

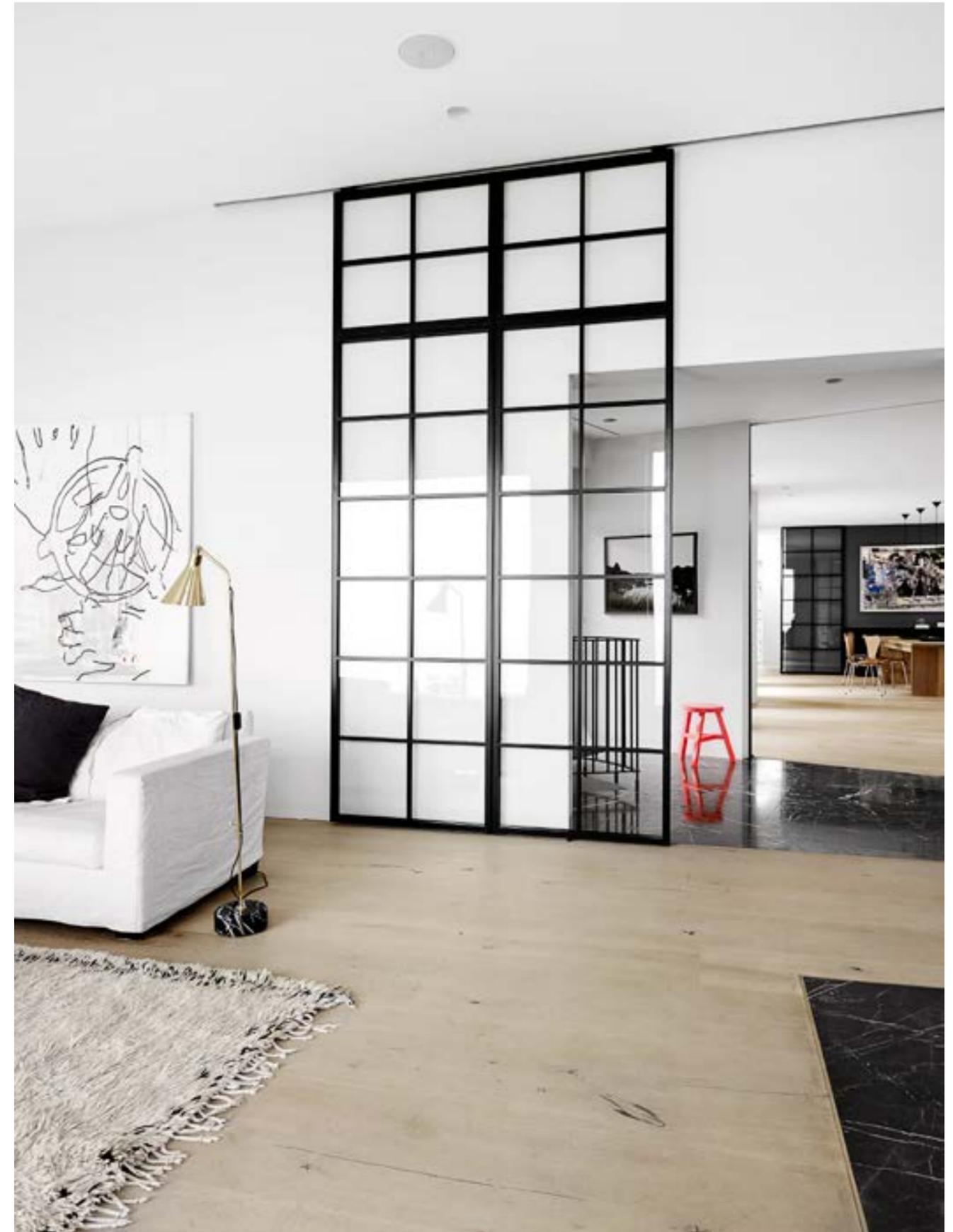


QUIET BEAUTY

Simplicity and craftsmanship underpin the fuss-free interior of this cool, calm family home on the east coast of Denmark

