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Belsize project

Roselind Wilson Design

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Roselind Wilson Design was appointed to carry out the design and complete refurbishment of this 2138 square foot duplex apartment in Belsize Park, North West London.

As a blank canvas, the property already demonstrated a spectacular foundation from which to start; with its extraordinary high ceilings, curved walls and door to the Drawing Room, elaborate original cornicing and enormous windows flooding the rooms with light.

This stunning backdrop coupled with the client's international influences, allowed Roselind Wilson Design to produce a stunning architectural space; modern yet classic and with a focus on rich texture and ambient lighting. Through the use of raw and textured timbers, bronze, antiqued brass and copper, marbles and a monochromatic palette a truly beautiful and welcoming space was created for the client to call home.

The now allocated Kitchen of this impressive stucco fronted property in Belsize Park would have formed the Reception Room when originally built. As a result, it benefits from impressively high ceilings of 3.8m and beautiful ornate cornicing and a ceiling rose, together with a fireplace as the central feature.

The client wished to adapt this stately room into a large kitchen and dining area to suit their lifestyle yet still allow this space to feel like a room and not specifically like a Kitchen. In addition they wanted to incorporate their love of modern materials like metal, timber and marble into the space whilst ensuring that it functions efficiently.

The natural progress for Roselind Wilson Design was to allow for a banquette seating area in the beautiful bay window. This would maximise the seating space and allow for a stunning oval marble table set against a strong black and white striped fabric for the bespoke bench.

The remainder of the space was designed with a large island to accommodate the hobs and downdraft extractors. A breakfast bar with bronze metal legs is fitted perpendicular to the island allowing for comfortable socialising when cooking.

The island unit is manufactured in state-of-the-art laminate to ensure a slick contemporary look that is extremely durable. The units were chosen in a stained charcoal / graphite oak to marry with the bronze and laminate and offset with the Carrara marble.

The sink is located in a bespoke unit behind the island and represents more of a freestanding furniture piece than fitted kitchen joinery. This look is intentional to adhere to the client's brief of ensure the Kitchen had a distinct room-like feel.

The Gaggenau appliances and wine fridge are located in the tall run of units on the wall opposite the bay window. Again, the sweeping dimensions of the units add to the over scaled proportions of the room and provide a sense of presence.

Roselind Wilson Design designed every detail of this kitchen and worked closely with Kitchen Architecture to ensure a truly bespoke kitchen following the more bespoke detailing and tailoring of the Bulthaup design.

The island itself faces the fireplace, the surround of which was designed and made bespoke for this room using honed Nero Marquina marble.

This entire wall was painted in Chalky Interior matt paint in Graphite Grey by Marston & Langinger to create a matte charcoal / black effect to marry with the look and feel. The rest of the rooms are painted in and off white/ grey for contrast.

Lighting was essential in the space and the requirement was to have levels of light and allow for all circuits to be dimmable. The oversized ceiling rose required an equally imposing light and the Array pendant by CTO Lighting was the obvious choice. With gold lining to emit a warm glow of light over the island and breakfast bar, it stands as a strong central feature to the entire room.

Ceiling spot lights with a 31 degree beam angle and 2700Kelvin light colour made a practical choice for the functional lighting in the space balanced with the accent of a quirky wall light by Buster & Punch to the left of the bay area.





Master Bathroom

The design of the bathroom was organic, starting with the bath, which was placed by the window to take advantage of the beautiful aspect.

Roselind Wilson Design stole space from the hallway to fit a steam/sauna shower, with a generator housed inside the stud walls, leaving the main wall opposite the master bedroom's entrance for a showcase double vanity.

The stripy stone is Honed Ocean Black Travertine was used for its warmth, character and beautifully consistent veining, without being overbearing. Despite its strength in pattern, it is somehow rather understated and timeless.

Urban Grey Antiqued Limestone was then chosen to provide a solid contrast to the movement of the travertine. The metals bring the industrial twist requested, without being too cold.

Incorporating metal is becoming a bit of a style signature and we like to mix the metals – in this case vintage brass taps with bronze metal mirror, radiator and doorframes – for a more authentic feel.

Roselind Wilson Design wanted to create a spectacular focal point with the vanity area that really defined the room's overall design essence. The design started with strong lines, seen in the chunky horizontal vanity top, offset by strong vertical grey limestone storage niches either side. To balance this, the support bars of the mirror curve gently back towards the wall with further curves provided by the oval surface-mounted bowls. The effect is quietly dramatic. The vanity cupboard doors have a textured surface by Xylocleaf that mimics metal mesh when close up.

Guest bathroom

The client loved natural stone and was completely trusting of Roselind Wilson Design to marry the look with their style. In this, the Guest bathroom, the walls were clad with Calacatta Gold marble, very luxurious and with a striking warmth to the gold veining. As the ceilings were very high in the bathroom, the marble was clad only $\frac{3}{4}$ of the ceiling height with the area above painted. The vanity basin is constructed out of the same marble encased in a teak unit to complement the gold veining and the brassware is finished in vintage brass to complete the "sophisticated industrial" look.

The bespoke mirror above the vanity reflects the storage unit behind which was carefully constructed of doors using a veneer of the same marble to obtain a seamless look. The shower area extends the entire width of the bathroom which includes the window. This area has been clad in an intricately patterned ceramic tile in gold print supplied by Made A Mano.

A bespoke metal frame was designed to run along the edge of the shower screen and between the marble and ceramic tile to provide a clean break between finishes. Roselind Wilson Design opted to paint the window frame in black too to finish the look.

