



BY THE SEA

At the heart of coastal Belgian town Knokke-le-Zoute, an old fisherman's house has metamorphosed into a space that's colourful, original and utterly personal | 這間本是漁民之家的屋子位於比利時Knokke-le-Zoute的中心，經新屋主改造後變成一個繽紛舒適的度假居所，滿載個人特色

TEXT & STYLING CAROLINE AMIEL PHOTOGRAPHY FREDERIC DUCOUT/LIVING INSIDE



PREVIOUS PAGES

The home's pitched roof is typical of old Knokke. Caroline was inspired by beach cabins to paint the exterior red and white; similarly, the awning over the back terrace is red and white

THIS PAGE

The shop office is like a gallery, with one wall covered in reclaimed wood boards

OPPOSITE PAGE

White walls and a white sofa offset the pops of colour Caroline incorporated into the living room

前頁圖

居所的人字形屋頂是Knokke的傳統設計。Caroline為屋子選擇了紅白外牆，靈感來自沙灘小屋；後院的色彩同樣以紅白為主

本頁圖

這個工作室有如藝廊，並利用再造木材製成牆板

對頁圖

Caroline在客廳運用了多個色彩繽紛的飾品，以緩和白色牆和白色沙發

Architect Caroline Notté was searching for a tranquil place; a secondary residence she could retreat to on the weekends, away from the frenetic pace of her working life. She searched high and low for the house of her dreams, finally finding it – to her surprise – in a banal fishing house.

In fact, it was actually the charm of the place that seduced her: the dilapidated house was located on a tiny, peaceful road at the centre of sleepy seaside town Knokke-le-Zoute on the Belgian coast.

Before renovating, it's always difficult to get a precise sense of the potential a place has; unless, that is, you are a designer like Caroline. She immediately saw what she could do with the 1950s house. Today, thanks to the work she put into transforming it, this is an atypical, unique home, which, like its owner, has a singular personality.

Caroline is an architect, an interior designer, decorator and photographer, whose name and creativity have travelled far beyond the borders of Belgium. Naturally, she has let that creativity loose in her own home. "Here, I am completely released," confides the multi-faceted artist.

早陣子，建築師Caroline Notté在比利時四出尋找一處寧靜的地方，好讓她將之改建成一個能悠閒地度周末和忘卻繁忙工作的第二居所。她前往不同地區尋覓理想的單位，最後看中一間殘舊的漁民屋——她自己也覺得很意外。

其實，這間被荒廢多時的屋子最吸引Caroline的，是其魅力：屋子位於海邊城鎮Knokke-le-Zoute中心一條寧靜小路上。

在完成翻新之前，要準確看出一個空間的潛力絕不容易，除非擁有像Caroline的才能。她初時參觀這間建於1950年的建築時，已即時構思到應怎樣改造這個地方。在建築師的創意和努力下，屋子給換上了獨一無二的漂亮新裝，跟其屋主一樣，散發出與別不同的氣質。

Caroline既是建築師，也是室內設計師、裝飾師及攝影師，聲名早已遠播至比利時以外的國家。而在地自己的家園內，當然到處都可看到其非凡創意。「在這裡，我可以完全釋放自我。」多才多藝的Caroline表示道。









“Here, I am **completely released**,” confides the multi-faceted artist

OPPOSITE PAGE

Caroline found the kitchen cabinets boring, so she asked her friends to write messages and notes on them

THIS PAGE

Multi-faceted designer Caroline Notté; the back terrace is the perfect spot for meals with friends

對頁圖

Caroline覺得原來的廚櫃很單調，於是請朋友在櫃上寫字

本頁圖

多才多藝的設計師 Caroline Notté；後院是屋主們跟好友共聚用餐的好地點

Inspired by the traditional beach cabins of the Northern hemisphere, a red-and-white striped façade decorates the front of the house. At the back of the home, a red-and-white striped awning echoes the look, cheerily offering shade to an outdoor table and chairs. In the kitchen, the same bold red and white tones can be found in the cherry hues of chairs and table and the snowy-white of the kitchen cabinets and countertops.

