

SPECIAL REPORT

Kitchens & Bathrooms



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We often get asked: What next, what is the future of these spaces and what trends do we see coming through? Honestly, the answers are as varied as there are personal tastes.

Welcome to our kitchens and bathrooms special. From the elegant and sober through to the whimsical and experimental, in this section we have explored some of the freshest ideas in those hard-working spaces.

Some of the highlights include the apartment of French designer Emilie Lemardeley (*page 6*) in which she has let her inner child create dream-like spaces. Her kitchen is wild and playful in ways not many dare to imagine for their own home.

On the opposite scale, we explored bathrooms with a sense of grandeur (*page 14*) and some enviable spaces in heritage buildings that refuse to treat

their historic fabric with cautious, silk gloves, but do so instead with deft and decisive, but equally respectful architectural gestures.

We often get asked: What next, what is the future of these spaces and what trends do we see coming through?

Honestly, the answers are as varied as there are personal tastes. It would be scary to see a world so uniform that personal spaces are easily predicted. Instead, we are relishing the differences, enjoying the places that challenge us (aesthetically) or make us think differently about the possibilities of design and architecture.

We hope you enjoy!



This page.
Kitchen products from
Ommo, designed by
Swedish- American
designer Shane Schneck.



KITCHEN 01

Brickworks

A remnant of the early 19th century, this house had stood empty for 10 years and was looking decidedly shabby when Fraher Architects stepped in to give it the refurbishment treatment.

The architects took a sensitive approach to the renovation, restoring the features that gave the ex-worker's townhouse its historic charm – the fireplaces, walls, architraves and skirtings – and largely bringing the building back to its original glory.

They created a glazed extension to the rear to modernise the townhouse and provide a much-needed, open-plan living space. This glass-roofed extension complements the original features and feeds light into the whole plan.

The juxtaposition of old and new continues throughout the house, with antique furniture pieces that were refurbished, re-upholstered and illuminated

alongside contemporary, minimalist cabinetry, tiling and light fittings.

In terms of materiality, the architects made decisions that allowed for both the modern and historical elements of the design to shine. European Oak is used for shelving, which helps to strike this balance.

Designer: Fraher Architects
Location: London
Photography: Jack Hobhouse



KITCHEN 02

Dream menagerie

French interior designer Emilie Lemardeley's own Parisian apartment is undoubtedly cinematic. Each room has been devised to spark the imagination, like some type of movie set from the fantastical minds of Michel Gondry, Spike Jonze or Emir Kusturica.

The living room walls are covered in the intense Yves Klein blue with simple abstract paintings in lively primaries. Whimsical, wildly sculptural shapes adorn surfaces and paintings throughout.

It is the kitchen and adjacent dining room, however, where these flights of cinematic fancy really take off.

The cloud-shaped kitchen island is clad in brass and has a black Corian top. Its shiny, almost sun-drenched presence sets off the baby blue from the cabinetry perfectly like a cartoonish version of a summer's day.

There is a vintage Robert Debieve tapestry

of a rural scene with children and dove. This animal theme is further explored with a large fish light fixture, which was designed by Lemardeley. It is made from sculpted wood covered in gold leaf, much like the Chinese New Year symbol, and acknowledges the fact that the apartment used to house a Chinese sawing factory.

A zebra head, the playful glass cake stand and candy jar, Tom Dixon accessories, as well as colourful DSW chairs (by Charles and Ray Eames) reinforce the childish, joyful menagerie theme through colour and soft geometries.

Lemardeley has often called herself a narrator rather than a designer, and in this kitchen, she has practised one of her most whimsical and playful storyteller voices.

Designer: Emilie Lemardeley
Location: Paris
Photography: Stephan Julliard



Lemardeley has often called herself a *narrator* rather than a *designer*, and in this kitchen, she has practised one of her most *whimsical* and *playful* storyteller voices.



KITCHEN 03

Black box

Previously a dark, narrow worker's cottage, the owners of this home wanted a better connection to the backyard and more light in their kitchen and living room.

Architect Anna Rozen of A for Architecture reconfigured the living spaces into one large volume that stretches across the whole site. High ceilings, mirrored skylights and glazing along the back wall bring light into the room and allow a connection to the outdoors. The services – kitchen, bathroom and laundry – were relocated into the centre of the space. This core is wrapped in Blackbutt feature grade timber veneer, with doors concealed in its panelling.

The black glass-fronted V-Zug ovens have retractable handles, so when they are switched off, the handle is flush, creating a streamlined, integrated look. “The black rangehood lines up with the ovens in elevation, which creates a relief in the

timber box form. When the doors of the appliance cupboard are open and retracted back inside the cabinetry, this echoes the black strip through the timber,” says Rozen.

The tubular Qasair rangehood, which has a black electroplated finish, also allows a curved break from the straight edges of the design. The linear light above the benchtop is a Highline pendant by Melbourne architects Archier. Along with the brass Astra Walker tap and the ovens, it adds some shine to the space.

Designer: Anna Rozen, A for Architecture
Location: Melbourne
Photography: Peter Bennetts



That's it for your preview!

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KITCHEN 04

Tones of home

urbismagazine.com

This home in the centre of Stockholm began life as an office space, without bathrooms, kitchen or storage. It was painted white and had modern spotlights in the ceilings, but behind the sterile corporate look, there were traces of its 19th century history in the form of wooden floors, stucco detailing and three old tiled fireplaces.

Note Design Studio took on the task of bringing the space back to its original splendour, taking the soft, yet rich colour palette from 19th century mustard paint they found on a concealed door frame.

All new elements were placed in between the existing ornamental features, so cabinetry floats on the wall between baseboards and stucco or is free-standing, like the bold form of the kitchen island. “The material of the island is terrazzo,” describes lead designer Saana Wählin.

“It is made out of lots of small stones in the same colours as the rest of the interior: yellow, pink, grey and green. We liked the idea of using a material that stood out for some of the custom-made pieces, to awaken the interior.”

The spotlights were removed and replaced with a mix of pendants, floor and table lamps. Three Silo pendants, designed by Note Design Studio for Zero lighting, hang above the dining table. The pale mustard tone of these provides a colour bridge between the walls and the green wall cabinet. This cabinet has a cross-hatched pattern, which is taken from the parquet flooring in one of the rooms and is used for all the apartment cabinetry.

Lead designer: Sanna Wählin
Location: Stockholm, Sweden
Photography: Note Design Studio