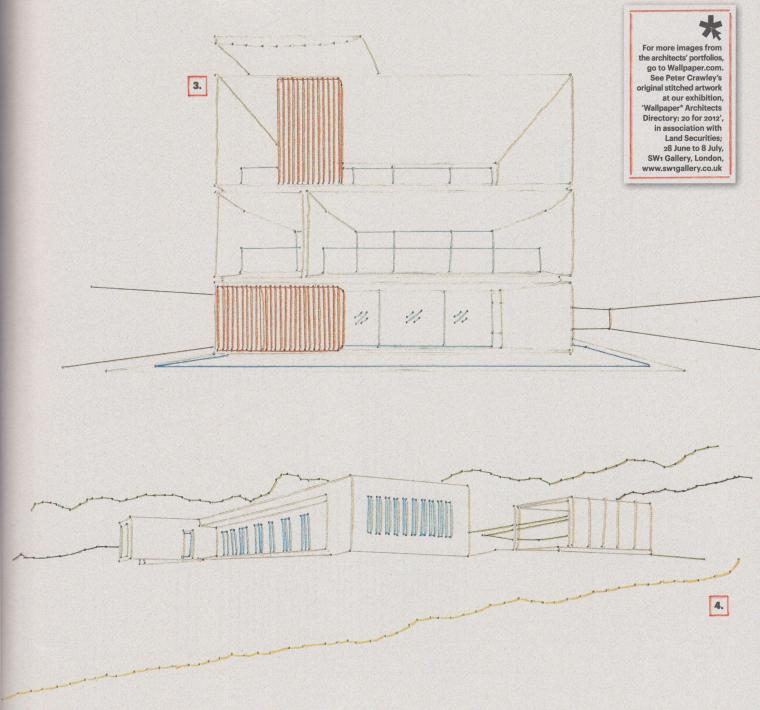


The world's most intriguing young practices have your every whim sewn up - from a bijou Belgian base to an Ivory Coast retreat, a patchwork dacha to the consummate kit home. Here's who to call

STITCHED ARTWORK: PETER CRAWLEY WRITERS: JONATHAN BELL, ELLIE STATHAKI



# 1. KOFFI & DIABATÉ Ivory Coast

Guillaume Koffi set up his studio in 1993, with Issa Diabaté joining in 2001. Now 38-strong, the practice is working on a wide range of commissions in Ivory Coast and all across West Africa, with major office buildings and residential projects currently on the board. Citing Richard Neutra, Marcio Kogan and Oscar Niemeyer, as well as the work of Belgian architect Bruno Erpicum and the socio-political environment of Ivory Coast itself as inspiration, the architects have recently built this private weekend house on a lagoon. www.koffi-diabate.com

### 2. ILAI Switzerland

'We see ourselves as architects in the classical sense; designers, organisers and maintainers of the culture of space,' say ILAI's Adi Heusser and Iela Herrling, whose practice, now comprising four employees, was founded in 2007. The Zurich-based partners work on a variety of building types and scales, but it's their recent residential work that caught our attention. House H47°18' near Zurich features interiors in neutral colours, and was designed with four key points in mind: viewpoints, a flowing interior, light, and generous worldly feel; minimalism fused proportions. www.ilai.ch

## 3. JM ARCHITECTURE Italy

Jacopo Mascheroni studied in Italy, France and the US, eventually joining Richard Meier's atelier in New York. In 2005, he moved back to Italy and set up JM Architecture in Milan. Inspired by everything from fashion to films to car design, the practice's output focuses on residential projects, including this villa in Bolzano, Italy. 'We pay meticulous attention to details, finishes and materials,' says Mascheroni, to achieve 'simplicity, coherence, clarity and harmony.' The result is a detached, otherwith geometric forms. www.jma.it

# 4. BRITO.RODRIGUEZ **ARQUITECTURA** Portugal

'We are inspired by landscapes, the history and culture of places and how each relate to a given territory,' say Portuguese Inês Martins de Brito and American Gilberto Rodriguez. Based in Lisbon since 2008, the pair coordinate a range of cultural, residential, urban and landscape design projects, stating influences such as RCR Arquitectes and Luis Barragán. Among their most recent work is the residential Casa MB in Óbidos, Portugal – a minimal, horizontal white volume that creates an interesting dialogue with its green, hilly surroundings. www.britorodriguez.com