raspberry corduroy. The wardrobe is made of wenge wood with its shelves on view. The ‘office’ area on the other side echoes this



Unbelievably, in just a month, architects Edgardo Minond and Silvina Descote succeeded in renovating part of an old chocolate factory dating from 1920, handing over to their client an 80 square metre loft, completely decorated and equipped, down to the towels in the bathroom and crockery in the kitchen. It is most unusual to come across someone who would delegate such a task to his architects; but in this case the client was a businessman in his late twenties, with neither the time nor the energy to get involved in the complications and

practicalities of building work, and who, above all, trusted wholeheartedly that his architects would know how to decode his tastes and needs. In only two meetings, they defined materials, furniture style, colour palette and even the tiniest details of lighting and bed linen, all framed within a budget which provided freedom to use good materials, and on which Edgardo and Silvina always managed to keep a firm hand.

Once it was all decided, the duo immediately embarked on the renovation, simultaneously having the bespoke furniture made. Firstly, they

had to modify the ground floor and the facade, keeping only the basic structure of paving stones, columns and beams. They had most of the walls and the concrete-finish ceiling painted white (the height of the walls reaches 3.94 metres) combined with some strategically placed touches of green in the toilet. The floors were covered in smoothed concrete mixed with a beige tinge, giving a smart contemporary finish.

Next, they worked on the sectors within the space. Unusually, the flat is entered through the dining room/









**Both pages** A beige armchair and two-seater sofa with thread and corduroy cushions lie on a black-dyed sisal carpet. The glass coffee table with chromium-plated legs was inspired by Mies Van der Rohe's Barcelona model; art books and a red glass flower vase bought in Brazil lie on top. A floor lamp with chromium-plated base is used to light the area. On the wall hangs a natural fibre weaving. The white painted wood desk, located on the side of the dining-room, is placed against a loose wall. The wall has an interior structure which remains unseen, so everything seems to be hovering over the floor. The chromium-plated chair is upholstered in red-raspberry leather.

kitchen, a licence allowed in lofts because they are free ground projects where public and private spaces tend to be interrelated, with the exception of the bathroom and the toilet. "A loft is not a conventional or standard flat, therefore it adheres to different rules. In this case, we have defined the living room, dining room, kitchen and study by means of the furniture." The bedroom is separated from the living-room by four iron panels, covered in a cotton fabric vest, that hang from a beam and that can slide and rotate in order to create a visual barrier which closes off the bedroom.

When it came to the decoration of the interior, Edgardo and Silvina designed specifically for the client in question rather than repeating previous successful formulae, a typical way they work in order to keep things interesting and ensure each job is custom-made. "We have arranged it little by little thinking of our client, visualising the relationship between the different rooms. Our idea was to work with a white box which would allow us to play with different shades and textures. We have chosen an earthy colour palette which generates visual tension in the room. The colours dance together – one follows the other and vice-versa. As we like to combine smooth with rough, we put thick plaster in the entrance to the toilet, and we





chose wenge, a dark wood, for the wardrobe, the kitchen and the toilet cabinet," Silvina explains. "One of the most original decisions was placing a bookcase, which reaches a height of 3.5 metres; in the bedroom with a mezzanine built with iron mail. The bookcase is a transgression: thematically it corresponds more with a living-room than a bedroom, but it is part of our generation. Apart from being functional, it is scenic, since it has almost the height of the ceiling, with the intention of covering the whole wall with books and objects and leaving the fissure where the bed is clear."

The atmosphere is marked by a contemporary spirit, mixing Italian designed furniture and equipment with other old-fashioned pieces and a few ethnic touches. "We did not want a static atmosphere, so we have chosen furniture that can be moved around," she explains.

The kitchen/dining room is also a very attractive space, furnished to the same very high standard as the rest of the house, with wenge units, steel fittings and textured glass, while the table has an anodized aluminium base and is surrounded by white leather chairs.

Although time was of the essence with this project, everything flowed together remarkably harmoniously. The client was doubly happy: on the one hand, because he got the flat in record time; and on the other, because his brand-new loft has been made exactly as he had dreamt it the moment he hired the architects. □

**Both pages** The loft is entered through the dining room cum kitchen. The steel fridge and granite worktop were chosen on purpose so as not to add another colour. The cupboard, made of aluminium and wood, stores white china crockery and glassware. A rectangular papyrus shade provides a warm, unfocused light.





