



INTERIORS

The Greatest Rooms of the Century





VINCENZO DE COTTIS

A shortage of houses of properties created difficulties for interior architect and furniture maker Vincenzo De Cottis in his search for a new Milan home on which he could impose his design ideals. Much of the city had been bombed in World War II, so when he found this apartment in an eighteenth-century building in the stylish Corso Magenta district, he knew he had a canvas suitable for his project. "One that had the history to play with," says his wife, Claudia Rossi. De Cottis is renowned for turning raw environments into smart hotels and shops, and for reupholstering materials or on-site unique, highly collectible pieces. His 3,200-square-foot (298-sq-m) apartment reflects

his "perfect imperfection" aesthetic: he generously uncovered high ceilings with faded frescos, 200-year-old parquet floors, and ornately carved archways. De Cottis likes to explore the relationship between antique and historic minimalism, as seen in this dining room. A dramatic light hangs over a long dining table and two stools made of recycled fiberglass and clear-plated brass; the floor is covered by an off-white wool platform, and 1980s abstract prints hang on the wall. Horizontal surfaces are kept clean. "It might be the most minimal people see on earth," says Claudia Rossi. "We love empty space."



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DE COTTIS APARTMENT
 Milan
VINCENZO DE COTTIS
 Milan
CLAUDIA ROSSI
 Milan
MILOA, 2016
 Copenhagen
 Italy