

DECORATION

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The villa of the decorators Oitoemponto in Porto

With a selection of vintage furniture and glamorous photographic prints, the Oitoemponto duo infuses a house in the beautiful districts of the Portuguese economic capital with an all-California nonchalance.

BY CÉDRIC SAINT ANDRÉ PERRIN

The pool is lined with palm trees and green lawns, marble floors and immaculate furnishings, everything suggests that we are in California, somewhere on the heights of Hollywood, in the refuge of a star in the firmament. This elegant villa is definitely the haunt of celebrities, but of the world of decoration, and nestles in a chic district of Porto, far, far away, Los Angeles ... It is in this bright setting that lives the flamboyant duo Oitoemponto, formed by Jacques Bec and Artur Miranda. *"We dreamed of a Palm Springs pavilion,"* says Artur Miranda. *"In the past, we lived in a dark-toned downtown apartment, and we wanted a white house on the seafront."* The two-storey buildings being rare in Porto, the duo had been looking for a while already on this villa erected in 1958. *"In passing on a Friday, we saw a sign for sale: we decided to 'to buy in the weekend',* remembers Artur Miranda. *"The lawn around the house was dotted with four-leaf clovers: it was a good omen!"* Adds Jacques Bec.



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Artur Miranda and Jacques Bec pose, like the illusionists Siegfried and Roy, around a stuffed tiger in the living room of their villa. In the background, a console by Hervé Van der Straeten.



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In the living room, above a glass brick fireplace designed by Jacques Bec and Artur Miranda, a silver sculpture by Arnaldo Pomodoro, a Jaeger-LeCoultre clock and a vase by Hervé Van der Straeten. On the wall, a photographic print of Thomas Ruff. The pair of armchairs is signed Oitoemponito, the coffee table Erwine and Estelle Laverne, the red capsule stool Hervé Van der Straeten.



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In front of the bay window overlooking the garden, the reading corner of the living room with a pair of chairs by Lino Bo Bardi, a bench by Oitoemponto, a coffee table by Paul Evans, a floor lamp by Josef Frank for Svenskt Tenn and a table by Hervé Van der Straeten.



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In the dining room on the ceiling covered with cashmere Loro Piana, the table, designed by Oitoemponto, was designed in the same Portuguese marble as the floor. Overlooked by André Arbus' chandelier for Veronese, it is surrounded by chairs by Gustav Siegel. Above, a vase by Angelo Mangiarotti. The large canvas is by James Brown.



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In the entrance, in front of an office of Jacques Adnet is placed an armchair of the sviie stamped Pierre Nogaret. The red lamp is a creation by Hervé Van der Straeten. On the wall, an op art work by Michael Brown.



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In the entrance, a stool in Louis Vuitton's Objets Nomades collection, in front of a vintage console with a lamp by Angelo Brotto.



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In the dressing room, on a table by Carlo Bugatti, a lamp by Paavo Tynell. On the wall hang photos of Mario Testino.



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On the bed side, designed by Oitoemponto and covered with Hermes fabric cushions, the bedside tables are by Jansen, the bedside lamp by Hervé Van der Straeten. On the wall, a picture of Hedi Slimane.



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In the dressing-room on the walls covered with rosewood and stainless steel, a mirror is hung over a bowl made of Estremoz marble.



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The bathroom is all made of marble and rosewood, with appliqués and a metal chair by Mark Brazier-Jones.



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Under the pergola, by the pool, a set of garden chairs in false bamboo coming from a villa cannoise.