

A S P I R E DESIGN AND HOME

**SEEKING
THE
SUBLIME**

AUTUMN 2020
ASPIREDESIGNANDHOME.COM

KITCHENCUP

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OPPOSITE: Based in Paris, Bordeaux and Geneva – Jean-Xavier Neuville devotes his craft to the art of stylish living. His agency handles event planning, interior design, branding and communications and also assists with well-appointed stays in Bordeaux, the port city in France's fertile wine region. **DINING ROOM:** Murano chandelier bought at auction, Emmanuel Layan, Hôtel des Ventes Tourny, Bordeaux. Pyramid table, Wim Rietveld for HAY. Result Chairs, Friso Kramer (1959 for HAY). Silverware, Christofle. Drawing above fireplace, François Avril, Huberty & Breyne Gallery, Paris. **LIVING ROOM:** Prado sofa and walnut console, Christian Werner for Ligne Roset. Stine Gam and Enrico Fratesi console, GUBL JH7 table, Jaime Hayon for S-tradition. "Ring My Bell" lamps, Arthur Hoffner for Ligne Roset. All from Docks Design, Bordeaux. Yellow and red lamps, HAY Matin by Inga Sempé, HAY Bordeaux. Terrarium, Jade Design (Paris/Bordeaux). Artwork above console, Bretagne by François Avril, Huberty & Breyne Gallery, Paris.



JEAN-XAVIER NEUVILLE, FOUNDER OF AGENCE NEUVILLE

REDUX: STEERING A TRUE COURSE

***A FRENCHMAN
POSSESSING THAT
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SAW A PROMISING
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IN AN OLD
BORDEAUX
RESIDENCE
NEARLY IN RUINS.***

TEXT ALICE GARBARINI HURLEY
PHOTOGRAPHY CÉCILE PERRINET-LHERMITTE
INTERIOR DESIGN JEAN-XAVIER NEUVILLE



KITCHEN:
Island, Bulthaup. Range and hood,
Lacanche. Copenhagen stools,
Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec,
HAY Bordeaux.

BORDEAUX, FRANCE

Hailing from the North of France, Jean-Xavier Neuville arrived in Bordeaux eight years ago with two suitcases and a fresh master's degree in architecture. By 2016, the passionate visionary had acquired a weathered duplex built in 1712.

Located in the Saint-Michel district, with its busy town square and basilica, the structure was built on the ditch of the medieval city wall when wealthy merchants and shipowners settled in the southern suburbs. They divided vast districts into private residences – mansions built on the Cours Victor Hugo.

Following his heart, Neuville transformed one historic structure into home base for his firm, which opened in 2018, and ample space for his living quarters. The building had been uninhabitable in the early 2000s; previous owners had planned renovations that didn't happen.

"This was a typical shipowner's house, originally a privileged hosting venue, capturing ashore the maritime power of its owner," he notes. It is the only property of that era that still stands in such pristine condition.

"After years of discovering this jewel city through its sumptuous interiors and unique inhabitants, I decided to create my agency here," he asserts. "The smell of the old noble woods and the chance to reinvent an interior or that had kept all its original features immediately seduced me."

He poetically praises the region for the "softness of its blond architecture, generous vineyards and endless lines of majestic pines that never reach the horizon and the sea."

He removed partitions dating to the 19th century and lovingly renovated parquet floors and woodwork. New bedrooms, bathrooms, a library and a handsome green dressing room with wood staircase were carved out of the footprint.

"More than three hundred years have passed, and while the noble floors remain, the other, more modest spaces have been adapted to my way of life," says Neuville. On the lower floor (the living space), fireplaces and ceilings are still intact, as is the half-moon carpentry that separates the library.

"I wanted a place reflecting both past and present – a space where life is good and the sky is always blue," he adds. Along that line, he had the walls of the airy pantry behind the kitchen painted a true French blue, then hung a Moroccan lamp, antique paintings from Bordeaux and a mirror unearthed at a bargain. He added strokes of bold colors in the library and at the entrance, and vibrant pink accents in a bedroom.

Throughout the space, Neuville incorporated historic and contemporary details. For the dining room, he chose light, flexible vintage chairs from 1959 and lighting found at auction. A classic, time-honored kitchen range and hood – "Les Pianos Gastronomes," made in France – is flanked by sleek, modern cabinets that close neatly. Stools stand ready at the island so friends can join him for *petit déjeuner* – a light breakfast of croissants, jam and coffee, perhaps, eaten in a beautiful place.

BEDROOM (TOP LEFT AND RIGHT): Bed linens by Harmonie. Armchair ottoman, designed by Noël Duchaufour-Lawrance for Ligne Roset. Rope Trick lamp by Stefan Dietz for HAY. Walnut veneer mirror, IKEA. Lithographs signed by Georges Braque (1882-1963). George Nelson bench, Vitra. Diabolo 50 wall lamps by René Mathieu for Lunel France. Toile Peise by Françoise Avril, Acrylic, BRAFA 2017 Bruxelles. **BEDROOM (BOTTOM LEFT AND RIGHT):** Bed linens by Harmonie. Office CPH 190 Desk from the Copenhagen collection, by Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec. Audrey chair by Piero Lissoni for Kartell. Desk lamp from Dock Design Bordeaux. Hanging cupboards, IKEA.





MUSIC ROOM: On fireplace, glass lamp Murano, Atollo 237, designed by Vico Magistretti. Drawing "Maternité en bleu", KRBEK Rosemonde (1920-2000). Napoléon chair. Floor lamp Akari 10A, design Isamu Noguchi. Alexander Girard Wooden Dolls for Vitra. Suspension Silk paper, creation by Agence Neuville.



TOWARD THE STAIRCASE: Lamp on the fireplace by designer Pascal Mourgue for Ligne Roset. Clock QLOCKTWO Creator's Edition in steel. Armchair Papai from Lucidi Pevere edited by Cinna. Portrait of Jean-Xavier, photography by Truffles On The Rocks, 2018. **KITCHEN PANTRY:** Woven hanging lamp, Éditions Vétiver, Bordeaux. Antique paintings. Emmanuel Layan, Hôtel des Ventes Tourny, Bordeaux.



ASPIRE DESING AND HOME (ENGLISH)

- AUTUMN 2020 -

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INTERIOR DESIGN JEAN-XAVIER NEUVILLE

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