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# 25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

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# 152 amazing rooms

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# Reinvent the way you live

CREATING A HOME THAT  
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reinvention

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revamp

Oak-framed  
new build



## KITCHEN FOCUS

## THE PERFECT MIX

Stunning materials, superb craftsmanship and standout design came together beautifully in Rupert and Jane Gunner's kitchen

FEATURE MELANIE WHITEHOUSE | PHOTOGRAPHY CHRISTOPHER HORWOOD



## PROJECT DETAILS

**OWNERS** Rupert and Jane Gunner  
**THE PROPERTY** Victorian four-storey house in a northwest London conservation area  
**WORK** Renovated in three phases over 10 years

Moving into an unmodernised Victorian property with stunning London views meant Rupert and Jane could make the most of its original features while adding contemporary touches. After some initial redecoration, they started the big renovation in 2020, which included a new kitchen.

## THE BRIEF

The previous kitchen had been cosy but was old, and the layout was dark and uninviting, so Jane called in Charlie Smallbone of Ledbury Studio after seeing his work at the Chelsea Flower Show in 2018. 'I had lots of ideas mainly based on using interesting materials,' says Jane.

## DESIGN SOLUTIONS

Jane wanted to be able to close off the kitchen from the dining room, so Charlie created a divider inspired by a vintage Italian screen that Jane owned. 'It's made of brushed and polished stainless steel in a striking geometric pattern,' he says. 'For the cabinets I used oak, selected so the grain matches perfectly,' he adds. Patinated zinc panels, fluted oak on the ends of the island echoed in the fluted Ambra quartz splashback, and a spice rack built into the wall are among the many standout touches.

## MATERIALS USED

'I love the interactions of all the materials in my kitchen: the oak, brass, steel, églomisé (painted mirror glass) and fluted quartz; and also between the strong features: the chevron woodwork, the screen, the pewter cabinet and the amazing marble and brass island worktop,' says Jane.

Jane's friend, Lara Bohinc of Bohinc Studio, designed this work of art. 'I chose every piece of marble with Lara; the result is mesmerising.' The splashbacks and worktops are in manmade Ambra quartz, which unlike marble isn't sensitive to acidic substances such as lemon.

## FINISHING TOUCHES

The wonderful details include the 1950s Italian pendant light. 'The right lighting is essential above a kitchen island,' advises Charlie. 'If you're using a single statement light, always position it above the island's centre.'

## LESSONS LEARNT

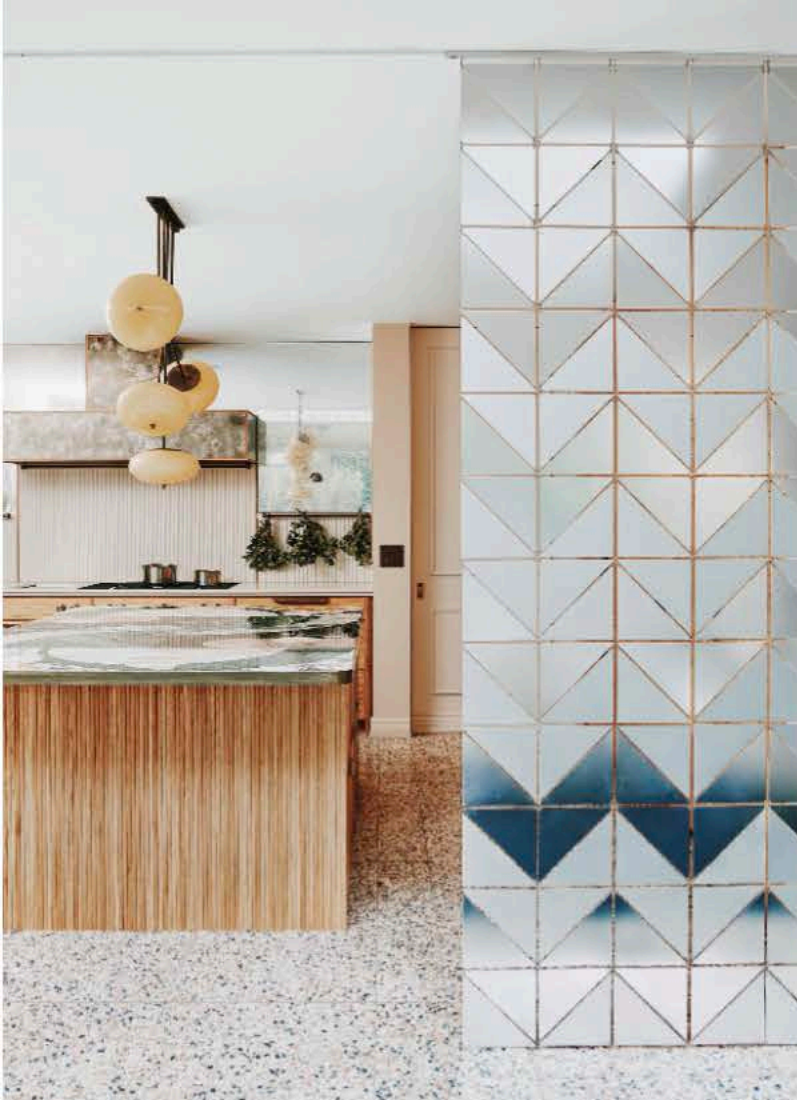
'Good materials bring style and they also age better,' says Jane. 'We could not have achieved this without Ledbury Studio, who were a joy to work with.'

## ISLAND WHIRL

Topped with Italian marble in a spectacular swirling pattern and edged in aged brass, the island makes a magnificent centrepiece. Its colours are echoed in the rest of the kitchen for a cohesive scheme.

The Camden kitchen, from £50,000; Ambra quartz worktops, price on request, Ledbury Studio. Bespoke island worktop, Lara Bohinc of Bohinc Studio. Vintage Italian light, price on request, Renaissance London





### HIDDEN ASSETS

Built-in cooking appliances keep the overall look chic, while white goods are concealed behind full-height cupboards



### WITH THE GRAIN

This kitchen is a masterclass in meticulous and innovative use of materials and patterns. The sweeping grain across the oak cabinetry alongside the elaborately mottled terrazzo floor; the striking chevron of the woodwork echoed in the polished steel screen; the fluted form of the island end panels reflected in the quartz splashbacks; and the smoky surface of patinated zinc blend to striking effect in the beautifully eclectic design. Savage Ground estate emulsion, £52 for 2.5 ltr, Farrow & Ball, is a similar paint colour for walls. For reclaimed églomisé, try Pamoto. Fusion patinated brass taps, from £2,230, Quooker. Terrazzo Nouveau porcelain floor tiles, £63.60sq m, Mandarin Stone, are similar

