

perspective

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INSPIRING ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

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ECO-FRIENDLY

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HK\$48
US\$18
€15



A WELL-PROPORTIONED HOME

In Kennedy Town, a small apartment was recently renovated to showcase masculinity with minimal modernity for a well-travelled businessman

Highly-patterned Moroccan tiles create a feature wall in the bathroom, where the designer also added a sense of warmth by way of a wooden under-sink cabinet and a copper-coloured wall lamp over the mirror

TEXT:
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PHOTOGRAPHY:
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Hong Kong-based interior design studio Liquid Interiors, known for its eco-conscious design approach, recently completed a residential apartment in Kennedy Town, where principal and founder Rowena Gonzalez eschewed the all-too-common practice of using only white to create a sense of space.

Instead, she opted to create contrasts and levels via a discerning use of colour. While it might take more effort to incorporate pattern and different hues into a small space, she says the result is worth it: “The best way to do so is to consider proportion,” she says. “In the master bathroom, for example, the tiled feature wall really creates a visual impact.”

Her distinctive sense of creativity in the bathroom exemplifies her approach: by contrasting modern concrete tiles on the floor against the feature wall clad with highly-patterned blue Moroccan tiles, a sense of fun and personality is injected. To add a sense of warmth, she also crafted a floating wooden cabinet under the basin, and added a copper-coloured wall lamp poised over the mirror.

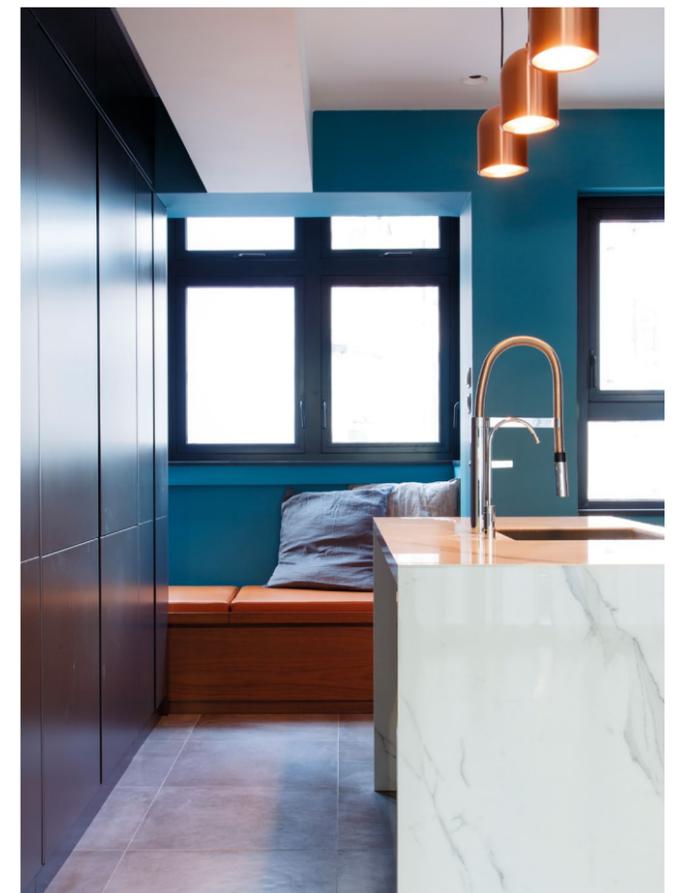
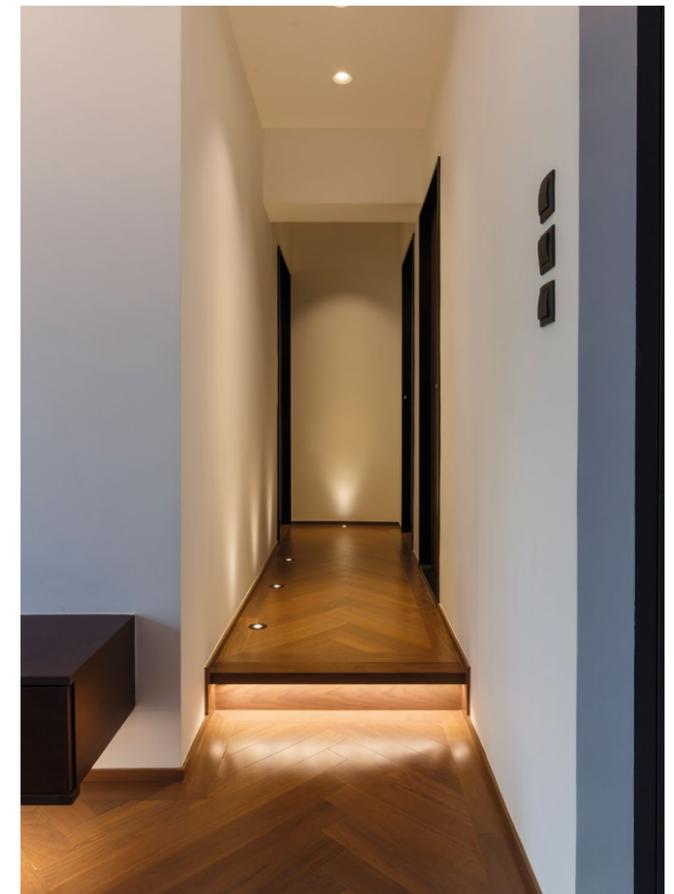
It is in the bathroom that wellness features play a key role, from a vitamin C shower filter which helps to remove chlorine and harmful chlorine byproducts, to circadian lighting to enhance sleep and wake-up functions.

“We custom-made the bathroom mirror, which illuminates using warm white as well as cool light to mimic the sun at dawn and is therefore energising in the morning,” Gonzalez explains. “At night, an amber light under the basin resembles the setting sun, which helps to prepare the body for sleep – and it can be used as a night light which does not interrupt the sleep cycle.”

The compact size of the apartment required some ingenious touches to make best use of the available space. In the kitchen, for example, a hidden workspace was created using panel doors on a wall cabinet, which also provides concealed storage for kitchen utensils and enables the island to convert to a bar-height counter-top when necessary.

The apartment also boasts Liquid Interiors’ trademark eco-conscious features, including crosswind ventilation and ceiling fans, along with a single control for all lighting and electrical appliances. The old light fixtures and other elements which were stripped out of the flat prior to renovation were donated, sold or reused where possible.

“We managed to divert 70 per cent of the demolition waste from the landfill,” Gonzalez says with pride. “Even the refrigerator was given to the security guard downstairs.” ●



From top
Runway lights set in the floor illuminate the hallway connecting the bedrooms to the living and dining area, with cleverly-concealed lighting creating the effect of a ‘floating’ step. In the open-plan kitchen, a striking blue wall contrasts against an orange bench positioned under the window