

14 Impressive Italian Interiors

These sumptuous, beautifully appointed spaces exude la dolce vita.

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The late designer Renzo Mongiardino was known for creating lavish interiors with trompe l'oeil accents, like this living room, where a pair of velvet armchairs flank the dramatic fireplace.



Mongiardino designed Villa Frescot, the Agnelli-family residence outside Turin, and encourage Marella Agnelli to create her own fabrics based on old Piedmontese prints she had researched. These were textiles specially made and used throughout the house.



"As with all our projects, we respect the architecture that we are working within," says Megan Oliver, associate director at Godrich Interiors says of this 17th-century Venetian palazzo. "The main challenge was to create a usable space for the family, which felt grand but comfortable and in which they could both entertain and relax." The firm commissioned a dining table for the project.

Photo by Godrich Interiors



In the living room, Godrich added this armchair, which was originally covered in green velvet. The lamps have bulbs in their bases and the shade, so they give plenty of light. Oliver says, "The wall lights were designed and made specifically for this project by Seguso, a company who have been making Murano glass since 1291!" She adds, "The varying thicknesses of glass shine a dappled light across the walls, which is really beautiful. They create a real sense of warmth in what is a very large space."

Photo by Godrich Interiors



At Palazzo Fendi in Rome, Dimore Studio designed the luxury fashion house's VIP apartment, which features vintage Venini chandeliers, a lounge chair and ottoman by Bruno Mathsson and a sofa by Dimore.

Photo by Andrea Ferrari



The Palazzo Fendi's foyer features an Apta daybed by Giò Ponti.



Nate Berkus designed this Milan apartment, whose living room includes a sofa by Patricia Urquiola for B&B Italia, a 1970s coffee table sourced from 1stdibs and a Triennale floor lamp by Angelo Lelli for Arredoluce.

Photo by Simon Upton



The home office area of the Milan apartment includes a 1970s glass-topped desk and a wood-and-chrome credenza.

Photo by Simon Upton



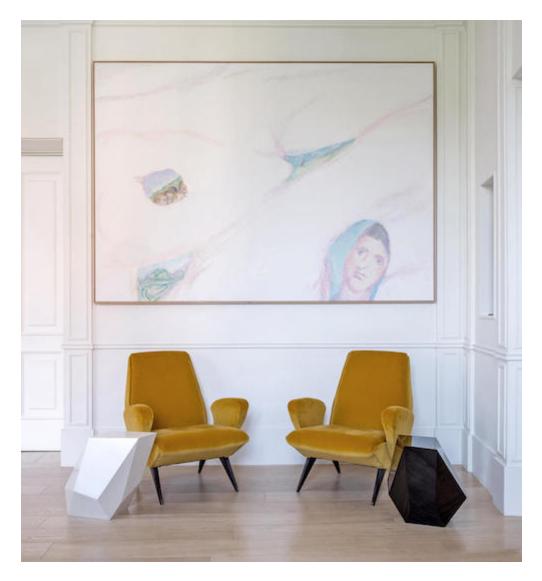
Martyn Lawrence Bullard designed the interiors of the restored Castello di Santa Eurasia in Italy's Umbria region, and the formal dining room is situated in what used to be 14th-century horse stables. A pair of 17-century Dutch iron candlelight chandeliers from J.F. Chen hang over the table, which is surrounded by 18th-century-style Italian chairs with early 20th-century leather upholstery. Denise de la Rue's Mexican bull fighter photos hang on the walls.

Photo by Oberto Gigli and Deborah Anderson



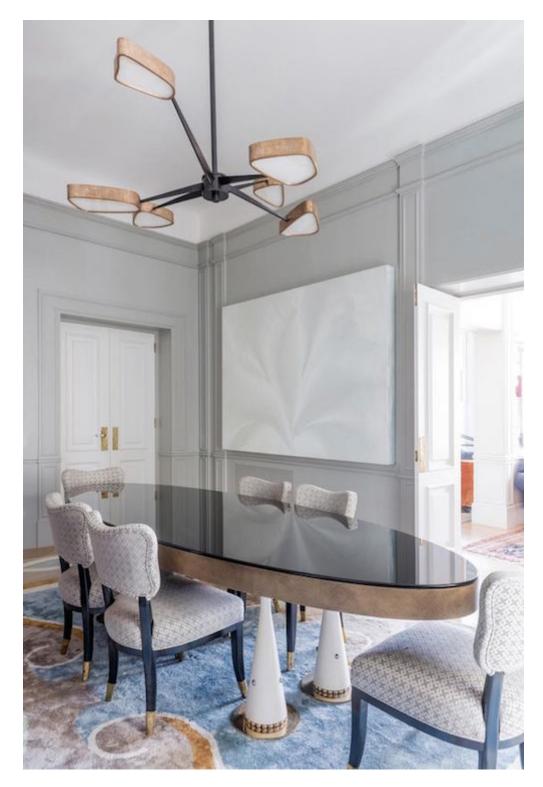
Bullard's MLB Atelier designed the custom canopy Portuguese bed in this guest room, which is located in the west turret of the castle. The bed is flanked by a pair of 18th-century silver-leaf wooden candlesticks that were turned into table lamps. The room also includes a late 17th-century Tuscan armoire and early 18th-century Spanish chairs in their original cordovan leather. The walls are covered in Schumacher damask.

