

CONTENTS



Chez Ines

8



Chez Marin

28



Chez Ivan
& Benoit

44



Chez Ariane

58



Chez Zoé

76



Chez Daniel

92



Chez Morgane

108



Chez Anne & Georg

122



Chez Anthony
& Benoit

156



Chez Louise

170



Chez Clémentine

138



Chez Margaux
& Rodolphe

202



Chez Carole

216



Chez
Marie-France

184

ADDRESS BOOK



234



254

Chez Zoé

VIVIENNE DISTRICT

- PARIS 2^e -

Zoé de Las Cases and her partner are graphic designers, illustrators, and interior designers who found their little nest perched above the clouds on the rooftops of Paris. It lies at the end of Rue Montmartre, close to the Grands-Boulevards metro station. With childhood nostalgia, Zoé uses colored pencils for her illustrations of clothing, decorative objects, branding sketches, and interior plans.

Zoé, Benjamin, Olya (five), and Sacha (three), plus Napoléon the dog, were catapulted from a loft apartment located on the ground floor of a seventeenth-arrondissement building into a duplex with a terrace in the second arrondissement that had to be completely renovated. Parisians are not afraid of big projects, especially when they fall in love with the view, the neighborhood, the light—and the chance to have a rustic fireplace. Since her childhood holidays in Aubrac—a small village on a windswept plateau straddling the Aveyron, Cantal, and Lozère departments in central and southern France—Zoé has never lost her love of wild things. Tree branches, ladders, and tabletops, grayed by the passage of time, remind her of the freedom of wide-open spaces. A breath of fresh air and a sense of profusion inhabit this all-white apartment. The light caresses her carefully selected objects and the comfortable curves of the architecture. Elegant materials take precedence over any compulsion to be decorative. Vintage and designer pieces quietly enjoy each other's company. In her rooftop aerie, Zoé has succeeded in creating a charming space for relaxation and pleasure.

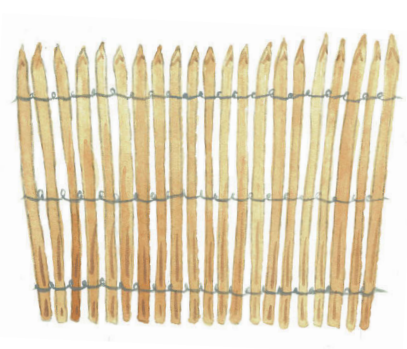




CHILL-OUT CHIMNEY

Beneath the white-painted original beams, the Jieldé lamp designed by Jean-Louis Dumeq in 1950 harmonizes timelessly with the Apple iMac, as the styles chime and echo across the decades. The presence of the bespoke black fireplace is betrayed only by a log-filled rattan basket. As a fashionable addition, old planks serve as a coffee table, and the white sofa blends seamlessly with the floor. Pristine white or powder-pink objects and furniture create a serene atmosphere.





GOOD FENCES MAKE
GOOD NEIGHBORS

Even if the building opposite overlooks your apartment, in Paris you can be sure that no one is peering in.

Nevertheless, a terrace should be regarded as an independent living and entertaining space. Adding a protective wooden screen means you can grow ivy or clematis along it to create a secret place high above the city. Bistro chairs, stools, and wooden benches—it takes just a few items to create a hint of luxury. The cushions covered with ethnic fabrics by Tensira evoke happy trips to far-flung places.

Chez Anthony & Benoit

SAINT-THOMAS-D'AQUIN DISTRICT

- PARIS 7^e -

The trio behind Atelier Vime are wholeheartedly devoted to the basketwork that they jointly reinvent through their innovative creations. Their name derives from an abbreviation of the Latin for the willow used in basket weaving, *Salix viminalis*, and their visual world is intimately related to eighteenth-century Provence.

Their workspace occupies several rooms in a 1,937-square-foot (180 m²), two-story apartment, where Anthony and Benoît have also set up home. From this seventh-arrondissement building, they can hear morning birdsong, and they never tire of the view across the rooftops or, in the summer, the sunsets over the Eiffel Tower and the Musée d'Orsay. Purveyors of a lifestyle featuring rattan, wicker, and rope, handcrafted by artisans in the Camargue, they also collect vintage pieces by Jean Royère, Gio Ponti, and Audoux & Minet. Their eclectic tastes are influenced by their passion for these rustic materials, which provide a natural contrast to the urban environment. Mixing eras and genres, they focus mainly on balance, creating a coherence between form and content; for example, they preserved the Haussmann-era fireplaces but repainted them. Harmony is created through the use of perfect proportions: the Tulip coffee table by Eero Saarinen for Knoll is surrounded by low rope chairs by Adrien Audoux and Frida Minet. While they are particularly fond of blue, green, and yellow, they are also perfectly happy to choose brick red as the color for a built-in bookcase, or to mix up printed fabrics and multicolored carpets. In fact, their dream acquisition would be a Paule Leleu carpet, produced by Alexia Leleu.





MATERIAL MATTERS

Mixing genres also means daring to combine materials without fear or favor. Rope, wood, marble, and cast aluminum create a natural harmony. The Eero Saarinen Tulip table chimes perfectly with the Audoux & Minet rope chair and a brilliant-yellow coffee set. Transforming flea-market finds adds another layer of originality. The stained-glass fanlight, of a type usually found above a door, proves a perfect fit within the frame of the mirror hanging over the marble fireplace.





Chez Margaux & Rodolphe

BUTTES CHAUMONT DISTRICT

- PARIS 19^e -

Like a Jacques Demy movie set starring Gene Kelly, pastel shades bring a *Young Girls of Rochefort* feel to this apartment of 742 square feet (69 m²), nestled in a 1930s building in Paris's nineteenth arrondissement. Lawyer Margaux and screenwriter Rodolphe fell in love with its beautiful rotunda, the balcony with its iron railings, the view of the Parc des Buttes Chaumont, the art deco details, and the magical view of the skyline.

Delighted by how easy it is to move around the apartment and the perfect proportions of each space, they have kept the glazed doors, which “act like mental partitions.” The arrival of their daughter, Madeleine, turned their world Technicolor—pink, pale green, and sky blue. It's a gentle way of life that they share in a sleek, classic, poetic style. Without removing any of the 1930s features—oak flooring, moldings, or mirrors—they have turned the kitchen into a bedroom, relocating the kitchen to the double living room. The only remnant of this transformation is the original terrazzo kitchen floor, now underfoot in Madeleine's bedroom. Fashionable between the wars and originating in Italy, this composite flooring made of marble and glass chips is once again back in vogue. The 3D effect of the floor's polished surface blends happily with the pale woodwork and soft colors chosen by Margaux and Rodolphe. To offset the apartment's formal character, they have created a timeless charm using vintage furniture and objects, contemporary Scandinavian furniture, and idyllic design pieces, such as the Cap d'Ail side table by Mathieu Matégot.

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MIX AND MATCH

Opposite the window, the Napoleon III-era chaise longue, a family heirloom, has been upholstered in pale linen for a more contemporary look. On the modern sofa, a French blue throw echoes the same color in the painting propped up on the floor. The marriage globes, usually found empty at flea markets, are used to display favorite collections. To make it look bigger, the office is filled to the rafters. In cozy 1950s style, the low cabinet doubles as both a bookcase and seat. A leather plumber's bag is ideal for storing bits and bobs or tools.

