T- Magazine

Now Booking: An Intimate Roman Retreat

Panne velvet smoking chairs and trompe l'oeil frescoes fill the thoroughly Italian Hotel de Ricci, recently opened in Rome's central Regola district. The intimate albergo has just eight rooms, but its cellars and bars are appointed with over 1,500 varieties of wine, from Friulians and Mosellas to Gajas and Nebbiolos. "I wanted to create something very warm," says the restaurateur-turnedhotelier Lorenzo Lisi, who now manages the nearby Pierluigi, his father's iconic seafood spot (a favorite of Cy Twombly's, who kept an apartment upstairs). "Those white walls you see everywhere in Brooklyn? You're not going to find anything like that here."

For the guest rooms, Lisi enlisted the help of his neighbors Daria Reina and Andrea Ferolla of Chez Dédé — the Old World concept shop known for those lettered canvas totes found on fashionable beaches the world over. Ferolla's illustrations and retro fonts appear on embroidered bed linens, do-not-disturb signs and the menus in the lobby's Charade Bar, which hired the head barman from the Dorchester in London. He's already dressed up the house Negroni with a splash of Umeshu plum sake — ideal, says Lisi, for sipping "after you've just stepped in from the same sun-dappled sanpietrini Michelangelo and Raphael used to stroll down." — LINDSAY TALBOT