



MAXIMALIST MAYHEM AT ITS BEST

NEW YORK CITY, NY, USA

DESIGNER & RESIDENT
MISHA KAHN

When a designer's own work is described as, among other things, "disheveled, spontaneous maximalism," or that the designer himself likens it to "f**king chaos," it would be something of a let-down if you were to learn that he lives in a home styled by Martha Stewart. Mercifully, this is Miša Kahn we are talking about. The styling in this apartment not only attempts to push the boundaries of maximalism to the next level, at times it succeeds. And then some. A graduate of Rhode Island School of Design, Minnesota-born Kahn is known for an experimental approach to furniture and lighting design with which he reinvents established techniques, often incorporating found materials and refuse, to create pieces that are outlandish in both form and function. It is an approach that finds echoes in the interior styling of this Brooklyn apartment, which he shares with partner Nick Haramis, editor-in-chief of *Interview* magazine. In a series of rooms painted—roughly in places—in bold pastels, Kahn has assembled a hodgepodge of iconic postmodern and contemporary pieces, alongside several of his own. The scenes are fantastical to say the least. In the bedroom, gilded wall sconces reminiscent of an angel's wings are mounted either side of a bed with a headboard fashioned from colorful fabric remnants, and a full-size toy sheep stands on a grass-green rug. In the dining area, a pair of rainbow-colored chairs by Katie Stout face each other across a table designed by Gaetano Pesce, the top of which is shaped like a map of Denmark. In the living room, pieces designed by the Campana Brothers include a fur-upholstered sofa and a fish-scale leather chest. Above the sofa is a bright-yellow resin mirror designed by Kahn. But it is on passing through an arched doorway into the kitchen, into what can only be described as an explosion of color, that things take a more extreme turn. Set against a yellow chinoiserie wallpaper from Voutsas, no inch of this room is free of pattern. In the windows hang space-themed drapes and the cupboard doors and floor tiles are daubed in manic swirls of every color imaginable. It is maximalist mayhem at its very best.