

**Homage to Modernism
on the Dulwich Estate**
By Tabitha Teuma
Photography Marcus Peel

Labour of Love

If you're a fan of Modern buildings then, like me, you will not be able to resist ogling the luxurious 1960s bungalows designed by Austin Vernon & Partners and built by Wates on the Dulwich Estate in south-east London. Having visited properties on the Estate in the past, and indeed featured a couple, I was amazed to discover yet another 'variant' on the local architectural language, and one that certainly deserves a closer look. Home to Francesca Forcolini, founder of fashion label and boutique 'Labour of Love', her husband, Barry, who works in the design industry, and their two young children Anouk and Ray, this four-bedroom bungalow has recently undergone an extensive renovation.

It is a house of two halves. Doors lead from the entrance hall into the large living room and kitchen-diner, as well as to a separate corridor on the other side, in which the bedrooms (one of which is now an office) and family bathroom are situated. There's a tidy division between private and public; on entering it is not immediately obvious that the sizable bedroom 'wing' even exists. There's an air of tranquility about the place. The spacious living room looks onto the south-facing garden at the back by way of large sliding doors. Its timber-clad semi-pitched roof adds



Previous: external view from front.

Left: Dressing room, sandblasted and re-upholstered Victorian theatre seats from LASSCO; cow hide rug; 1960s hand-blown Murano glass chandelier by Vistosi; built-in sliding wardrobes from IKEA. Right: dining area, dining table constructed from Eames aluminium group legs found on eBay and a melamine ply top constructed by Barry; 1950s Eames DSW dining chairs on La Fonda bases; Tripp Trapp convertible high chair by Peter Opsvik for Stokke; vintage industrial Pill ceiling lights; Sotsass salt and Pepper cellars for Alessi.



