



Panelling screens the working part of the kitchen from the rest of the open-plan living space
OPPOSITE PAGE A table by designer Andy Graff was inspired by a similar one by US designer Orlando Diaz-Azcuy

ON THE ROCKS

A LUXURIOUS BACHELOR PAD ON THE BEACHFRONT GETS TAKEN UP A NOTCH IN ITS MOST RECENT RENOVATION WITH FLAWLESS FINISHES AND SULTRY COLOURS

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The cinema room is a symphony of glamorous gold ceilings, grey upholstered walls and deco green sofas by Moorgas & Sons; the sea-facing verandah spans the length of what were originally two apartments; walnut panelling and custom 1930s-style lights by Pieter van Dijk Studios create a nostalgic feel



Graff, the owner, architect Danie Louw from AD² Architecture & Design and Gordon Miller Construction, they were all able to create a space that ticked every box. 'Working with friends – because we have become close over the years – can be tricky sometimes, but the chemistry of the group was such that it worked well,' says Graff.

The culmination of this combination of skills is an apartment that indulged the owner's every desire – from full home automation to the best possible finishes, a glamorous bar and an extensive outdoor entertainment area. 'This time round, he wanted to be able to have every detail just as he wanted it,' says Graff of the luxurious and well-thought-through space. The result is more penthouse than ground-floor apartment with a vast marble-clad bathroom.

The paradox is present here too – alongside a bathroom that is the epitome of luxe with custom designed light fittings throughout, is furniture that's cleverly been reappropriated for use the second time round. More an indication of the pieces' timelessness than an intention to exercise thrift however – designer and owner found that most still held their relevance eight years on. 'It says a lot that most of the original content could be used again,' comments Graff. Tables were ducoed and chairs reupholstered to reflect the updated, more sophisticated palette of blue, grey and cream and all were recombined with new artwork, which has become a subject the owner is passionate about. 'He was a lot more involved this time when it came to the artworks and choosing them, and played a bigger role in curating the collection,' notes Graff.

Graff's signature layering with pattern and colour looks especially sumptuous here – moody hues and impeccable surfaces heighten the visual experience. The word that springs to mind is accomplished. 'This time round the owner was so much more confident of what he liked and what he wanted. In a way the apartment as it is now is a reflection of how he's settled into who he is,' says Graff. This increased self-awareness gave Graff and the team a much clearer idea of what they needed to achieve from the space and the result is a tightness of design language that delivers both a coherent aesthetic experience and comfortable user-friendly rooms.

The owner's one non-negotiable was perfect finishes, and one of the reasons Graff believes the project was such a success. 'It's such a pleasure to work with a client who understands the value of the materials you use and so rewarding to be ►



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT The guest bedroom has a fresh feel – its base palette of grey and indigo punctuated by a cushion in tropical-print Pierre Frey fabric from Mavromac and a Paul Senyol painting; expansive and lavishly decorated, the open-plan guest suite includes an opulent bathing area; the master bedroom is a bold yet soothing blend of blue and grey with a bed by Moorgas & Sons; wooden and mirrored panels and marble floors are a sensual feast in the master bathroom



Since its first renovation eight years ago by designer Andy Graff, this Mouille Point apartment has both changed dramatically, and also very little. While the overall effect is of a different space entirely, closer inspection reveals links to its old incarnation. Graff's most recent overhaul of this beachfront space owned by an often-commuting businessman, made use of most of the pieces he already owned, albeit with a new twist. It reflects the owner's matured tastes and the deepening of a friendship and collaboration that began almost two decades ago between owner and designer.

The most notable change is in the size – the owner has since bought the adjacent apartment and so the team was able to create much more lavish spaces with the increased room. Between





Wooden turned pedestals and mild-steel coffee tables by James B Hannah provide an interesting textural counterpart to the silk carpet. The curtain fabric, from Black Fabrics were a triumph for Graff who had searched for the right fabric for ages before she found this graphic print. Masculine colours with a hint of yellow give the space

able to decorate on this level,' she says. Graff also used these different surfaces to create a sense of depth – with the spaces so large and most of them open-plan, she used panels of mirror and wood to add texture and in doing so, dimension.

Slabs of marble, oiled-walnut wall panels, silk carpets and dark-stained oak floors are the ultimate in understated luxury and a beautiful base on which to build. On top of this foundation made up of shades of grey, Graff has layered period furniture from various decades and pieces of striking contemporary art which creates a retro yet timeless feel, with an existing Le Corbusier chaise in the bedroom and Hans Wegner chair still assuming pride of place.

Despite the polished feel of the space, there is nothing too precious about it – the owner is an avid entertainer so the apartment had to double as a space conducive to socialising, with no frivolous knick-knacks or fussiness. 'We created lots of cocooning areas where guests can sit and talk and enjoy the artwork – the living room is so spacious that it was easy to create different zones within a larger context,' says Graff.

Transitions from room to room and old to new are easy and sensually stimulating, symbolic of the evolution with which the team nurtured the space into a new phase.

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