

The thoughtfully curated Budapest home of the power couple behind fashion brand Nanushka is a study in East-meets-West elegance, finds **Olivia Lidbury**

Photographs **Paul Massey**

TWO OF A KIND



Above On the wall hangs a Slim Aarons photographic print taken where the couple holiday in Andalusia every year. The tiger rug was sourced from an American dealer on Etsy. **Above left** Sandra Sandor and Peter Baldaszi. **Left** The 1970s desk was a gift to Baldaszi. The wooden screen is a remake of a design by Alvar Aalto



When your home is fully furnished, seeking out new pieces can seem futile. But for Hungarian fashion designer Sandra Sandor, founder of Nanushka, and her partner, Peter Baldaszi, who is also the brand's CEO, the search is always on. That's because "home" isn't just their loft in downtown Budapest, it's also the Nanushka store and cafe in the city and wherever their latest pop-up boutique might be. The latter are conceived as cosy spaces recalling Sandor's tactile aesthetic, complete with hand-picked furniture — much of which will enjoy a stay in their loft at some point.

Certain to catch Sandor's eye are midcentury furniture and pieces from the 1970s. "I love the use of materials and organic shapes from those eras. We buy a lot from Mobilkunst, a Budapest-based vintage dealer, which specialises in the periods," she says. "All the furniture we buy is quite practical. We need to find it really comfortable but also beautiful." A perfect example is the curved wooden screen that divides the open-plan, one-bedroom space. Originally a gas factory built in the 1900s, the building was subsequently used as a hospital during the First and Second World Wars. The bedroom boasts views of the Danube and the Buda Hills beyond.

Sandor has softened the industrial-looking space with textiles brought back from Morocco and southern Spain, using rugs as wall hangings and seat covers. Also peppered around the home are fruits from her side hustle: ceramics. In collaboration with the local potter Noha Studio, Sandor and Baldaszi have launched NANOHA pottery, for which Sandor designs the glazes.

To accommodate the couple's love of collecting, they often change around the furniture, and are always on the lookout for more, wherever they might be on their travels. "We fell in love with the building, so it can be hard to find something that really resonates with it. There aren't many industrial spaces left in downtown Budapest, so to us it's unique and special." ■

nanushka.com



Left 'I bought the Eye of Horus on a road trip last summer, when we made a short stop in Monaco to visit an exhibition about ancient Egypt,' says Sandor. Beside it is a Middle Eastern rose-water sprinkler. **Far left** The kitchen walls are covered in concrete from the local specialist supplier Ivanka. The chairs are from a flea market in Vienna. **Below** The leather armchairs were sourced from Artcore Antik and Design in Budapest. The pink lamp belonged to Baldaszi's grandmother



Left The lounge area features a custom-made coffee table by a set-designer friend of Baldaszi's. 'It's made of recycled teak, which I saved during the demolition of an old restaurant interior,' he says. The vintage leather chairs are from Mobilkunst. **Far left** Nanushka's NANOHA earthenware. 'Ceramics are my new hobby,' says Sandor. 'But I'm not so good at actually throwing pottery yet!'