

THE LONDON LOOK

COSMOPOLITAN CALM

A palette of blush pink, polished concrete and pale wood creates a peaceful oasis amid the urban regeneration of New Cross, south London

Words TRISH LORENZ
Photography MICHAEL SINCLAIR



Blush strokes

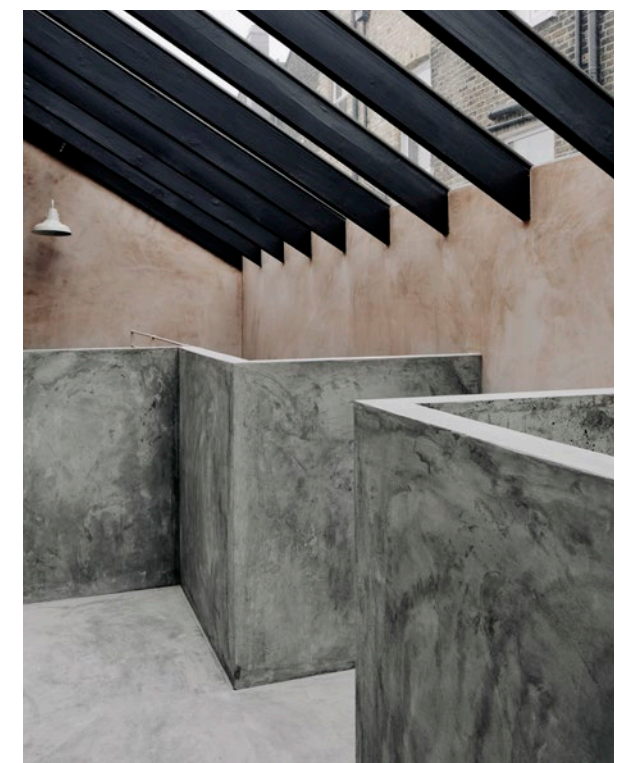
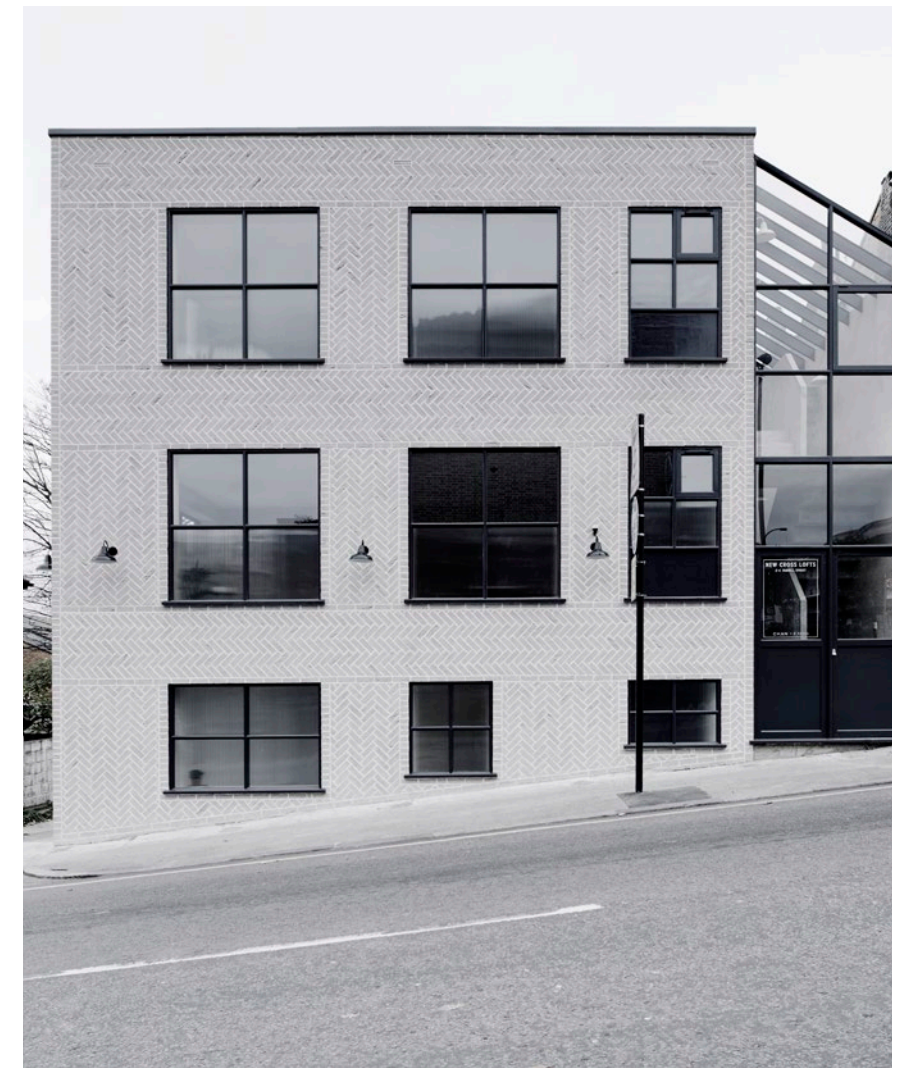
The walls resemble raw plaster but are in fact painted in Farrow & Ball's 'Setting Plaster', an on-trend blush pink applied in sweeps to create this distressed effect. 'The colour palette was inspired by a trip to Marrakesh,' says the architect Merlin Eayrs of Chan + Eayrs. The chair, designed by his grandfather, is a treasured family heirloom, as is the rug - try 1st Dibs for similar furniture and The Orientalist for rugs. By the window, there's a four-metre-long seat cast from poured concrete and covered in a bespoke linen cushion (try Tinsmiths for a similar fabric). **Stockist details on p290**



