

# WILDERNESS PROJECT

*A no-frills hideaway on the slopes of the Italian Alps, this rugged chalet showcases the beauty of raw materials and allows its owners to escape the ordinary*

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Perched high in the Italian Alps, this mountain retreat is only accessible by foot via a track leading from the nearby village of Piaveda. At the end of the path, the house appears in a clearing between ancient maple trees: a spectacular observation point with breathtaking views over the valley below. 'It's an austere project in an extreme location,' states owner and architect Alfredo Vanotti. 'You have to love the area deeply to decide to live here, because you really are in the middle of nowhere.'

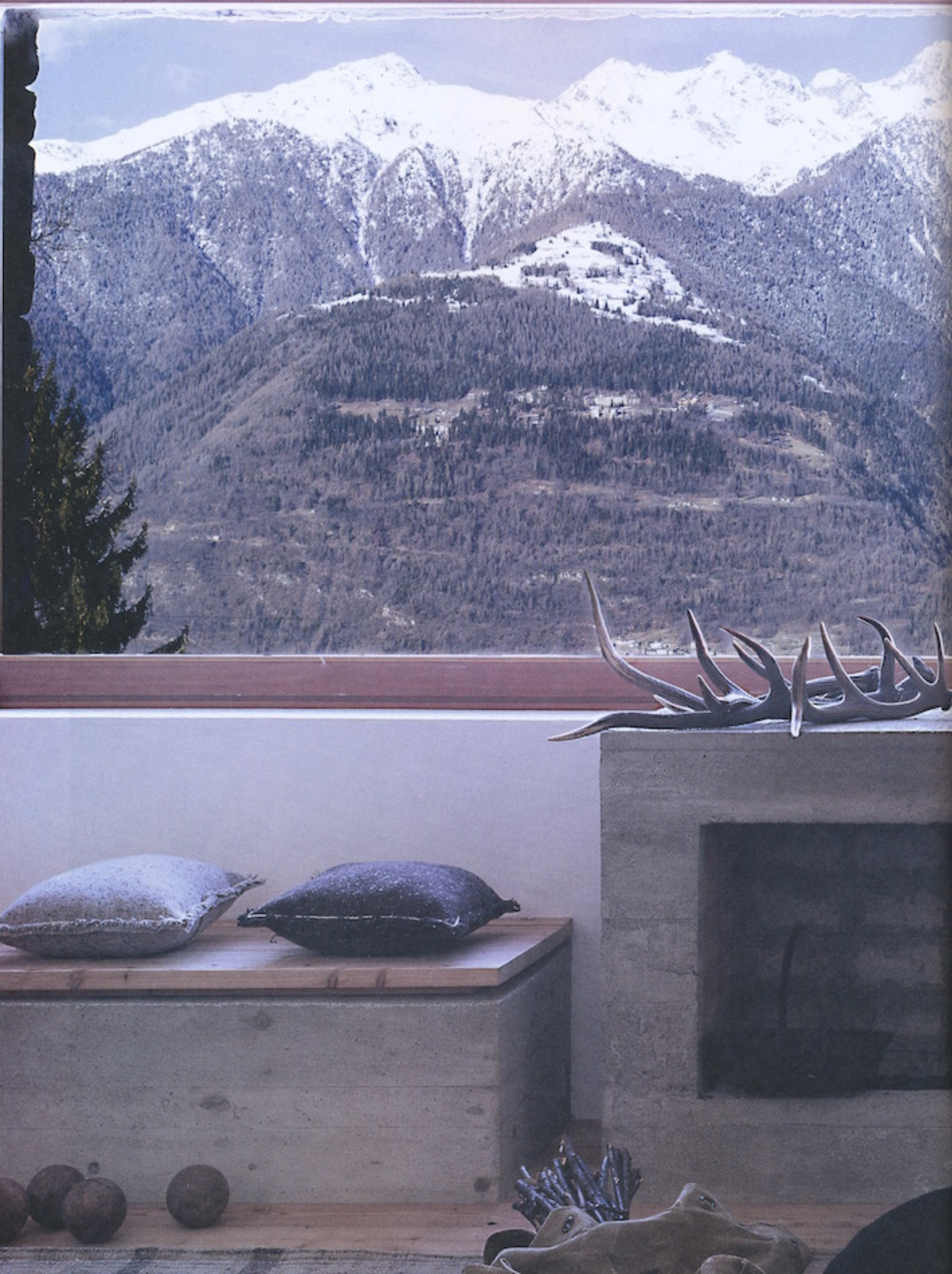
A quiet place to escape with his wife Laura and their young daughter Eva, the 80-square-metre abode was built on the site of an old stable belonging to Laura's father, set just above the family's farmhouse. 'I followed the lines of the old ruins and used materials found in the surrounding landscape, but opted for a modern reinterpretation of the ancient architectural techniques,' he explains. The exterior is now clad with stones found on the mountains; inside, Alfredo added a mezzanine floor and four large windows to maximise light and access to the views of the Alps. The heart of the house is an open-plan living and dining space spanning two levels, with much of the pared-back furniture designed by Alfredo. 'I wanted to highlight the work of local artisans, with everything custom made where possible,' he adds. 'It's a great alternative to buying off the shelf.'

