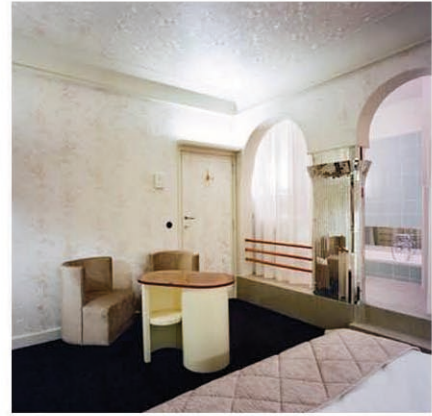


HOTEL LE BERGER

LOCATION: Brussels, Belgium

DESIGN: Martina Nievergelt



When Brussels hotelier Jean Michel André bought Hotel le Berger in 2010, he set out to update the city's most historic *hôtel de rendez-vous*—a hideaway for trysts—while staying true to that original conceit. Built in the early 1930s, “the Berger” has retained many of its cinematic adornments: a double staircase, open bathrooms, secret alcoves for intimate dining, and bathtubs with mirrored edges. Interior and set designer **Martina Nievergelt** was brought on board to give the hotel's original 50 rooms a new look. Her concept: 10 different rooms, or “universes,” on every floor, each with a different color scheme. “It was less important to me that the hotel be true to an Art Deco style than that it capture the old spirit,” Nievergelt says. With the renovation came modern-day comforts, but what guests will remember most are the hotel's many charming nods to the past. “Here,” Nievergelt says, “you will spend a different night than you would anywhere else in Brussels.”—S.K.

7 PIZZERIA ENOTECA

LOCATION: Oakville, Canada

DESIGN: Brayan Stoyanov



The food came first when Brayan Stoyanov conceptualized the 7 Pizzeria Enoteca in a historic building in Ontario. Having recently returned from a trip through Italy, the Toronto-based designer and architect took cues from the country's cuisine to create an authentic menu, then followed that philosophy through to build out a space using natural, unfinished materials, such as marble countertops and solid walnut chairs by Matthew Hilton for De La Espada. Staying especially true to tradition, a fourth-generation maker of wood-burning ovens came from Naples to custom-build the eatery's stove. What's more, Stoyanov says, “We shipped over a container of mud, dirt, and bricks for him to use at his request.”—J.K.