

ABSOLUTELY

SEPTEMBER 2013
£3.95

NORTH BY NORTHWEST

AW13
**TREND
REPORT**

**DARK
NOTE
RISES**

LYN HARRIS TALKS
SEDUCTIVE SCENTS

LUSH
LODGINGS
INSIDE MATRUSHKA'S
TOP PROPERTY

NORDIC
BUT NICE
STYLE INSPIRATIONS
FROM SKANDIUM

Fresh
Faced

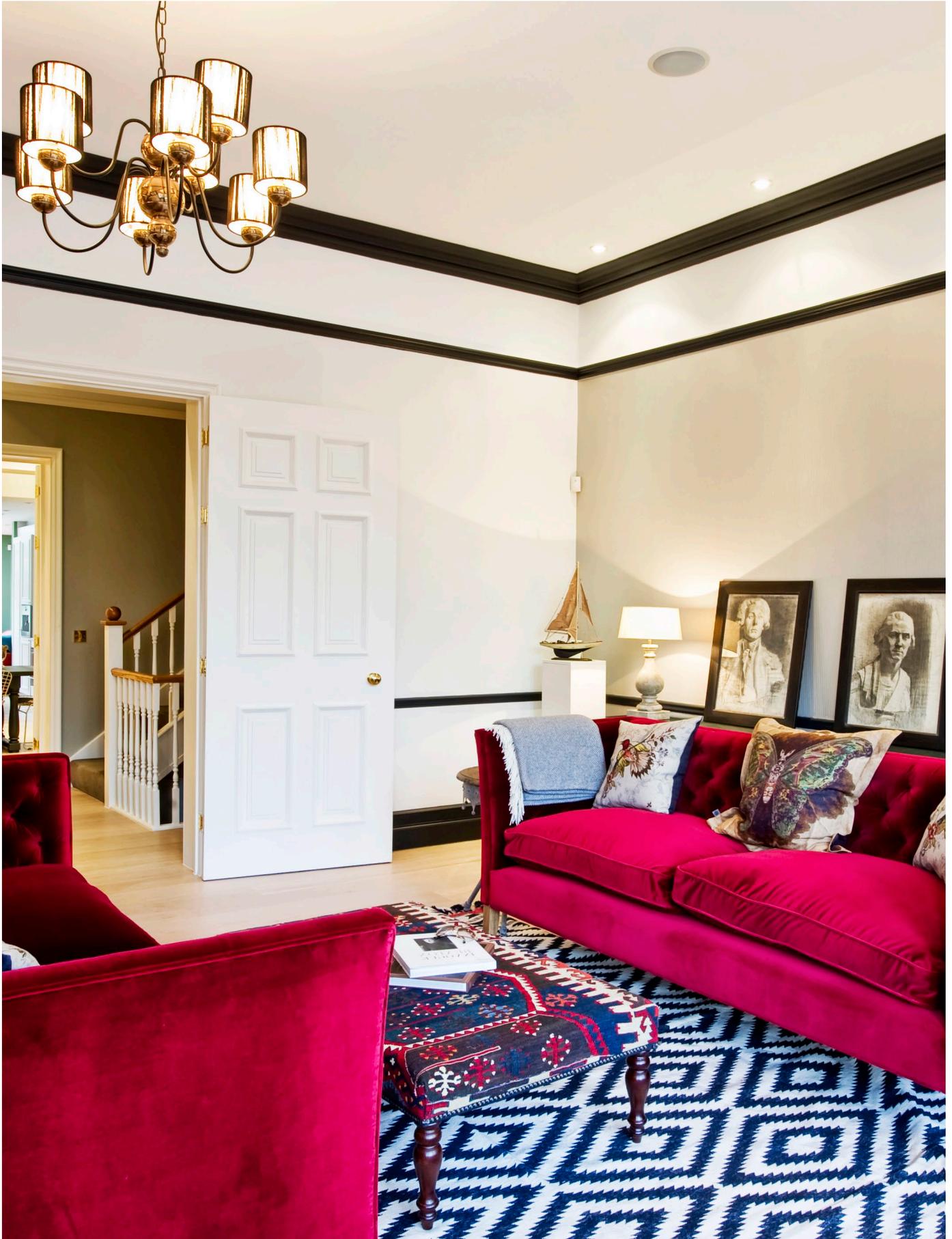
Fashion's new romantic mood

STYLISH. INTELLIGENT. ELEGANT. ABSOLUTELY



P PERIOD *Piece*

Interior design consultancy **Matrushka** redefines a tired Edwardian mansion in Hampstead. *Absolutely* takes a tour...





What was the first thing you thought when confronted with the space?

It was in need of some serious enlivening and spatial definition. I was impressed by its handsome proportions and the original windows in the main reception area.

Do you approach period houses in the same way or is every property a different story?

Every property evokes a varied response from me. I'm often inspired by the raffish splendour of a crumbling period property yet am open to working with a modernist box on a cliff.

Do you have a favourite era in architecture or design? I'm having a 1970s moment right now, though I don't profess to be loyal to any particular era or movement, I find that too limiting

How do you add a personal touch – what are the owners like?

Curating anglocentric pieces for them and incorporating existing objects and family heirlooms into the scheme. The overall design had to appeal to a professional, US based couple who were keen to inhabit a quintessentially British space.

What would be your dream residential job?

A Muscovite's urban palace or a surf shack retreat in Costa Rica.

How do you stay one step ahead of the latest interior trends?

I try to teeter on the periphery of trends, drawing inspiration from art and nature. My current art obsessions are: Michael Landy's *Saint's Alive* exhibition at the National Gallery and my dear friend Alice Instone's use of carnal blush tones.

What style do you prefer for your own home?

functional decadence interspersed with pockets of whimsy

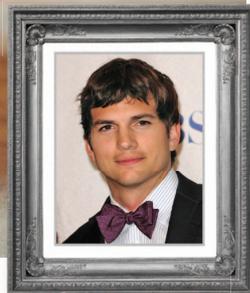
What area of london do you live in and why?

Hampstead because of the heath, the schools, the dickensian lamp posts and a pint of prawns at the holly bush pub.

What constitutes good design for you?

For me it's all about creating a durable structure and canvas allowing for brazen accents and changeable layers.

Matrushka HQ, 4 Willoughby Road, NW3; matrushka.co.uk



Aston Kutcher and Mila Kunis rented the house while filming in London