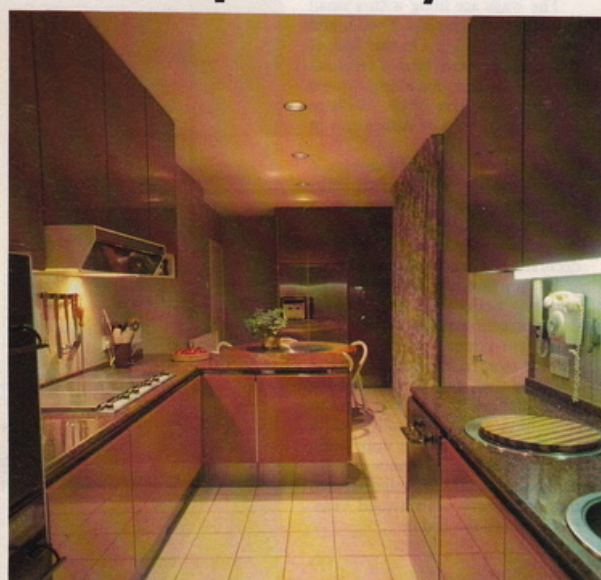


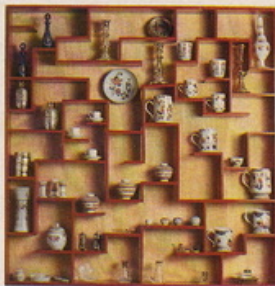
UK HOUSE & GARDEN MAGAZINE - MAYFAIR, LONDON - 1981

Clients: Mr & Mrs Davide Sala



A small country house in deepest Mayfair





PHOTOGRAPHS BY
JAMES MORTIMER

ANY visitor spirited into the delightful small house shown in these pages and invited to hazard a guess concerning its history, whereabouts and ownership, would probably plump for an eighteenth-century country house, perhaps in Sussex, Wiltshire or the nearer Cotswolds, and worldly owners.

Well, the owners are certainly sophisticated, for they asked Mary Fox Linton and Derek Frost to work with their architects, Golding Ruddell, in the conversion of—wait for it!—a onetime coaching stable, not quite in Hyde Park, but a mere stone's throw away. Needless to say, such a major conversion needed careful planning. Central heating had to be installed, complete rewiring carried out and a comprehensive scheme for redecoration decided upon.

Clients, architects and decorators were agreed that drawing-room and dining-room should be linked by large double doors, and by using a similar design theme a decorative unity would be given to the two rooms. To this end, a specially woven and dyed plain pale peach-coloured silk was used for the walls of the drawing-room and the same silk, overprinted with Mary Fox Linton's 'Richemont' design, used for the walls of the dining-room. The curtains in both rooms are of the same 'Richemont' silk. The rooms have the most subtle warm, golden tones, even in winter.

As well as paintings, the clients have collections of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Imari porcelain displayed in the dining-room and on specially-designed shelving in the drawing-room ●

Opposite page (above) Silk-covered walls in the drawing-room.

(Below left) Entrance-hall with highly lacquered dado and generous cornice.

(Below right) Pink granite worktops in the Italian-made kitchen.

This page (above) Imari porcelain on specially-designed shelving.

(Above right) Eighteenth-century chandelier and Fox-Linton-designed carpet in the dining-room.

(Below right) The main bedroom, all white and very simple, a perfect foil for a collection of monochrome lithographs. The alabaster Deer Head is by Helene Simon, New York (another of her works, a brass Embryo, is in the living-room).



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