

# THE BLOCK PARTY

*Fun, fearless and feisty – interior designer Ghislaine Vinas joins forces with architect Chet Callahan to fabricate his bold abode into a truly creative collaboration*

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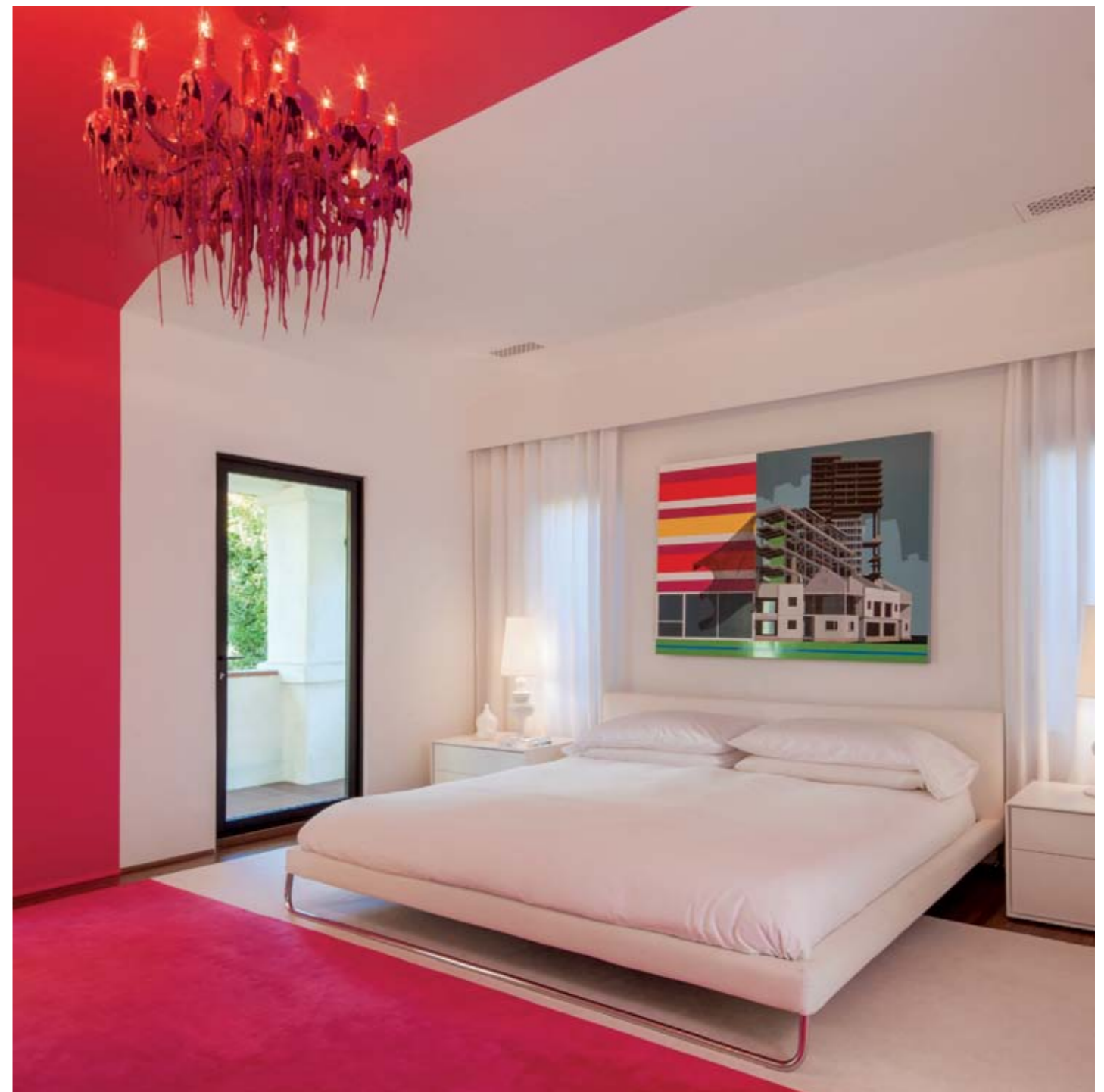
In the living room on the first floor, Air rug by Paola Lenti in a dominating purple hue anchors the space, while Ugolino Circular chandelier by Lollie Memmoli suspends from the ceiling. The bookshelf designed by Chet holds ceramics by Sargadellos, Balloon dog by Digs, Philip Low prism from Matter and books categorised by colour. In the far right, "Against the Tide" (2011), a ceramic and wood bear sculpture by Tim Berg and Rebekah Meyers induces quirk Left Oliver, the pet Chihuahua, sits on the Chestermoon sofa from Baxter, behind "Tea and Sympathy" (2011), Reginald Baylor's acrylic on canvas