It's a home that is not about accumulation; and yet, it's not about minimalism, either. Here, we enter a convivial space that's a mélange of design objects and pieces found over time. It's a style free from all convention. For the decor, Caroline has incorporated vintage design furniture – for example, the sofas of Harry Bertioia and Arne Jacobsen – found on eBay or at auctions. These objects, sometimes obsolete and no longer in production, are proof of the home's overall sense of eclecticism. She has mixed them in such a way in the settings that they are elevated almost to the level of works of art, demonstrating the fact that each object and each colour is the fruit of a profound reflection. Combined with contemporary art or Caroline's own photographs, they create a look that is punctuated by humour, colour and fantasy.

屋子的正面外牆由紅白色間條組成，設計靈感來自北半球傳統的海邊小屋；至於屋子的後方則採用了紅白間條陽篷，既能「前後呼應」，也為這個戶外用餐區締造出歡樂氣氛。廚房內也可找到相同的紅白色調——鮮紅色的桌椅加上雪白色的廚櫃及工作面，組成漂亮畫面。

這間屋子的設計並不繁複，但也不是以簡約為本。我們走進室內，看見多件不同年代的設計師作品，各有特色但又能互相共融。在裝飾方面，Caroline挑選了懷舊的傢具——例如Harry Bertioia和Arne Jacobsen的沙發——是在eBay或拍賣會購得，部份設計已過時或停產，但這正好證明居所的風格十分多樣化。Caroline把不同的傢具安排在跟藝術品差不多水平的位置，使每件家品和每種色彩也更加突出；再加上一些現代藝術作品和她親自拍攝的照片，使空間滿載了幽默和夢幻的感覺。





It is here that Caroline nurtures her plants of choice – **essences of the south**, such as vines and olive trees



It's a home that is **not about accumulation;** and yet, it's **not about minimalism,** either



PREVIOUS PAGES

The shop office is bathed in light, receiving it through the skylight and through the wide doors that open onto the garden; the garden has a Mediterranean feel, especially thanks to the potted olive tree

OPPOSITE PAGE

Even Caroline's accessories are red; the entrance area is pretty as a picture; in the guest room, touches of red punctuate the immaculate space; red and white in the bathroom

THIS PAGE

In the master bedroom, a photograph taken by Caroline in Oman hangs above the bed

前頁圖

工作室的日光充沛，陽光自天窗和跟花園相連的門口射進來；花園的設計富有地中海風情，橄欖樹盆栽的功勞真不少

對頁圖

Caroline的配飾也是以紅色為主；門口的佈置非常漂亮；潔白的客房加有數抹奪目的紅色調；浴室設計採用紅白色彩組合

本頁圖

主人房的睡床上方掛有一幅由Caroline在Oman拍攝的作品

Behind the house, a terrace and an intimate garden can be found, tucked away from the ocean winds and the prying eyes of others. It is here that Caroline nurtures her plants of choice – essences of the south, such as vines and olive trees.

At the bottom of the garden sits her office workshop, an old box-room that she spent much time renovating, so as to welcome in the maximum light possible. Inside, one wall has been dressed entirely in slats of recycled pine in varying sizes. These planks are fixed on cleats painted in orange, explains Caroline. And, thanks to this subtle play of spacing between the slats, you see, in filigree, the whole thing under coloured lathing. "A wink, in all humility, to Arne Quinze, a Belgian artist that I adore," says Caroline.

Thanks to the accumulation of lucky finds and an owner with an individual sense of style, this fun, friendly house marries a daring modernity with a great user-friendliness. //

屋子後方有一個平台和花園，環境私密，能自由自在的在這兒享受悠閒時刻。Caroline更在花園內種植一些南部盛產的品種，例如葡萄樹和橄欖樹。

花園之下就是屋主的工作室，她花了不少心機和時間翻新這兒，好讓更多日光能照進室內。工作室內其中一堵牆壁給飾上了循環再造的葡萄樹木板，尺寸不一，並給穩固在髹成橙色的幼條上，而木板與木板留有不同空間，整個設計十分特別。「這是我以謙卑的心向Arne Quinze致敬的作品，他是一位我非常尊敬的比利時藝術大師。」Caroline解說道。

各式各樣的特色家品，加上Caroline獨特的風格，使屋子變成一間有趣、親切又時尚的居所，更能讓居住者享受到便利的生活。 //