Words **JENNIFER GOULDING** Photography **WICHMANN + BENDTSEN**
Styling **HELLE WALSTED**

Exterior This 1930s house on the Danish coast was built with its beautiful surroundings in mind; architect Kai Lyththans camped on the site for four months to make sure that the property would stand in the perfect position
Living area The 'Grand' white-oiled oak flooring, which can be seen throughout the house, is by Dinesen. The space is divided by simple sliding glass doors, keeping the layout open and light **Stockist details on p239 ►**



The lights in Sweden can be seen flickering across the Øresund strait, and the bustling hub of Copenhagen is just 20 kilometres south, yet this house is in the very heart of nature – a beautiful beach lies 20 metres below, and behind it are acres of woodland. It's a special location and that's no coincidence – Kai Lytthans, the architect who designed the house more than 80 years ago, camped on site for four months to ensure that it stood in the perfect position.

When a friend first told the present owner, Teis Bruun – co-founder of Danish fashion house Bruuns Bazaar – about the property, he had no plans to move, but his curiosity was piqued. 'The building hadn't been touched since it was designed in the 1930s, so it was perfectly preserved in some ways, yet very worn down in others,' recalls Teis, who was instantly taken with it.

Like many modern families, Teis and his PR manager wife Marie Sofie were attracted to the idea of open-plan living and wanted a light, airy interior. Structurally, they achieved this by raising the roof, adding several large windows overlooking the sea and turning multiple small rooms into a handful of large ones. They also added an extension, which functions as a play area for their two children, Johan, seven, and Anna, five. Design duo Signe Bindsløv Henriksen

and Peter Bundgaard Rützou of Space Copenhagen helped the couple with the redesign and decoration of their home.

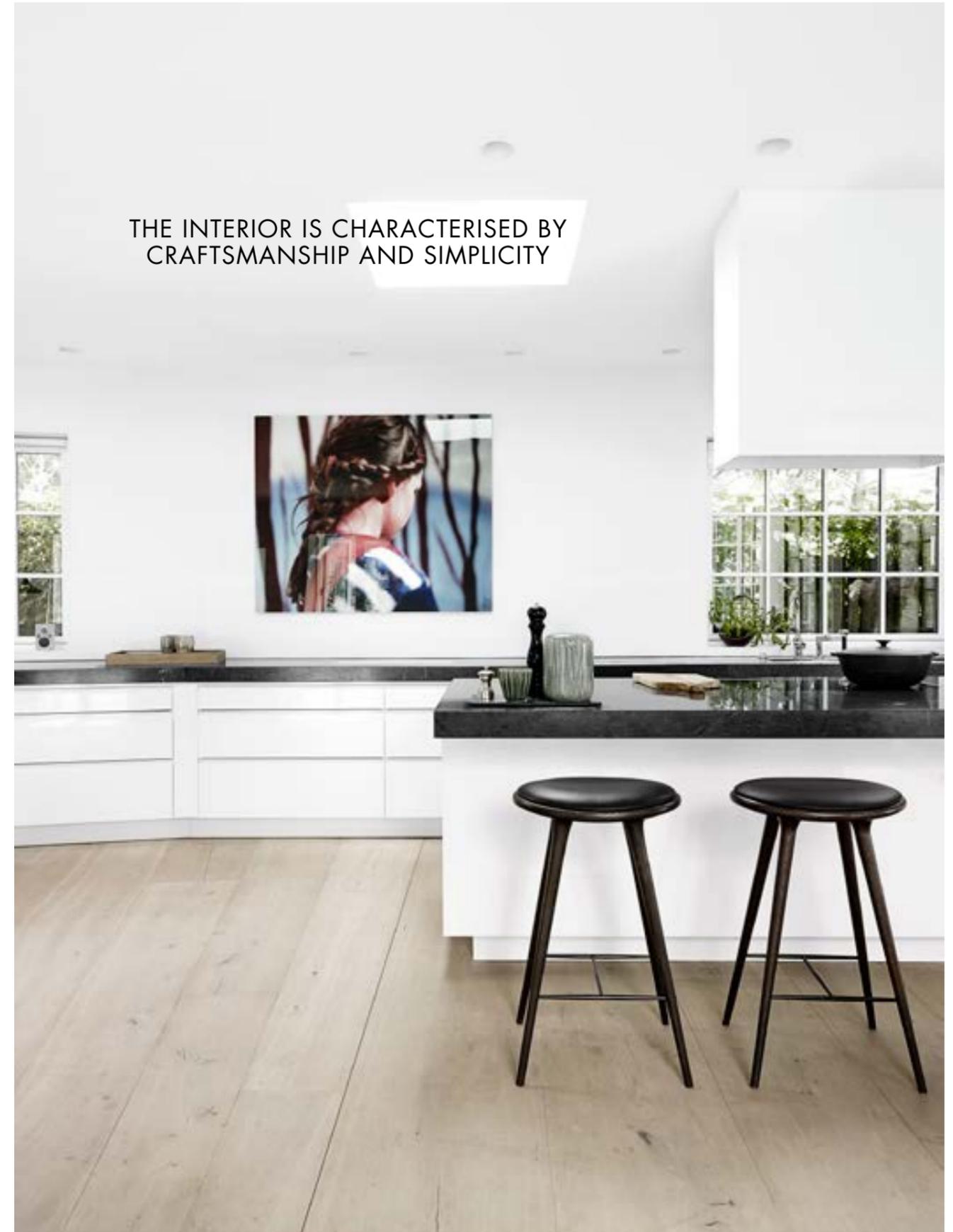
The interior is characterised by craftsmanship and simplicity. The huge white-oiled oak floorboards seen throughout the house – with the exception of the bathrooms – are key to this look, as is the very pale grey shade on the walls. Furniture, mostly Scandinavian, is used sparingly, as are accessories and art. Luxury comes from the quality of the pieces and the integrity of the materials; there's no excess or complication, just an inviting sense of calm. And yet, behind this quiet beauty is a home that is regularly visited by friends and family. 'It's a great house for socialising,' says Teis. 'It's always filled with life.'

