

FESTIVE LIGHTING \* DECORATIVE FINISHING TOUCHES \* LAVISH WREATHS

# SNUG "The panelling demanded a rich palette so we have used terracotta, powder green and a burst of gold, says interior designer Roselind Wilson. The coral sofa can be turned into three chairs by undoing the butterfly bolts that hold them towather. them together. Norway Spruce Christmas tree, £569, Balsam Hill balsamhill.co.uk. Garland, foliage arrangement and wreath, all Bramble & Moss, brambleandmoss.co.uk. Sofa in Knightsbridge in Coral, £55m. GP&J Baker, gpjbaker.com. MOCK-TUDOR HOUSE Having found their dream home, the owners gave its interior the distinctive style it deserved WORDS ANDRÉE FRIEZE PHOTOGRAPHS MEL YATES

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A bespoke open shelving unit and textured plain fabrics rather than patterned ensure the beautiful patina of the wood panelling is the main feature in this room (left). Brass wall lights recoated, £1,728 a pair, Phillips & Wood, phillipsandwood.co.uk. Lampshades in Le Crin Gala in Rubis/Or, £396m, Abbott & Boyd, abbottandboyd.co.uk.

# LIBRARY

SNUG

LIBRARY
The house's unique character is fully evident along this corridor (right), with the original brick and timber exterior wall of the main house, complete with two small leaded windows on the left, still in situ. The original exterior wall of the now conjoined cottage is now conjoined cottage is behind the bookshelves on the right, which were designed by Roselind.

#### **DINING AREA**

Katia wanted a piece of furniture rather than a painting to fill the wall space to the right of the doorway into the snug (below). It took Roselind a while to source the tallboy as she was determined to find something that matched the wood of the table and chairs. wood of the table and chairs.

Tallboy, £942, Church Street

Antiques, churchstreetantiques, net. Candleshelf light with faux candles and spots,

£5,460, Phillips & Wood, phillipsandwood.co.uk.









# KITCHEN

The olive wood door fronts of the original kitchen (above) were darkened, in keeping with the mid-century modern and antique wood furniture elsewhere in this space.

# KATIA'S DESK

Situated at one end of the corridor that connects the house with the cottage, Katia's desk (left) is the nerve-centre of the Wolf household. To make the space fit for purpose, Roselind installed a new desk and sliding door.

Chair in Perluna 759/13, £119m, Fifi de Lyon, fifidelyon.com.

# LIVING AREA

Katia likes to sit in the window seat overlooking the garden (above right) while she sews. She sourced the floor lamp to give this part of the open-plan living space a contemporary twist.

Serge Mouille three-arm floor light, around £5,048, Uber-Modern, uber-modern. com. Curtains in Baytown in Red Earth, £66m, Robert Allen, robertallen design.co.uk.

Armchair, £1,320, Gonnermann, gonnermann.co.uk.

# PHILIPP'S STUDY

Philipp wanted a room he can hide away in,' Roselind says of the study (right) she designed for him. 'His natural instinct was to paint it white, but he trusted me when I said it would be much better with a dark colour. The daybed is one of my own designs, and he reads the paper in the sunshine there.' Daybed in Flannel Mist (fabric now discontinued), £137m, J Robert Scott, jrobertscott.com.

or many, the perfect home is nothing but a pipe dream. However, Katia and Philipp Wolf's wishes came true when they were offered the opportunity to own a property they had coveted for some time. Situated not far from where they lived in south-west London, the 1920s mock-Tudor house was well known in the area for its distinctive architecture, history and occasional eccentric owner. The building's provenance is obscure, with tales of original Tudor panelling transported from a property in Sussex, and other claims that the house was a model that had been relocated from the 1926 Ideal Home exhibition.

Whatever the property's heritage, those fortunate enough to own it have nurtured it, maintaining its features and enhancing them with sympathetic additions. As its current incumbents, Katia and Philipp vowed to maintain this legacy as they set about making it suitable for their family. Katia and her interior designer, Roselind Wilson, tell us more.

# How did you approach the redecoration?

**KW** It was such a special house, and a huge project, but while I had a few ideas, I did not have the knowledge or the contacts to action them. I started looking around for an interior designer and found Roselind Wilson. During the search, it had been suggested that we could always 'Farrow & Ball the panelling', but imagine covering up that patina. Ros appreciated the house immediately; she is sympathetic, patient and a good listener.

# Was there a particular look you wanted to achieve?

**KW** I like Scandinavian style, but ultimately the house dictated what we did. The property is formed of two parts; in the 1980s, a previous owner had built a separate cottage next door to the main house, which a later







owner connected, so that from the outside the house appears to be one. In the older rooms, we fitted Roman blinds to maximise the natural light without covering up any of the panelling. In the newer part of the house, the rooms needed the decorative interest that curtains provide.

**RW** Katia and Philipp wanted a relaxed, functional house with schemes to complement the architecture. They have similar tastes, but Katia likes travelling and rummaging around vintage fairs, while Philipp takes inspiration from hotels with eclectic style and likes a punch of colour. My aim was to create a uniform look that represents their personalities.

# Can you tell us about the paintings in the house?

**KW** They are all by my husband's uncle, a well-known Austrian painter, and all have personal meaning. The big green one in the Sunday Room is called *Black Water* and depicts sunlight playing on an overgrown tributary of a small river in the countryside where the artist grew up.

**RW** Before we started any design work, Philipp showed me all the artworks and explained their importance. He was hesitant when I suggested hanging this picture in the Sunday Room, but now he agrees that the dark panelling is the ideal backdrop for the bold colours.

# The redesign seems to suit the house very well. Are you happy, too?

KW We wanted to go the extra mile to make the house work for us as a family, as well as give it the finish it deserved. In the winter months, we bring out our samovar to have tea in the Sunday Room; often, that will stretch into dinner; time just disappears. I am looking forward to lunch on Christmas Day this year, carving the turkey at the sideboard and being lovely and cosy inside, while surrounded by nature. We could not be luckier.

#### SUNDAY ROOM

The name of this room (above left) came about when the Wolfs explained how they wanted a space devoted to weekend breakfasts and Sunday lunches. The sideboard (left) was designed by Roselind and features a marble top and a pull-out ledge to serve drinks from. Dining chair slip covers in Sackville in Dust, £63m, GP&J Baker, gpjbaker.com, Dark stained walnut bench, £6,329, Christopher Clark Workshops, christopherclark.co.uk.

# PLAYROOM

'Doing this space was a delight,' says Roselind of the children's playroom (above), situated within the cottage part of the house. 'I'm naturally drawn to texture and tweed in particular. The fabric I chose for the blind is like a painting; I used neutral tones alongside it so as not to detract from its lovely pattern and colours.' Roman blind in Verdure in Lead Blue, £63m, Zoffany, zoffany.uk.com. Ottoman in Santa Fe in Azul Marino/Gris, £92m, Gaston Y Daniela at Abbott & Boyd, abbottandboyd.

#### **ELIAS'S BEDROOM**

Katia was very clear that the desk (right) should be in the window, with the study area framed by storage. The folding daybed with footstool is designed so that Elias can sit and read in the bay window, and friends can use it for sleepovers.

Bespoke shelves, Julien Austin Giles, julienaustingiles.com.



