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SPECIAL EDITION



THE HOUSE THAT FAMILY BUILT

The home of a professional couple with three children employs carefully considered materials and an interior design that combines modern classics with new, high-quality products.

By Irene Wichmann Photos by Jouni Harala



As their children grew older and took up new pastimes, this family of five needed more space. With a distinct vision of the type of house that they wanted, the busy professional parents were wary of starting a construction project from scratch. Yet after four years they still hadn't found a house that they liked, so it was time to reconsider. They took the final step towards this major decision when a site suitable for their new house went on sale in their old neighbourhood. >

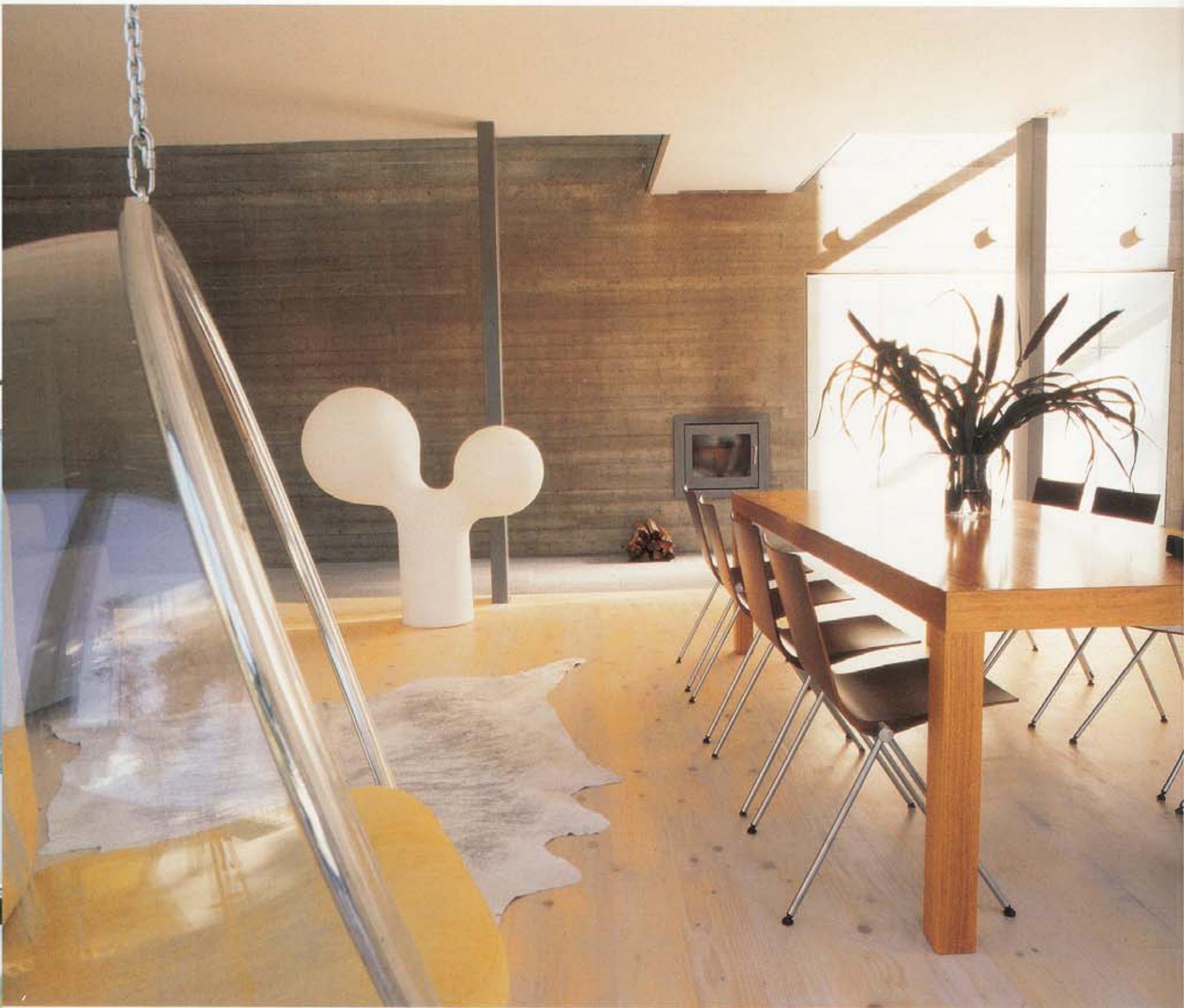
Here, old and new combine. Suspended from the ceiling is Eero Aarnio's Bubble Chair designed in 1968 and initially purchased by the family's grandmother. Placed around the dining table are Samuli Naamanka's new, modern Clash chairs. The window wall is fitted with Soltin netting by Ferrari to guard against ultraviolet radiation.



The house is divided into low and high, shared and private space. Accentuated by pillars, the middle level contains the kitchen, dining area and living room. One of the newer items is Eero Aarnio's large *Double Bubble Lamp* from 2001. The white Philippe Starck armchair was purchased second-hand, while the egg-shaped *Tato stool* by Enrico Baleri from 1997 has become a classic. Louis Poulsen lamps designed by Arne Jacobsen were installed in the ceiling. >

Minimalist space is decorated with old and new classics.





Tall, white and spacious cupboards and a fireplace are built into the kitchen walls, which are made of concrete.

Finns love large windows that give the feeling of interior and

“We wanted to build a modern house,” says the family’s mother. “We wanted light and space. And the house had to be practical, suited to our needs, and able to serve our hobbies and pastimes.”

