



When Margherita Maccapani Missoni Amos discovered she was pregnant with her first child, there were two things she was sure of: one, that the time had come to put down roots, and two, there was no other place in the world she'd rather do that than Varese, a lakeside city about 50km from Milan.

Heir to the exuberant Italian label, Missoni Amos, the first born of Angela Missoni, took over as creative director for the M Missoni line in October 2018. Married to entrepreneur and pilot Eugenio Amos since 2012, she follows in the footsteps of her mother, who has led the celebrated brand for over 20 years and whose parents Ottavio and Rosita first consecrated the label's multicolour zigzag patterns as an icon of Italian design.

HOMECOMING

However, despite her years spent amidst the international jet-set, rushing between New York, Paris, Rome and Milan, Missoni Amos didn't hesitate for a moment when the time came to leave the big city for a more relaxed rhythm in the countryside. "I like life in the country. There was never a doubt in my mind that when the time came to raise kids, living immersed in nature would be the healthiest environment."

In Varese, the Missonis are an institution: most of the family members—just like the company—were born here, and many have chosen to remain. Missoni Amos's sister, Teresa, came up with the hashtag #VareseThePlaceToBe, a playful homage to the Lombard city that now counts over 72,000 photos on Instagram.

So, when Missoni Amos and her partner stumbled upon a plot that overlooked the area's eponymous lake and offered sweeping views of the Alps and the Monte Rosa, the two were instantly smitten.

The couple decided to construct an entirely new home: "After working through our initial differences, we concentrated on the elements we both liked, filling a notebook with references we could agree upon: stone and wood for the exterior, linear lights, and a double-aspect living room," she notes.



Above: In the living room, a 1950s sofa upholstered in blue Brahms Porcelain velvet, a 1980s coffee table custom made by Piero Pinto for Rosita Missoni, a prototype Chinese zodiac rug and a plexiglass bookcase sculpture by Andrea Branzi from the Luisa delle Piane Gallery in Milan

MEMPHIS MIX

They entrusted the project to architecture studio Cibic Workshop, founded by visionary designer Aldo Cibic, famous for cofounding the Memphis Group and his longtime collaboration with Ettore Sottsass. "The architecture follows the slope of the hill. Characterised by a long, suspended body hosting the home's more private areas, it's clad entirely in wood, just like the gabled roof," she says, likening the structure to a bridge resting on two volumes, which connects a dining area with a library. In the middle lies the glass-enclosed living room. >



Margherita Maccapani Missoni Amos