

## FAVOURITE ROOM

## Modern love

Architect Cindy Rendely's living room is packed with pieces by Perriand

Toronto-based architect Cindy Rendely designs spacious, modern homes for her clients, but when it came to her own residence, she opted for a one-bedroom rental in the city's Yorkville area. The same address is also home to her award-winning firm, Cindy Rendely Architecture, located down the hall. Despite the extreme proximity, Rendely insists on keeping the two worlds separate. "It's very compartmentalized: This stuff never enters there and that stuff never enters here," she says. At the end of the workday, following a very short commute, the architect retreats to her living room, which is a personal tribute to the golden age of modernism.

"I am a big lover of Charlotte Perriand, who worked with Le Corbusier," she says. Although she rarely cooks and admits to having never used her oven, Rendely invested in an Osipete table, an underrated Perriand classic, manufactured by Cassina, and purchased from Italinteriors in Toronto. The table's black, leather-like "magic material" top extends to seat 12; an ingenious feature Rendely admits to have used only once. "I had my entire family for dinner, for the first time in 25 years," she says. But, on most days, the accompanying Charlotte Perriand-designed LC8 stools stay tucked. The Perriand theme continues into the seating area with famous leather and chrome LC2 chairs she co-designed with Le Corbusier and Pierre Jeanneret, as well as the bright lime-coloured sofa, also by the trio. "It's a daybed, and I think it's brilliant," Rendely says, referring to its individual swivel cush-



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ions. "Cassina put it into production, but this [model] is no longer in production; they've modified it."

Providing contrast to the crisp nature of modernist furniture is a massive copper panel, portraying a dynamic streetscape, which she purchased over three decades ago from the (now-closed) Garth Drabinsky gallery. Rendely was working as a goldsmith at the time and was captivated by its scale. "When I originally bought this, I was in a much larger home, with much taller ceilings," she says. "If I had a client and they said they wanted to buy it for their space, I would say, 'Don't be ridiculous, it's going to overpower your room.' But, I own it and I love it. On the opposite wall hangs a floral still-life painting by Mitchell Matthews, which Rendely

admits was a peculiar purchase on her part: "I tend to love abstract things more, but I was attracted to the colour and the form. It's happy." Another cherished, unexpected object is a cushion by Committee, a London-based design duo, depicting a cartoony, patchwork A-frame house in a painterly landscape, purchased from The Rug Company. "They were inspired by Flemish tapestry, and they obviously have a sense of humour," she says.

Rendely's love of art and design is evident in her love of collecting. In fact, she wonders whether her clients will be surprised that she lives with so much, as her work is often very restrained and minimal. "I was always buying thinking, 'Well, when I have my house...' so it's sort of overloaded with one too many chairs and one too many tables. But it is a reflection of me; I am not that minimalist."

—ANYA GEORGIEVICH

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## Get the look

1. Flou Arc floor lamp, \$3,955 at Inlorm ([www.inlormshop.com](http://www.inlormshop.com)).
2. Committee Home cushion, \$1,450 at The Rug Company ([www.therugcompany.com](http://www.therugcompany.com)).
3. Cassina LC8 sofa by Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret, Charlotte Perriand, price on request at Italinteriors ([www.italinteriors.ca](http://www.italinteriors.ca)).
4. Cassina LC8 leather stool by Charlotte Perriand, price on request at GR Shop ([www.grshop.com](http://www.grshop.com)).
5. Cassina 1949 Cassina marble side table by Piero Lissoni, \$3,375 at Italinteriors.