This 90-square-metre loft-style apartment, a former garage in London's New Cross, Lewisham, is a symbol of the creative energy that is reinvigorating the area. The suburb is the latest gentrification hotspot, thanks in part to the East London Line overground trains linking it to Shoreditch and the City, and the growing impact of the art school, Goldsmiths, which is just around the corner. Completed earlier this year, this building is the vision of architects Zoe Chan and Merlin Eayrs of Chan + Eayrs. 'We used to live in west London, which is very beautiful, but we were drawn by the raw pulse of the south-east and the chance to add something to the urban fabric of the area,' says Zoe.

The exterior of the property, which is clad in grey Belgian bricks arranged in a herringbone pattern, looks contemporary amid the tall red-brick houses that surround it. Yet it has a softened aesthetic that somehow suits the neighbourhood. 'You can't just build an alien-looking box in the middle of a street, you have to consider what is around it,' says Merlin. 'We used brick to reflect London's vernacular architecture, but we didn't want to pretend that the house had been here a long time, which is why we chose the herringbone design.'

There is an aura of calm inside the apartment, thanks to the light that floods in from windows on three sides of the building. A pale yet warm scheme of plaster pink paint, polished concrete (used on the staircase) and oiled oak floors complements the couple's pared-back, mostly 20th-century, furniture. 'London is urban, frantic and largely artificial, so we wanted to counter the chaos with a calm, natural palette,' says Zoe. 'This apartment is simple and luxurious.' chanandeyrs.com



Exterior Clad in grey Wienerberger bricks made in Belgium, which are set in a decorative herringbone pattern, the house is modern but suits the neighbourhood
Staircase Located within the glass side extension, the concrete stairwell has strong architectural lines ▶

Into the groove

Tongue-and-groove panelling clads several of the walls and complements the painted Shaker-style kitchen units by British Standard. The wood panels have been painted using 'Rolling Fog' by Little Greene, a warm neutral tone that works wonderfully with the dusky pink on the walls. The floor is oiled engineered oak, which echoes the lines of the wall panelling – try Dinesen for a similar design. The dining table is a vintage piece (try The Old Cinema for similar), as are the Bavarian chairs, which were unearthed at Townhouse, a gallery and antiques shop in London's Spitalfields. For a similar industrial-style light, try Trainspotters. **Stockist details on p290 >**





Cool concrete

The bright glass-ceilinged atrium to the side of the building houses a concrete staircase – Concreations can produce something similar. Teamed with the distressed pink walls, the concrete lends the interior a raw, industrial aesthetic that's enhanced by a factory-style pendant light (try Trainspotters). **Stockist details on p290 >**

ZOE AND MERLIN'S ADDRESS BOOK

The architects reveal their secret design destinations

Rose Uniacke A great store in Pimlico, London, that has a changing selection of beautiful antiques, which are always very good quality. *76–84 Pimlico Road, London SW1 (roseuniacke.com)*

Jamb This is another must-visit in Pimlico. It sells antiques, reproduction fireplaces and lighting. We found amazing lanterns here. *95–97 Pimlico Road, London SW1 (jamb.co.uk)*

