

# THE IDEAS FACTORY

*Combining luxury finishes and vintage pieces with a sense of fun and colour, this architect-designed loft in a former factory in Lyon is a home, showroom, guest house and entertaining space*

Words **TRISH LORENZ** Photography **JEAN-MARC WULLSCHLEGER/LIVING AGENCY** Production **TINA HOM**

**Living area** A stove by Focus hangs in the centre of the room, which is filled with contemporary furniture. The sofa is by Ditre Italia and the coffee table is the 'Hexa' by Sculptures Jeux. Suspended in the central courtyard is a vintage 1970s ski-lift gondola **Stockist details on p173** ►





**Kitchen** Designed by homeowner Anthony, the dining table extends to seat up to 24 people. The glass and beech pendant lights are vintage 1960s designs. A set of four Ikea bar stools surround the custom-made island  
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**'TO KEEP THE BUILDING'S HISTORY ALIVE, WE RECYCLED AS MANY OF ITS ORIGINAL FEATURES AS POSSIBLE'**



**P**hilippe Domas, an architect, and his partner, art director Anthony Comte (both pictured below), have managed a difficult feat: they've converted a 350-square-metre textiles factory into a stylish home that references the building's commercial past but at the same time conveys a sense of luxury and fun.

Situated just ten minutes from central Lyon, the property is located in a former industrial district and the couple relish its urban setting. 'We like this area for its diverse style and mixed population,' says Anthony. The renovation, which took nine months, was the duo's first joint project: Philippe drew the plans and managed the build, while Anthony took care of interior design. They moved in once the work was completed in May 2014.

'To keep the building's history alive, we recycled as many of its original features as possible,' says Philippe. 'We kept part of the structure and restored the glass ceiling and metal window frames. The idea was to keep in mind the property's industrial design and make the space a comfortable, harmonious place to live.'

Factory elements and luxurious touches, from the Italian sofa and large leather rug in the living area to the sculptural hanging fireplace, sit beside vintage pieces, such as the Czech desk and chair

in the study. 'We have no fixed style, but we like to combine looks from the 1940s and the '50s with modern designs and antiques, such as the 17th-century staircase, which came from a château in Bordeaux,' says Anthony.

On the ground floor, a spacious living area and kitchen open onto the courtyard, where a vintage ski-lift gondola, hanging from a steel beam, adds a touch of whimsy. Steel-framed glass windows and skylights flood the space with natural light, which is reflected by the glossy polished concrete floor and warmed by exposed brick walls and accents of bright blue and orange.

Upstairs are two bedrooms and bathrooms and on the third floor, accessed via a separate entrance, are three 35-square-metre fully-equipped miniature loft apartments that the couple rent out to guests for short-term stays.

For many people, objects are for life, but in this home everything is for sale. 'It can all be bought: from the bed linen to the crockery and the vintage furniture,' says Anthony. 'The idea is to constantly renew the interior.' Though he does concede that there are a few items that might be difficult to part with. 'Everything we buy is *coup de cœur*, because we really love it. So, I think we might say "no" to selling pieces like the gondola,' he says.

For their short-term guests, Anthony and Philippe host cooking workshops in their home and entertain regularly. The gondola is used as a DJ booth on party nights and the house also doubles as a studio and showroom for the couple's interior brand, Le Télécabine. 'We love our home because it allows us to live and work, meet people and enjoy life – all within a space that reflects our vibe, colours and style,' says Anthony. [letelecabine.com](http://letelecabine.com) ►

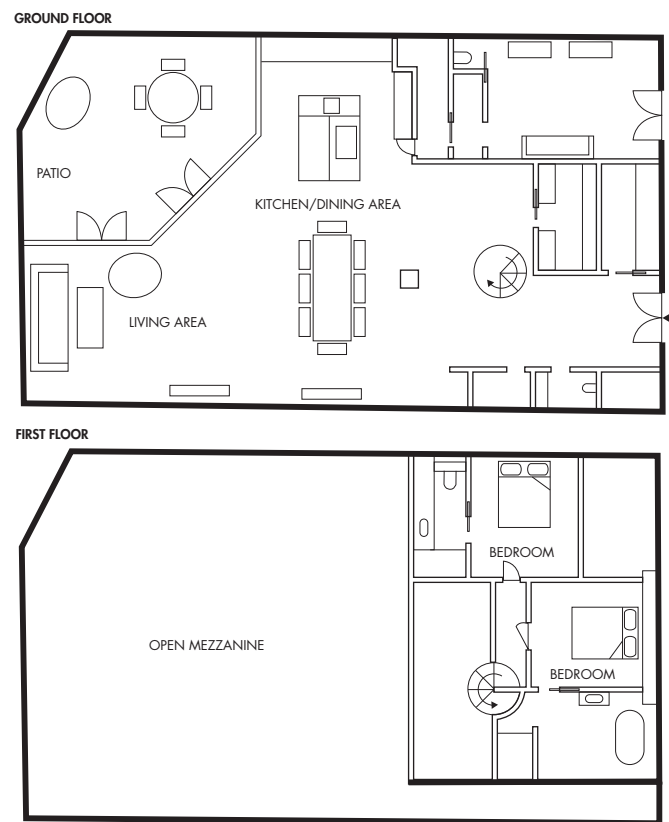






**Study** The wall storage, accessible by a ladder, makes use of the room's high ceilings. The staircase is a 17th-century French antique, while the wall lamps, desk and chairs are all mid-century vintage pieces sourced from the Czech Republic ►





**Bathroom** A vintage wooden shelving unit from the Czech Republic and a salvaged hospital cabinet are teamed with a sleek tub by Hatria and green glass tiles from Bati Orient to create a soothing space with a Japanese feel  
**Guest bedroom** A blue colour scheme, tie-dye pillowcases by Baralinge and velvet cushions by Habitat all soften the industrial architecture  
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