Clockwise, from Top Left Eight portraits by Rudy Shepherd adorn a wall in the cookroom on the first floor. On the stark B3 kitchen system by Bulthaup, a white bowl from Z Gallerie and tangerine truck from Areaware hold oranges; Spring Blossom chandelier by Tord Boontje for Swarovski hangs above Link table by Jakob Wagner and Lazy chair by Patricia Urquiola, both for B&B Italia; Colour from a room spills out onto the custom design black runner rug by GVID made by Tsar Carpets in the hallway, which acts as a connecting thread Right The entry foyer on the first floor features a large Black Gossamer light from Hive Mind Design. On the wall is "Paisaje", a sculptural artwork by Federico Uribe ingeniously made of coloured pencils



The master bedroom on the second floor overlooks the courtyard entry. A thick pink band runs across the floor from the Sacco Carpets and climbs the ceiling right up to the Hot Kroon light creating drama in the majorly white boudoir. Right The minimally decorated room is dominated by Minotti's Gorky bed, Dado bedside table from B&B Italia and Josephine M's table lamps from YLighting. Above the headboard graphic artwork "Tender of the Flock" by Dean Monogenis



Somewhere in the hillside neighbourhood of Los Feliz is a modernist's dream – or as architect Chet Callahan, his husband Jacinto and two sons would call home. Sprawled across 2,600 sq ft, the family bungalow was chiselled to perfect proportions by Chet who then called on New York based Ghislaine Vinas, owner of an eponymous design firm GVID, to infiltrate the villa with hue filled energy and graphic elements. The expert pair share thoughts behind their handiwork....

**ED: Architecturally speaking, how different is the new dwelling from the previous one?**

**Chet:** The original structure was a Spanish style, typical of 1930s Los Angeles. After the renovation, it still contains some of the original decorative elements, but has a comparatively contemporary aesthetic. The reconfiguration gave way to a more open plan layout with added connections to the landscape. The current kitchen and bathrooms have minimal ornamentation as a contrast to the historic features. We did away with obsolete areas like the butler's pantry to suit our modern day lifestyle.

**ED: Colour blocking can be a tricky. How did you weave them together?**

**Ghislaine:** We think of the house as a whole – like a book...and each room as chapters, for instance in the boys' play room we conceptualised a story around turquoise. In the living space there was an existing purple ottoman that we were going to reuse and thought why not work in that tint. We even added a black runner rug with embossed pattern that helped connect areas. Every time it passed a section its hue spilled out onto the carpet. Chet prepared the outline, I simply coloured in. ♦

**“WE THINK OF THE HOUSE AS A WHOLE – LIKE A BOOK...AND EACH ROOM AS CHAPTERS...”**



Clockwise, from Top Left The master bath features twin basins by Boffi affixed with faucets from Vola by Hastings Tile and Bath. The custom designed mirrored medicine cabinet by Chet holds a Mini Glo-ball light by Jasper Morrison for Flos; The orange room: Enthralled by colour the children call each room not by its function but by its hue; Alongside the pool on the terrace is Living Divani Pi-Air outdoor chaise lounges in matching turquoise; The iBride shelving unit in the kids’ playroom takes centre stage as Pipe lights by Herzog & DeMeuron for Artemide dangle above Right The kids’ bedroom on the second floor is primarily orange with a striped wall and chevron printed rug by Aronsons Floor Coverings