The project started from a minimalist aesthetic with a Finnish

identity, handcrafted details, and the use of ecological materials.

Architect Yrjänä Vuojala began designing the house. To assist him and visually explain their ideas, the family prepared a scrapbook with pictures of houses and interiors to their liking. Looking at the

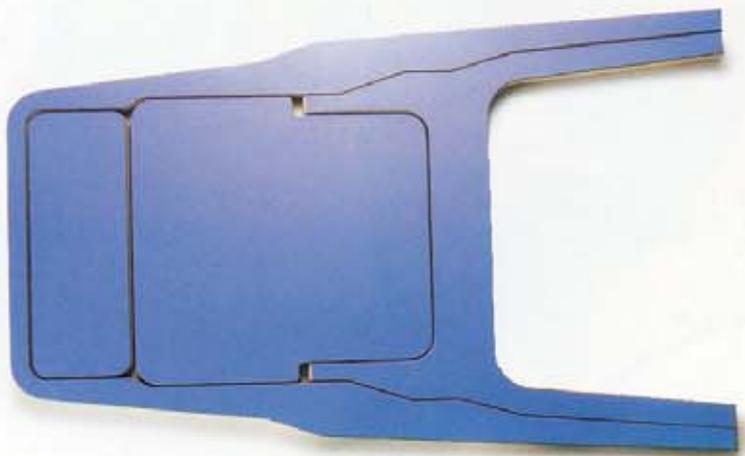
humour

any case, Finnish design can be fun.

Hanging on a wire from the ceiling, the **Oka A coat rack** (€154) designed by Teppo Asikainen is so charming that it's almost a shame to hang coats from it. www.inno.fi



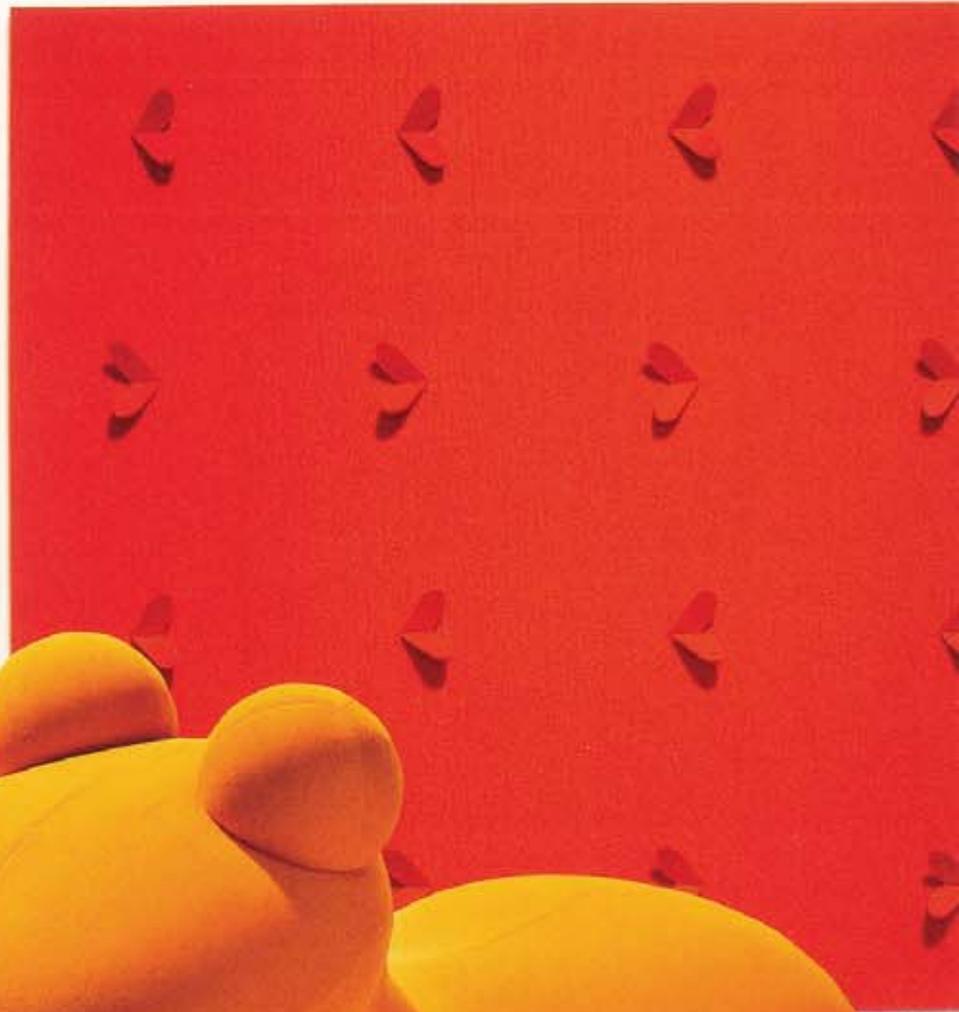
Sanna Kantola and Bruno Beaugrand design high-quality **Lumi bags** (€189). www.lumiaccessories.com



Hannu Kähönen's **2F folding chair** changes colour according to how it's opened. When folded, it can be hung on the wall. www.martela.fi



This felt **Itu carpet** (€600) warms and massages bare feet with its love. It measures 160 x 160 cm. www.versodesign.fi



Eero Aarnio's **Pony** (€2250) has been ridden for the past 33 years. This horse in orange, green, black or white entertains interiors with its playful spirit. www.aerodesignfurniture.fi, www.eeroaarnio.com >