Photo by Oberto Gigli and Deborah Anderson



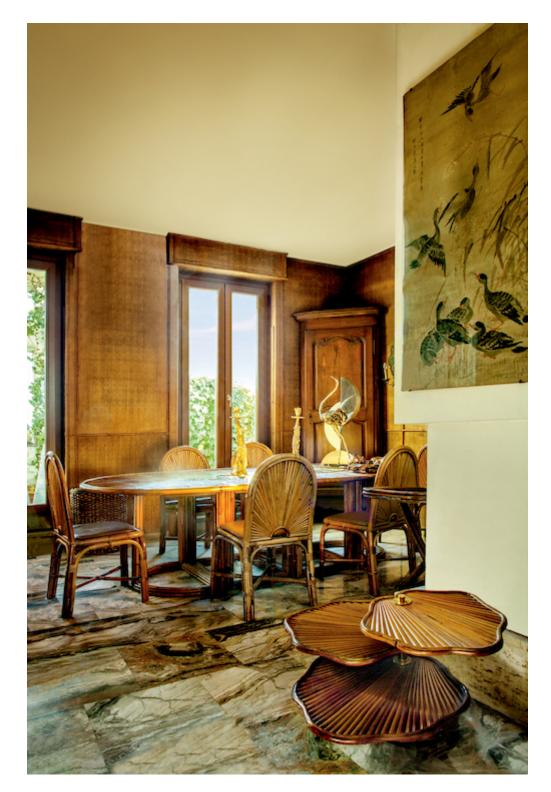
Artwork by Ilya and Emilia Kabakov hang over a pair of Nino Zoncada armchairs with geometric side tables in designer Achille Salvagni's Roman apartment, Villa Albani, in an 1898 building.

Photo by Paolo Petrignani

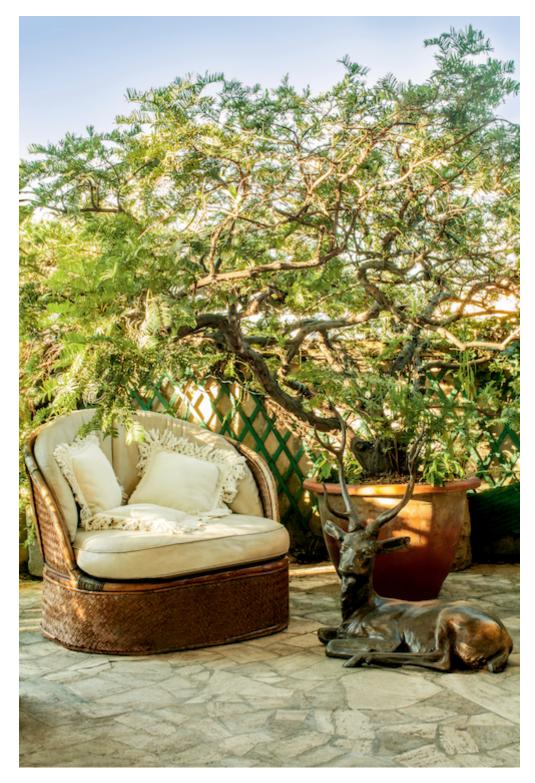


In the dining room, a Salvagni-designed Octopus chandelier, offered by Maison Gerard, hangs over the bronze-edged table.

Photo by Paolo Petrignani



The dining area of designer Gabriella Crespi's Milan penthouse features her Rising Sun bamboo table and a set of matching chairs. Two of her "Gocce Oro" sculptures and a bronze ostrich from her "Animal" series are on the table, and her swiveling Lotus Leaves table is pictured in the foreground.



On the patio, a mimosa tree offers some shade to Crespi's Rising Sun armchair and one of her bronze antelopes.

Photo by Matthieu Salvaing/OTTO