

BLUE NOTES

Watery shades take their cue from this apartment's riverside location and offer a soothing antidote to Jocelyn Land's busy life

FEATURE RACHEL LEEDHAM
PHOTOGRAPHY RACHAEL SMITH



SITTING AREA
Clean lines and contemporary furnishings create a crisp, modern finish. Shang extra-fine sisal grasscloth wallpaper, £129 per roll, Thibaut. Brooklyn two-seater sofa, from £2,395 plus fabric; Bolsena Celadon sofa fabric, £40m, both Designers Guild. Satellite wall-mounted unit by Barber Osgerby, from £1,769, Twentytwentyone. Robot Too sideboard in Paper White, £534, &New



INSPIRING

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Top-floor flat in a modern apartment block
LOCATION Southeast London
ROOMS Sitting room/dining area, kitchen, two bedrooms (one en suite), bathroom
PURCHASED 2006
PREVIOUS PROPERTY 'I lived in a one-bedroom flat just around the corner,' says Jocelyn.



DINING AREA
 The contemporary artwork inspired Jocelyn's choice of simple, white furniture.
 Lundunar Hjola Tre limited edition art, £285 (unframed), Kristjana S Williams. Ottawa table, £1,699, BoConcept. Muuto Visu Colour chair in white, £185, Twentytwentyone. Glass Pumpkin table lamp, £99 (excluding shade), Graham and Green



KITCHEN
 A set of wall-hung plates brings humour to this functional space. Fornasetti wall plates, £125 each, Milk Concept Boutique. Bespoke units by K & I Kitchens. Paris Cabaret wall tiles, £8.95 each, Fired Earth



DECORATING TIP
 'Use texture to add depth to a scheme without architectural features'



Since moving to southeast London 12 years ago, Jocelyn Land has seen the area go from strength to strength. 'I originally came here because of the river views and great transport links, but now it has lots of wonderful cafés and restaurants,' says Jocelyn, a partner in a law firm. So it was no surprise that she wanted to stay local when she decided to upsize from her one-bedroom flat. 'In fact, I ended up moving just round the corner.'

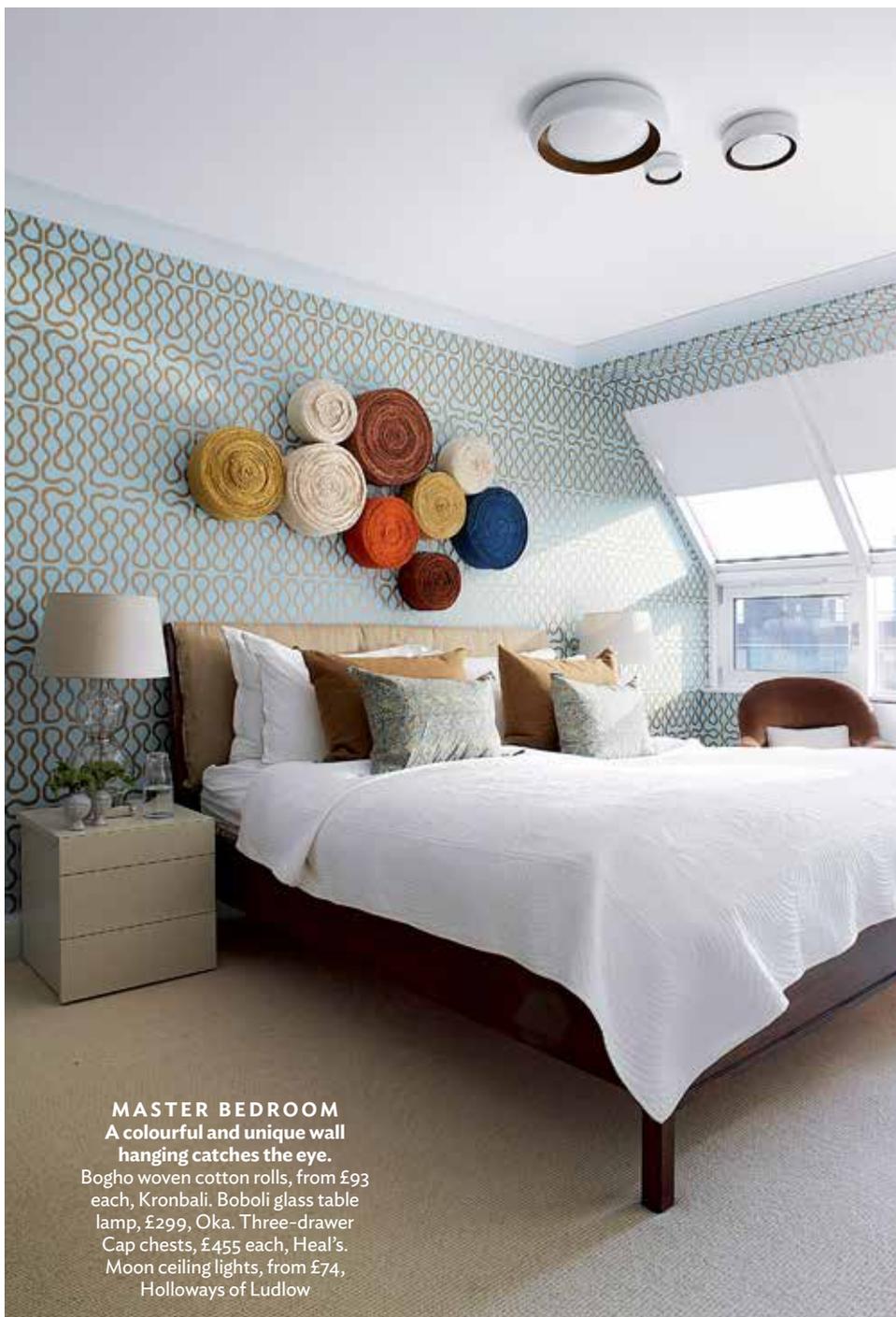
The appeal of her new two-bedroom apartment, which is situated on the top

