



production: OBJEKT International
photos: Hans Fonk

Above: The impressive stairwell with a Murano Masterpiece by Seguso Gianni. Right: The end of the long hallway with the passage to the parlor, and the garden room with its curved ceiling decorated with gold leaf. The yellow chairs are by Baker Furniture and the purple chairs are by Donghia upholstered with a fabric by Fadini Borghi. The purple damask curtains are by Tassinari & Chatel. The sofa's are from the Podium collection upholstered with a fabric by Pierre Frey. The lamps are from Murano and the curtains are by Pierre Frey.

THE BELLE ÉPOQUE REVIVED

From the outside it looks as if the house was built in the ‘Belle’ Époque” period of the 19th century, in the then fashionable style. Nothing could be further from the truth: It was built at the beginning of the 21st century, with both the utmost precision and history in mind. It is the house of Gina and Peter, who built it stone for stone, detail after detail and with great enthusiasm, assisted by artisans and professionals, including Patrick Brugman.





The house lies in Landsmeer, a village a little to the north of the city of Amsterdam. It is a place where, at the start of the last century, a joiner's still stood. It had first been noted in a history book written in 1326, which was mainly concerned with the never-ending Dutch battle against water. These water-rich, areas of natural beauty have since evolved to give the village its important, characteristic charm.

The house was built between 2003 and 2005, and includes three stories and a cellar. On the ground floor it has a traditional layout: A long hallway with rooms on both sides and an open stairwell. In the basement there is a wine cellar, sauna, wellness and fitness spaces, together with a film and lounge room. There is also an additional garage with hydraulic lift.

The top two floors have been reserved for bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms and even a complete au pair's apartment.



Top: the owners and enthusiastic decorators of the house Gina en Peter and on the right Patrick Brugman who took care of the professional advises.

Above: the master bathroom and bedroom with a vintage silk bed linen from the private collection of the owners and a hand knitted decorative cover from the Podium collection.

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Top left: the study with antique chairs, desk and bookcases. The floor is a smoked-oak Versailles parquet. The curtains are by Casal Oberalp. The wooden fireplace is from France. Lighting is by Cini&Nils. Beside that: the living kitchen is by Hilkman Interior Productions.

Bottom left: the formal dining room with antique Louis XV dining chairs and a chandelier by Brand van Egmond. The curtain fabrics are by Pierre Frey. Beside that: the formal living with Donghia chairs and an antique chandelier.

The owners: "We wanted to build a big house for once. We came from a modern house, and this kind of architecture suited our plans. We visited castles and manor houses for inspiration. We paid close attention to the details and we worked all that experience back into this house."

The continued: "As a fictitious starting point we chose 1860. During the process we really soaked up the material. You go back in time, and then you really want everything to be just right. You pay attention to every detail and then there comes a point when you just can't stop. The search for the stones, the decisions about other materials like the ornamentation for the ceilings: That's what makes it so special. Yes, it is a big house but it is still homey, with lots of light and no overly large rooms. Thanks to Patrick Brugman it became a rounded whole, and one in which all the historical details are accurate. The biggest compliment we can get is if people tell us how beautifully restored it is."