

FRENCH KISS

YOU'D EXPECT THE HOME OF A GALLIC
MAGAZINE EDITOR TO BE CHIC — AND SO
DO HER CHILDREN PHOTOGRAPHS KAREL BALAS



Above Isis-Colombe Combréas with her daughter, Hiroko, 5. Combréas, 39, is the editor of *Milk*, the French children's fashion and design magazine that she launched five years ago and which has become a cult read. She describes it as "a vision of style for the modern family". Combréas lives in a three-bedroom apartment in the 14th arrondissement of Paris with her husband, Karel Balas, the art director of *Milk*, and their two children, Alocha, 10, and Hiroko. Combréas describes her children as aesthetes, "but Hiroko needs her pink, plastic Barbie kitchen every once in a while".

Main picture, left Combréas's favourite spot is the sofa, designed by Hella Jongerius for Vitra, where she sits and devours indie magazines. "I read them nonstop," she says. The lamp on the sideboard is vintage 1950s, and the other chairs are a mix of modern and vintage. For vintage chairs, try orangeandbrown.co.uk and fragiledesign.com.

The paintings are by Pierre Balas, Karel's father (see his work on artnet.com). Combréas's father was also an artist, and her interest in design and fashion is a part of her love of all things visual. "I have always been very interested in how the various arts interact," she says.

The master bedroom, off the sitting room, features a bed from Habitat and wallpaper from Osborne & Little (osborneandlittle.com) ▶