floor of a block of flats, was the generous entertaining space and the panoramic view it offers across the River Thames. 'I walked in and saw the huge windows and knew I simply had to buy it,' recalls Jocelyn.

When she moved into the property in 2006, the building was only around 10 years old and the interiors still had the developer's neutral decor. 'It was perfectly fine, and I lived with it for a number of years,' says Jocelyn. 'But I never found the best way to use the main living space.' It was after she made a few tweaks, introducing a dark

stained-oak floor in the sitting room and changing the two bathrooms, that Jocelyn decided to approach interior designer Nicola Pratt to help with the refurbishing. 'Not only was I very busy with work, I also realised that I needed a professional eye to help everything come together,' she says.

First Nicola rejigged the sitting room layout, and had bespoke bookshelves designed to wrap around the seating area, giving it a more intimate feel. The flat has very few architectural details, so Nicola introduced interest with texture instead. She hung



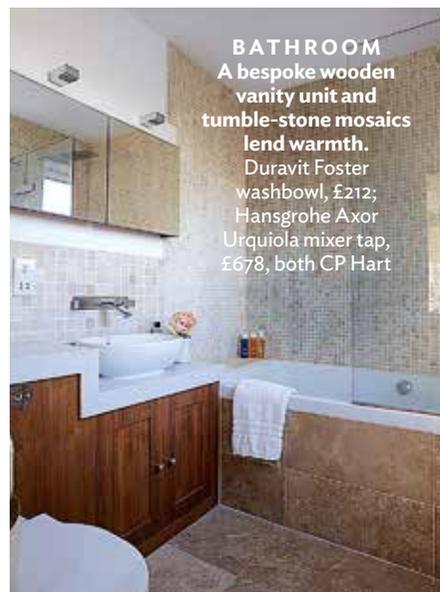
MASTER BEDROOM
A colourful and unique wall hanging catches the eye.

Bogho woven cotton rolls, from £93 each, Kronbali. Boboli glass table lamp, £299, Oka. Three-drawer Cap chests, £455 each, Heal's. Moon ceiling lights, from £74, Holloways of Ludlow



GUEST BEDROOM
Soft blue-green tones are soothing. Wall paint, Brighton absolute matt, £37 per 2.5 litres, Little Greene

DESIGN ADVICE
'Seeing 3D images of schemes gives you the courage to be more daring'



BATHROOM
A bespoke wooden vanity unit and tumble-stone mosaics lend warmth. Duravit Foster washbowl, £212; Hansgrohe Axor Urquiola mixer tap, £678, both CP Hart

a neutral-coloured grasscloth wallpaper throughout the living space, and then streamlined the window treatment to take full advantage of the glorious views. 'Previously there were heavy curtains that had to be tucked behind a bar at the bottom of the sloping windows,' says Jocelyn. 'It's a much brighter space now, with new roller blinds in the same material as the walls discreetly positioned beneath a pelmet.'

Colour plays an important role in creating a sense of unity and connecting the rooms, and Nicola has taken inspiration from

the river and sky with a palette of aqua and turquoise. The two sofas, which help define the seating area of the open-plan space, are upholstered in a watery blue-green fabric, and this colour is carried through to the kitchen where a fish scale-style splashback adds character to the understated white scheme.

More blues appear in the bedrooms, punctuated with touches of gold, orange and brown. 'Nicola cleverly introduced accent colours that tie these spaces in with the bathrooms,' notes Jocelyn. 'What really helped with some of the braver choices, such

as the master bedroom wallpaper, was that I was able to view computer-generated images to see what the finished room would look like.' Nicola adapted some of Jocelyn's existing possessions, including giving each bed a luxurious padded headboard for extra comfort. She also reworked the interior of the fitted cupboards to maximise storage.

Jocelyn is delighted with her remodelled home. 'The rooms function so much better now, and it's a brilliant flat for entertaining in,' she says. 'And I love the different blues – they help to bring everything together.' 25