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OCTOBER 2018
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DREAM KITCHENS

KEY LOOKS FOR 2018



ALL IS BRIGHT

Some serious structural work and smartly tailored cabinetry have recast this once gloomy basement into an uplifting space with vibrant accent colours

INSIDE STORY

PROPERTY Seven-bedroom Georgian terraced townhouse in Chelsea, southwest London.

KITCHEN SIZE 3x4.8m.

DESIGNER Andy Barette, McCarron and Company, 020 7584 5736, mccarronandco.com.

THE BRIEF The lack of direct daylight in this basement guided many design decisions, including the finishes and colour palette, as the owner's ambitious goal was to achieve a chic, timeless kitchen that doesn't appear subterranean at all.

LAYOUT

A grand sweeping staircase, lift shaft (the house has six storeys) and another set of stairs leading to the lower basement all took their toll on this kitchen's footprint. Andy pulled out all the stops to ensure the available space was truly efficient in terms of cooking and didn't suffer on storage capacity. 'We built a double pantry under the stairs and curved the island worktop for a smooth passage through the room,' he says.

FURNITURE

'We've worked with the owner for years and he has always coveted our Modena range, so

the choice of cabinetry was a given from day one,' says Andy. 'The door and frame have a sophisticated chamfer detail that gives a three-dimensional aspect. Even with a white painted finish, the shadowlines ensure it looks interesting, not bland.' The island was carefully sized to provide decent prep space without overcrowding the fairly narrow kitchen area and its bow-fronted cabinet has push-touch doors and extra storage inside.

SURFACES

A 'rabbit warren' of walls was removed to harness sunlight provided by light wells at the front and back of the property. Polished



The flooring, worktops and stainless steel appliances are all highly reflective to bounce the light around the room.



ABOVE A curved glass balustrade enhances the flow of the space and aids safe passage to the lower basement level. **RIGHT** Pull-out chopping boards and trays are in a rich walnut that matches the cabinet interiors. **BELOW** A clever extended drawer front covers the prep sink and achieves a balanced run of cabinetry below the hob.



granite worktops, high-gloss porcelain floor tiles and stainless steel appliances ensure the precious light gained is reflected from every surface. Mirror-backed glazed wall cabinets augment the effect.

APPLIANCES

The owner's preference for cooking with plenty of fresh ingredients required high-capacity cooling, at which American-brand Sub-Zero excels. 'To avoid wasting the space above, we fitted slender cabinets with discreet push-touch opening, which are perfect for baking trays and roasting pans,' says Andy. The cooking appliances are all from

Gaggenau's top-end 400 Series, including ovens in an extra-wide 76cm format.

LIGHTING & ACCESSORIES

Alongside the usual task and mood lighting is an innovative illuminated glass splashback by Deco Glaze. 'It's made from two panels - a matrix of LEDs topped with very pale toughened glass. The light is diffused but it can make all the difference,' Andy says. As winning colour combinations go, yellow and blue is one of the best for instilling a sunny atmosphere. Here, it's incorporated via graphic pattern on upholstery and blinds, providing extra dynamism.

WHERE TO BUY

FURNITURE Modena kitchen, painted in Wevet by Farrow & Ball, from £35,000, McCarron and Company, mccarronandco.com. **Similar bar stools**, Paris Carver bar stool 04, from £912.90 plus fabric, The Sofa & Chair Company, thesofaandchair.co.uk. **SURFACES** Atlantic Stone granite worktops, £1,080sq m, McCarron and Company, mccarronandco.com. **Glass splashback**, around £590sq m (excluding lighting), Deco Glaze, decoglaze.co.uk. **APPLIANCES** BM 485110 combi microwave, £5,400; BO 481111 single oven, £5,511; CI282110 induction hob, £2,186, all 400 Series by Gaggenau, gaggenau.com. **ICBIT-36CIID fridge freezer**, £11,640; **ICBIW-30 wine storage**, £10,080, both Sub-Zero, subzero-wolf.co.uk. **SINKS & TAPS** Zerox 700-u stainless steel main sink, £442.26; Zerox 180-u stainless steel prep sink, £265.90; Culina-S tap, £529, all Blanco, blanco.co.uk. **Nordic Round Pro3 hot water tap**, £1,250, Quooker, quooker.co.uk. **ACCESSORIES** Blinds in Latea Indigo, £70m, William Yeoward, williamyeoward.com.