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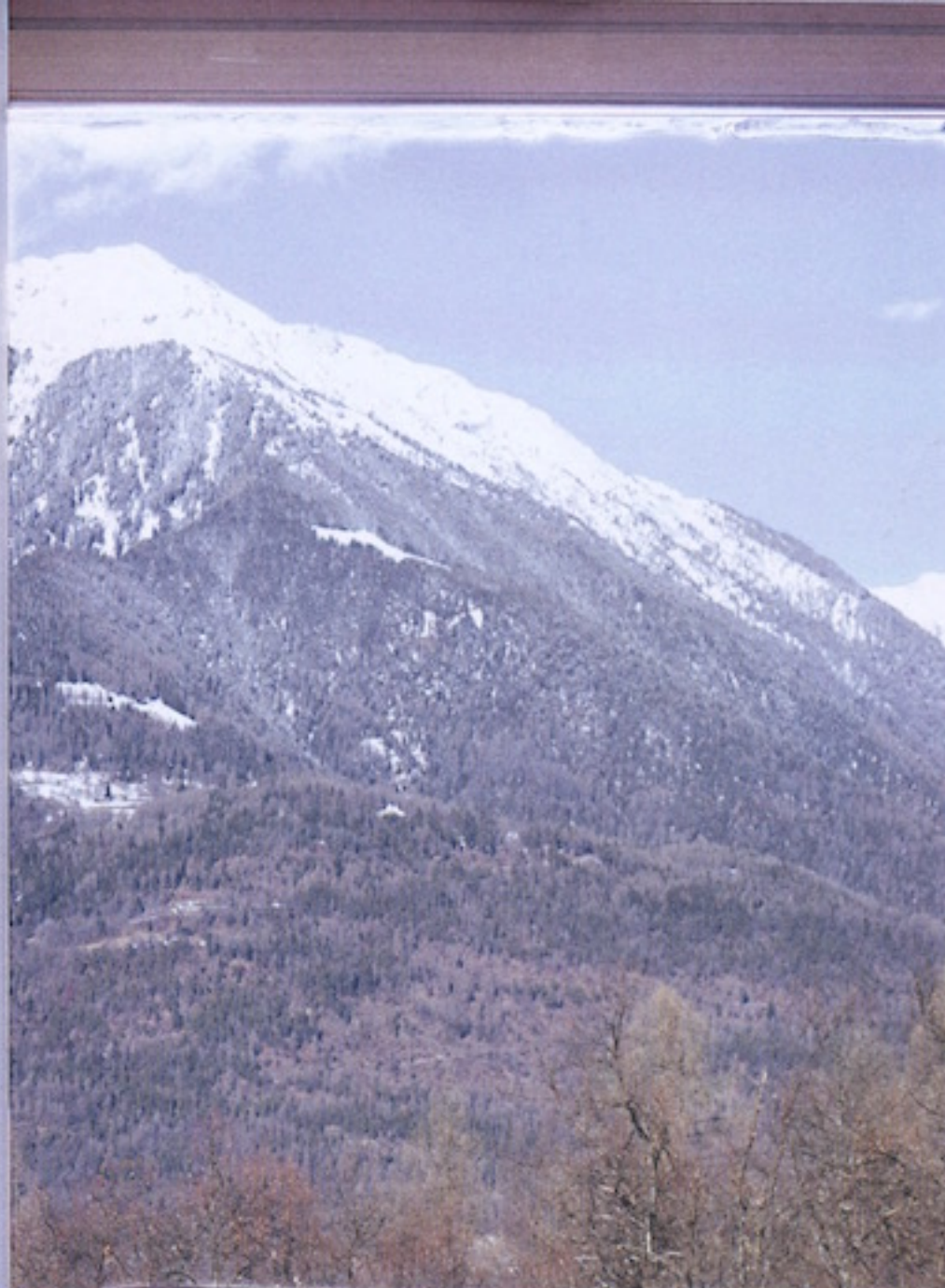








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A minimalist interior scene. On the left, a deer head with antlers is mounted on a light-colored wall. Below it, three framed abstract artworks are displayed on a wooden shelf. The floor is made of wide wooden planks. In the foreground, a textured rug and a dark cushion are visible. On the right, a large, rustic concrete fireplace with a stone interior is shown, with a large set of antlers resting on its mantel. A window with a wooden frame is visible in the background, showing a view of a stone wall.

THE MINIMALIST INTERIOR  
TAKES INSPIRATION FROM  
MODERNIST ARCHITECTURE; THE  
USE OF EXPOSED CONCRETE IS  
A NOD TO LE CORBUSIER







