

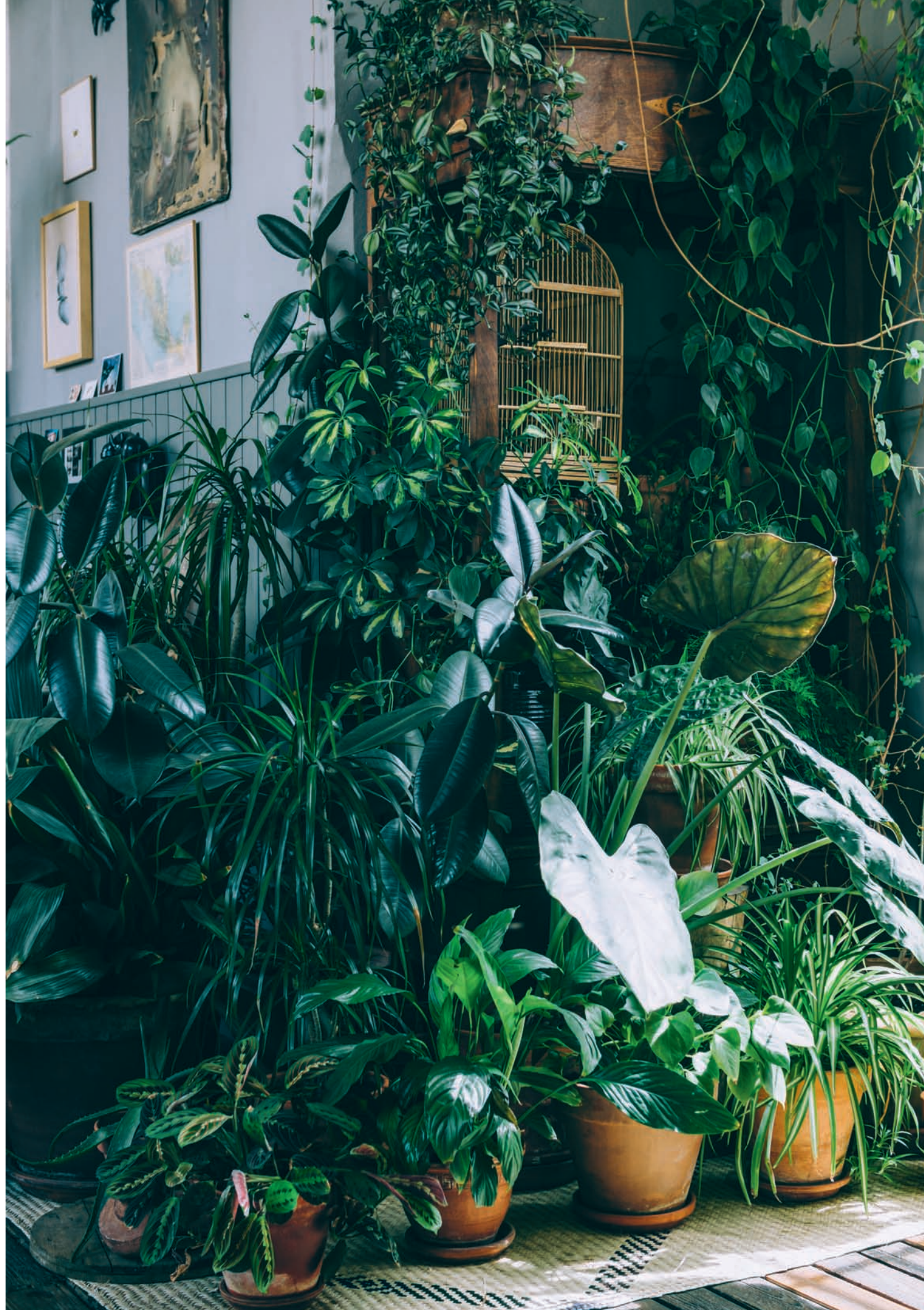
OFICIO STUDIO

MADRID ES

In the heart of Madrid, in the middle of the triangle known as Paseo del Arte, stands a building that has been there for centuries. Neglected for years, it has received a new lease on life from Melina Carranza and David Iglesias. The two now live and work there together, accompanied by their dog and surrounded by a striking assortment of plants.







Right time, right place. That's what happened to Melina from Mexico when she dropped by David's bicycle shop to get her bike fixed during her holiday in Madrid. They ended up talking mainly about their shared passion for fine leather goods, since her lovely handbag had not escaped his keen eye for detail. The ice was broken; the rest is history.

Some time later, they moved into a house in the Barrio de las Letras neighbourhood, in the shade of the Prado museum and several other prestigious historic monuments. The previous owner had used the building as storage space for over ten years, doing virtually no maintenance in the meantime. They stumbled across unique finds, but above all the place was deep-cleaned. The artistic duo currently lives and works in what is now known as Oficio Studio. At this location, fine leather goods are produced and customers are welcomed.

The move from a subtropical region in Mexico to downtown Madrid was quite an adjustment for the lady of the house. She was unaccustomed to adapting to the changing seasons. The sense of being constantly surrounded by gorgeous nature in full bloom was sorely missed. Over the years, she assembled a lovely collection of plants. The building, which receives a great deal of indirect light thanks to the large windows and direct sunlight here and there and with its soaring four-metre ceilings, was the perfect place to display her beautiful collection. It also softened the building's intrinsic industrial look. A corner in the studio was selected to place a large assortment of plants in a cluster, creating the impression of a garden inside the house. The 'indoor jungle' that it has become by now is tended with great love and attention. The plants are strategically positioned and structured according to the care they need.

The Swiss cheese plant has a prominent spot in the kitchen, as it's the couple's favourite; they also cultivate plants that add a Mexican note to Melina's culinary delights.



