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serene dream

Architect Danielle Siggerud's relaxed
Copenhagen home celebrates the beauty
of natural materials and tactile surfaces

✦ **PHOTOGRAPHY** Anders Schønnemann/Living Inside
✦ **WORDS** Amy Moorea Wong



DINING AREA
The rosewood chairs were bought from a dealer in Milan and thought to be by Tobia or Carlo Scarpa. 'I was intuitively drawn to them,' says Danielle.

Table, Klassisk Living. For similar vintage **chairs**, try 1stDibs. **Light**, Louis Poulsen. **Art** (behind table), Paco Knöllner

**LIVING SPACE**

Danielle is drawn to sculptural forms and the curves of the furnishings reflect the shape of the window niches. The doors open onto a view of the harbour.

Linen sofa, Ikea. Coffee table, Isamu Noguchi. Portrait sketch on the wall by Danielle



‘It’s a big thing creating your own home. It’s about trying to identify the core of who you are,’ says architect Danielle Siggerud. ‘When we moved, my husband and I spent a huge amount of time discussing how we wanted to live.’ The result is somewhere between the laid-back luxury of a hotel and a set of individual apartments, with the couple’s home spread across four open-plan floors of a town house in a 200-year-old listed naval building on Copenhagen’s harbour. ‘We mostly use the first two floors on a daily basis,’ says Danielle, with the second and third floors dedicated to sleeping, guests and functional spaces. ‘So, despite its size, the house feels intimate.’ With Danielle’s family in Norway, room for visitors was vital and the guest rooms include a living area and kitchenette. ‘Because the house is quite open – we don’t have a lot of doors – it was important for us to be able to withdraw and have people here without always noticing,’ says Danielle.

After moving to Copenhagen in 2008 to study architecture at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, Danielle worked with John Pawson in London and for a property development company before establishing her eponymous firm in 2016, as she turned 27. ‘I knew early on I wanted to run my own practice,’ she says. ‘I needed to take the leap before I was too moulded by another architect or company.’ Now Danielle directs a ‘small and busy’ studio, working on

home profile

THE OWNERS

Architect Danielle Siggerud, her husband Mathias, a property developer, and their almost one-year-old daughter Nora.

THE PROPERTY

A house in Holmen, Copenhagen. On the ground floor is the hallway, kitchen-diner, cloakroom and an en-suite bedroom. The first floor has two living spaces and an office area, the second floor has the master bedroom and bathroom and Nora’s room, and on the third floor is a further office, bedroom, bathroom and living area.

projects currently including a Notting Hill town house, several homes in Copenhagen and a wellness retreat on the Danish coast.

Danielle’s style is one of understated refinement and serenity, and her love of natural materials, simplicity and artful approach to form permeates her home, from the tactile plastered walls and the reoccurring use of Carrara marble to the pale-and-neutral palette and the sculptural furniture and art. ‘I want to create spaces that are relaxed and full of emotion,’ she explains. ‘Not using a lot of colour means I can focus on the architecture itself.’

When moving into the house in 2015, Danielle immediately sought to expose the space. ‘The Nordics don’t have that much light during winter – daylight is very

important,’ she says. ‘We opened up each level so light could travel all the way through the building.’ The house is an artful merging of old and new, with Danielle drawing upon the building’s history and weaving her minimal style into it. ‘The beams are the signature of the house’ she says of the dark wood structure, which is complemented by the historic furniture Danielle habitually buys at auction. ‘What carpenters did 50 years ago is unbelievably beautiful, I’m really drawn to the thought, love and craft of vintage furniture,’ she says. ‘I love the sense of history and soul.’ Danielle also turns her hand to furniture design, creating pieces that are elegant and poetic as well as fulfilling a function. Case in point is the asymmetric Mattina desk, which she designed for Mathias as a wedding gift; two separate tabletops supported by three legs. ‘They are unable to stand alone and only together is the piece complete, referencing the love between two people,’ says Danielle.

The new addition to the family, almost one-year old Nora, poses perhaps the biggest change to the house, bringing a splash of brightness to the otherwise serene aesthetic. ‘I knew it was going to be messy and crazy and colourful, and that’s exactly how it should be now,’ says Danielle. ‘I wouldn’t wish for it to be any other way.’

—X—
daniellesiggerud.com



LIVING SPACES
The wall display features a mix of artwork from local galleries, drawings by Danielle and family photos. The sofa is where the family come together to relax.

(this page) **Vase** (left), Arne Bang. White **sculpture**, Gunhild Aaberg. **Vase** (right), Gunnar Nylund. Blue ceramic **carafe** from Florence. (opposite page, top) **Sofa**, Eilersen. Lounge **seats**, Rud Thygesen. **Coffee table**, Poul Kjaerholm. Tube **light**, Michael Anastassiades

OFFICE AREA

Danielle designed the Mattina desk for her husband in elm to symbolise family roots and a new growing generation. 'My furniture is where I can be bolder and explore new shapes,' she says.

Chairs, Pierre Jeanneret.
Black painting by Danielle.
Vase by Anders Tage



home truths

WHAT DOES THE HOUSE SMELL LIKE?

Dried flowers and French potpourri.

BIGGEST CHANGE YOUR DAUGHTER HAS HAD ON THE HOUSE?

The atmosphere, it's pure joy – and, of course, there are lots of toys.

GO-TO DINNER-PARTY MEAL?

Ravioli with brown butter and sage – we love to make homemade pasta!

FAVOURITE AT-HOME DRINK?

A good glass of Chardonnay.

WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?

The album *Woman* by Rhye.

BELOVED CLOTHING BRANDS?

Celine and Swedish brand Totême.

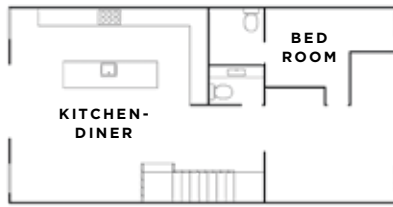


KITCHEN

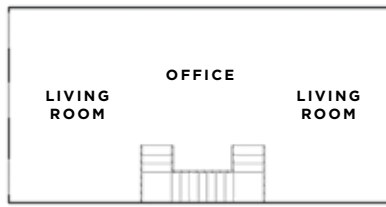
'I didn't want the cabinets to take away from the beams, the walls and the vintage pieces, so I kept them very minimal,' says Danielle.

The **kitchen** was designed by Danielle. Find similar **Carrara marble** at Rossi Stone Surfaces. Grey **teapot**, Arne Bang

the blueprint



GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



BATHROOM

The honey-hued tiles add warmth to this bright white, gallery-like space, decorated with only a sculpture on a plinth, letting the marble basin take centre stage.

Basin designed by Danielle.
Sculpture, Gunhild Aaberg

MASTER BEDROOM

'We have barely anything in here so it's a pared-back space just for sleeping,' says Danielle of her tonal, textured bedroom. 'We wanted a soft, calm feel that focuses on our senses.'

Bedside lamp, Serge Mouille