The simple scheme also serves to direct the eye outside – something that would surely have pleased the original architect, who made such efforts to capitalise on the building's spectacular surroundings. Despite the enviable interior, living here is really all about the outdoors. 'From the beginning of June to the end of September, we swim every morning in the sea,' says Teis. 'At weekends, we ride our bikes in the woods or go for long walks. Afterwards, I like to relax by sitting and reading. I encourage the children to do the same, but that isn't always so successful,' he laughs.

Living area To make the most of the surrounding views, homeowners Marie Sofie and Teis Bruun (pictured with their two children, Johan and Anna) added several large windows. The 'Birdie's Nest' pendant light by Ingo Maurer (try The Conran Shop) is a playful counterpoint to the 'PK63' table by Poul Kjærholm for Fritz Hansen and a Beni Ourain rug. The 'Alzabile' floor light, by Ignazio Gardella for Azucena, was sourced from The Apartment, a Copenhagen shop and design studio. Its base complements the marble used around the fireplace and in the hallway, where a Tom Dixon 'Offcut' stool adds a splash of colour **Stockist details on p239** ▶



Kitchen/dining area A Dinesen table is teamed with 'Series 7' chairs by Arne Jacobsen for Fritz Hansen and a 'Bench with Back 444' by Ilse Crawford for De La Espada (try Twentytwentyone); above the table hangs a trio of 'Beat' pendant lights by Tom Dixon. For less formal dining, there is a breakfast bar with a pair of 'High Stools' designed by Space Copenhagen for Mater **Stockist details on p239 ►**



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Bedroom Pared back and sophisticated, the main bedroom is furnished with a pair of 'PK22' chairs by Poul Kjaerholm for Fritz Hansen and a day bed by Rune Bruun Johansen, which the owners found at Danish concept store The Apartment. The bed is dressed with a linen bedspread from Merci in Paris. Elegant veined black marble is used to striking effect in the bathroom, which features a capacious freestanding bathtub **Stockist details on p239 ED**