

BRIGHT *and* BREEZY

Gabby Deeming creates a relaxed, New England-style holiday-house atmosphere with painted wood, faded stripes and pretty florals

PHOTOGRAPHS RACHEL WHITING

WALLS Paint, 'Scotch Grey', £31 for 2.5 litres matt emulsion, at Sanderson. **Curtains**, 'Buckley' (ivory and grey sky), linen, £88.20 a metre, at de Le Cuona; made to order, from £90 a pair, at Furnishing Touch. **FURNITURE** Old elm-wood **stool**, £300, at Few and Far. Chesterfield **sofa**, in natural linen, 66 x 250 x 110cm, £1,800, from Pale & Interesting. Leather **club chair**, 'Colorado' (white/grey), 91 x 91 x 105cm, £6,775, at Ralph Lauren Home. Iron and glass **coffee table**, 'Outline' (brown bronze), 46 x 120 x 80cm, from £1,226, at Richard Taylor Designs. **Sofa**, 'Louis', 90 x 220 x 100cm, £6,300; covered in 'Cambon' (cerise), viscose/linen, £105.60 a metre. Both at Pierre Frey. Vintage iron **side table** with new glass top, 74 x 60cm diameter, £695, at



Puckhaber Decorative Antiques. French, metal **cafe table**, 70cm high, £225; and nineteenth-century painted-wood **cabinet**, £1,850. Both from Pale & Interesting. **ACCESSORIES** Red floral **cushions** on Chesterfield, 'Fleur de Steppes', cotton, by Tissus Tartares, £155 a square metre, at Luke Irwin. Red and white **rectangular cushion**, 'Jasper', \$190; **bolster cushions**, 'Plangi Coral', \$100 each; red and grey **cushion** on club chair, 'Zafaran', \$130; all block-printed cotton. All from John Robshaw Textiles. Woven-leather, brass and wicker **floor lamp**, 'Pierson', 175cm high, £1,250, at Ralph Lauren Home. Domed **trunk** covered with blue nineteenth-century wallpaper, £335, at Puckhaber Decorative Antiques. Vintage

glass **bottles**, from £11 each, at Bottle Green Homes. Spotted china **plate**, £69, at William Yeoward. Woven seagrass **stools**, £120 and £55, at Baileys. Ceramic **table light**, 'Jar One' (blue grey), 25 x 34cm diameter, £520 (including shade), at Richard Taylor Designs. **Cushions** on striped sofa, front: 'Carharrack', cotton, £40 a metre, at William Yeoward; reverse: 'Tyneham' (amaryllis), cotton, £25 a metre, at Romo. **Scatter cushions**, made up for around £30 each, including filling, at Furnishing Touch. Vintage krupuk-can **lanterns**, £39 each, at Bahasa. Zinc **boxes**, £18, £20 and £26 each, at Few and Far. Blue-spotted china **plate** and **mug**, £69 and £49 respectively, at William Yeoward. For suppliers' details, see Stockists page



Having once felt that only fine antiques were worth the investment, the owner is now adamant that 'Christian Liaigre is the Picasso of furniture'



The owner's wife agonised over the decorative schemes. 'I wanted the flat to be calm and uncluttered,' she says. 'The colours needed to be similar in each room to make it feel spacious.' She found the answer in de Le Cuona, whose wonderful wools, silks and linens are used in numerous places. Bernie de Le Cuona herself came to the flat to help, and arranged for the curtains to be made.

The understated elegance of the decoration forms the perfect backdrop for the couple's superb antiques and the smart Liaigre pieces, of which there are now several in every room, ranging from sofas and rugs to lighting. Despite Christian Liaigre's having clients all over the world, his exclusivity is closely guarded – the website is little more than a holding page – and once introduced to the Liaigre ethos, the owner of this flat was smitten. He bought more and more pieces, including the striking, solid-bronze table in the hall, which is more like a work of art than a piece of furniture. He is also full of praise for the team in the London showroom, led by interior designer Capucine Deravin Rummel, who were careful to make sure the Liaigre pieces complemented and did not crowd the antiques.

Indeed the apartment, a result of perfectionist owners knowing what they wanted and seeking good advice when they did not, is a triumph – carefully selected and placed, antique and modern pieces sing in harmony. Having once felt that only fine antiques, and English ones at that, were worth the investment, the owner is now adamant that 'Christian Liaigre is the Picasso of furniture.' That the bench at the end of his bed was weeks if not months late, as M Liaigre was not happy with it, does not seem to have caused any irritation – it is, after all, a sign of the quality and exactitude of his creations □

Christian Liaigre: 020-7584 5848; www.christian-liaigre.co.uk

THIS PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

In the hall is a Christian Liaigre console table made from two types of bronze. The pictures above the 'Velin' bench, by Liaigre, are by the owner's wife. Open shelving in the Poggenpohl kitchen has been used to display the owner's antique glass. **OPPOSITE** At the foot of the bed in the main bedroom is a Liaigre 'Grume' bench; the headboard and valance were made using 'Cape Silt' linen by de Le Cuona



— the — Knowledge

Inspired by the houses in this issue, Hetta Byng and Jennifer Goulding give directions on how to achieve similar style



PAGES 114–119



MIRROR



Not all of us can afford top-notch antique mirrors like the ones in this flat, but The Chandelier & Mirror Company (01322-437112; www.chandeliersandmirrors.co.uk) has a huge range to choose from, including several antique lookalikes at very affordable prices. The 'Abbotswick', for example, pictured here, 82cm diameter, costs £98.

BEDLINEN

The owners of this flat love Ralph Lauren Home (www.ralphlaurenhome.com), from where came the cushions and throw on their bed, and Pratesi, for bedlinen, available from Harrods (020-7730 1234; www.harrods.com). The quilt on their bed is the 'Ricciolo', and pictured (above) is the 'Three Lines Embroidery Light Quilt', from £1,050 for a single.



DESIGN AND SOFT-FURNISHINGS SERVICE

THE IN-HOUSE DESIGN AND MAKE-UP SERVICE AT DE LE CUONA (020-7584 7677; WWW.DELECUONA.CO.UK) HAS MADE LIFE SIMPLE FOR ALL THE FANS – INCLUDING THE OWNERS OF THIS FLAT – OF ITS WONDERFUL FABRICS (RIGHT). A FLAT ABOVE THE SHOWROOM DISPLAYS ALL THAT DE LE CUONA CAN DO, FROM VALANCES TO UPHOLSTERED WALLCOVERINGS. THERE IS ALSO A PAINT RANGE, SO THERE'S NO NEED TO VENTURE ANYWHERE ELSE. PRICES START AT £22 FOR A LITRE OF MATT EMULSION (LEFT).

