

# architectural wonder

TO ROUND OFF ALL THE FORWARD-LOOKING DESIGN IN THIS ISSUE, WE TAKE A LOOK AT A BOLD NEW RESIDENCE THAT'S QUIETLY RESHAPING ITS EAST LONDON LOCATION

## ROUND THE BLOCK

This rounded brick house in Hoxton, unlike anything before it, looks like it ought to be surrounded by water, like a cross between a ship and a castle. The fantastic design, by architect Sam Jacob, channels a multitude of references, chiefly those of Konstantin Melnikov, whose avant-garde style (imaginative buildings with geometric cut-outs) shaped early-20th-century Soviet architecture. Built atop the remnants of a former pub, the new home is all odds and ends: circular and diamond windows that beckon like crown jewels, top-floor cylinders that rise like a ship's smokestack, exterior brick walls that curve and spare interiors that swerve. The house even belies a ground-floor playschool, which feels right at home in such playful surrounds. Is it a novelty for all ages? Time will tell. For now, it's an eccentric reset for east London architecture. [samjacob.com](http://samjacob.com)



FEATURE KETH FLANAGAN PHOTOGRAPH JOHAN DEHLIN