



## The one-room environment

Gianfranco Fini's flexible furniture components are the building blocks of an interior architecture which transcends and ignores the walls of his lodgings

According to our correspondent, the Roman journalist Adriana Sartogo, Gianfranco Fini, whose apartment in Rome is shown here, describes himself as a designer and "visual operator" which is an awkward phrase in English, but appropriate, nonetheless, to his method of solving the problems of living in a very limited and irregular rented apartment. Refusing to invest in structural alterations, Fini has canceled out the existing walls and ceilings by painting them a soft dark green which sweeps them into indefinable shadowy background. His apartment has a definite, separately enclosed entrance, as well as a small wing consisting of an anteroom leading to the kitchen and bath. The main space contains two conventional furniture groups—a bed at one end, a dining table and chairs at the other—separated by a cluster of cube-like components. A few are for storage and high enough to serve as room dividers; a few are low table-stool cubes. There are also screens, and sculpture which serves as screening. Two ceiling cut-outs which introduce light from skylights by day and incandescent spotlighting by night provide focus for the two main areas, as well as highlighting the works of art. Between them, the works of art and the movable screens and storage components supply the practical needs and esthetic stimuli of Fini's flexible environment. It is one way of thumbing one's nose at the landlord whose walls and ceilings keep the weather out.





**Credits and sources**

Cubic storage and divider components: **Gianfranco Fini**. Dining table and chairs: **Saarin** designs from **Knoll International**. Sculptures of anodized aluminum and steel graphic elements: **Gianfranco Fini**. Painting in dining area: **Tano Festa**. Paintings, drawings and sculpture in bedroom area: **Tano Festa**, **Enrico Castellani**, **Cesare Tacchi**, **Gino Marotta**, **Mario Ceroli**.