Oliver Gustav This is the first place we go when visiting Copenhagen. The showroom has some amazing contemporary pieces displayed in a simplistic Scandi setting. *Strandstraede 9, 1255 Copenhagen, Denmark (olivergustav.com)*

Marché aux Puces de St-Ouen We love this famous market in Paris for its eclectic mix of antiques – it is massive and a great place to lose yourself while searching for treasure. *(marcheauxpuces-saintouen.com)*



‘London is urban, frantic and largely artificial, so we wanted to counter the chaos with a calm, natural palette’



Vintage vibe

The apartment is furnished with wood furniture and well-worn vintage finds. The armchair in the bedroom (below) is a mid-century piece bought from Ebay (try Lovely & Co for vintage seating). It rests in front of a steel-framed window that fills the space with light (consider Crittall for a similar look). An Anglepoise wall light, placed above the bed, negates the need for bedside cabinets. The bedding is by Calvin Klein **Stockist details on p290 >**



Rough blush

Want to mimic the perfect marriage of plaster tones and concrete shown in Zoe and Merlin's London home? Use these beautiful imitation surfaces to get the look

Styling HANNAH BORT
Photography JAKE CURTIS
Styling assistant ANNA SHERIDAN



From left 'Panbeton Vertical Planks' foam and concrete wall panel, £80 per square metre, Concrete LCDA (concrete-beton.com). '351' floor lamp by Aage Petersen for Le Klint, £668, The Modern Warehouse (themodernwarehouse.com). 'Plywood' wallpaper (on floor) by Piet Hein Eek for NLXL, £199 per ten-metre roll, Design Wharf (designwharf.com). 'Daybed' by Hans J Wegner for Getama, £1,895, The Modern Warehouse (themodernwarehouse.com). 'CS-134' pink striped cushion, £72; 'CS-091' lilac cushion, £72, both Larusi (larusi.com). 'Painted Stripe' grey cushion by Evan James Design, £95, Mint (mintshop.co.uk). 'Vice Versa' throw, £260, The Conran Shop (conranshop.co.uk). 'Burlap' tadelakt pink wall finish on doorway, £140 per square metre, Tadelakt London (tadelaktlondon.co.uk). 'White Tiles' wallpaper, £30 per square metre, Mr Perswall (mrperswall.co.uk). 'ISO B' side table, £283, Petite Friture (petitefriture.com). Concrete bowl by Stephan Schulz, £109 for set of three, Twentytwentyone (twentytwentyone.com). 'Stoneware' teapot, £36, Native & Co (nativeandco.com). Plant pot by Lisa Stockham, £1,000, Flow Gallery (flowgallery.co.uk). 'T.T.A' dining table by Mikal Harrsen and Adam Hall for MA/U Studio, £1,856, Viaduct (viaduct.co.uk).

Candleholder, £35, Native & Co (nativeandco.com). 'White Cracked Slip Wayward' vase by Matthias Kaiser, £748, Flow Gallery (flowgallery.co.uk). Wooden bowl, £550; fragments (in bowl), £480, Puckhaber (puckhaberdecorativeantiques.com). 'Paulownia' tea caddy, £30, Native & Co (nativeandco.com). Water jug, £91, Mud Australia (mudaustralia.com). 'White Flat' plates by Kasper Wurtz, £50 each, Sigmar (sigmarlondon.com). 'Porcelain' bowls (two shown) by Nadia Pignatone, from £65 each, Mint (mintshop.co.uk). 'Perigord' water glass, £66 for a set of six; 'Perigord' flute glass, £51 for a set of six, both Pentreath & Hall (pentreath-hall.com). 'Primitive Swedish' chair, £780, Puckhaber (puckhaberdecorativeantiques.com). 'Smooth' grey clay plaster (on wall), £20 per square metre, Clay Works (clay-works.com). 'Hat' pendant light, £347, Mud Australia (mudaustralia.com). 'Modified Carver' vintage chair, £210, Retrouvius (retrouvius.com). 'Plaster V' white paint (on wall), £42.50, Paint & Paper Library (paintandpaperlibrary.com). 'Argento Larch' porcelain plank tiles (two pictured), £47 per square metre, Mandarin Stone (mandarinstone.com). 'N2 Gardenia' large vase by Jaime Hayón, £269, BD Barcelona (bdbarcelona.com) **13**