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PLAYFUL



Victorian and ultra-modern architecture collide with colourful results in this joyful Dublin home

Words **CLARE SARTIN** Photography **BARBARA CORSICO/LIVING INSIDE**

PERSPECTIVE

Living room Sebastian, the homeowners' French Bulldog, sits on a rug by Linie Design (available at Heal's), beside a 'Podia' coffee table from Ferm Living. With a lick of pink paint and the addition of Mutina tiles, the fireplace now suits this vibrant space, which also features a 'Yiban Yiban' chair by Maison Dada and a 'Carousel' pendant light by Utu, available at Do Shop. The artwork is *The Lonely Surfer* by Danish photographer Nicky Bonne and the fish-shaped glass bottles are from Serax ►





STAND ON ITS DOORSTEP

and this home, in a well-heeled district of Dublin, looks like any other Victorian property. However, this one disguises a surprise: an angular, uncompromisingly contemporary extension. It's an addition that could not form a starker contrast to the higgledy-piggledy charm of the home's more traditional rooms.

John Monahan, a partner at architecture firm Noji, designed the stylish anomaly for himself, but never ended up living here. Instead, the house was sold to a young professional couple. Their challenge was to tie its contrasting spaces together without diluting any of their charm. For that, they turned to Róisín Lafferty from interior design firm KLD (Kingston Lafferty Design).

'We wanted to create a consistent language,' says Róisín, explaining how the geometric lines of the modern kitchen's roof can be seen mirrored in the details of the joinery in every room. It's what she refers to as the 'curious playfulness' of the colour palette, however, that really unites this home. Rooms in the original parts of the house are deliberately dark and moody, offsetting the brightness of the extension. Many of the paints were created by KLD for Irish brand Fleetwood, and all tell a story. The mustard in the hallway is an ode to one of her favourite cocktails, the Old Fashioned, while 'Bofin Fern', the deep green in the playroom, is named for Inishbofin Island, Róisín's best-loved place in Ireland. 'Colour, for me, is an emotive thing,' she adds. 'The tones here are cocooning. Although they are loud, there's a calmness to them.'

Suiting the Irish-themed palette, the owners' art collection features an array of local painters and printmakers, including Chloe Early and Jill Deering. The furniture, meanwhile, focuses on curvaceous shapes which act to soften the sharp motifs used on the cabinetry. 'We deliberately chose organic forms that have an almost toy-like quality,' adds Róisín. 'It's a light-hearted approach that reflects the owners' personalities.'

Since work finished on the house, the couple have welcomed a baby daughter into their life. Now, the cheerful reworking of this home will come into its own and, thanks to Róisín, these new parents can enjoy a supersized bedroom with an en suite. Created by knocking two bedrooms together, this grand grown-up space is sure to be a real retreat in years to come. 'I always talk about the importance of home on everyone's lives. It can have such a positive impact,' says Róisín. 'When you work with people to create a space that makes them feel genuinely happy... that's pretty great.' kingstonlaffertydesign.com

Playroom A wall of bespoke built-in storage painted in 'Bofin Fern' from KLD's 'Vogue' range for Fleetwood, provides ample space for toys and a vast vinyl collection. Its angular decoration is mirrored by the Mutina tiles set into the fireplace. The artworks are by Irish artists Chloe Early and Jill Deering ►



Hallway A peach smoked-glass mirror clads one wall, complementing the 'Mahogany Rose' paint by Fleetwood. The *Stay Glad* print is by One Strong Arm, available from Hen's Teeth store. Beside it is *Doll 3* by American artist Jordan Nickel, who goes by the name POSE. Reclaimed theatre seating adds extra drama, with *Commission Painting* by Susan Loughnane above, and to finish, a wall lamp from Ponz Home Design ►

'I ALWAYS TALK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF HOME ON EVERYONE'S LIVES. IT CAN HAVE SUCH A POSITIVE IMPACT'



Kitchen Designed by architecture firm Noji, this birch plywood-clad extension is a bold departure from the Victorian style of the rest of the home. Interior design firm KLD added the fluted-glass wall cabinets and the splashback, which features 'Rombini' tiles by Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec for Mutina. The vase and jug on the counter are from Dublin-based shop Article ▶



En suite Hexagonal tiles in two different sizes from Roca are paired with a sleek Alape sink. For a similar tap try Soak. The pendant lights reflected in the mirror are from Atelier Areti
Nursery The 'Sleepi' extendable cot by Stokke is placed in a peaceful nook, with a 'Singapore' pendant light by Market Set, available at Fleux, hanging above. The dreamy cloud-like forms are also lights – for similar, try Circu ▶





Bathroom The pale pink tiles that cover the wall and floor in this space are by Rocca Stone and the washstand is by Alape **Bedroom** A sculptural pendant light by Ponz Home Design and a pair of 'Vetro' wall lights (one seen) from Made frame the bed. For similar linen bedding try H&M Home **See Stockists page for details** 

