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PARK-SIDE HOME

# IN *harmony*

*Meticulously planned interiors, a Modernist-inspired extension and a beautifully sculpted garden ensure that this renovated townhouse blends seamlessly with its surroundings*

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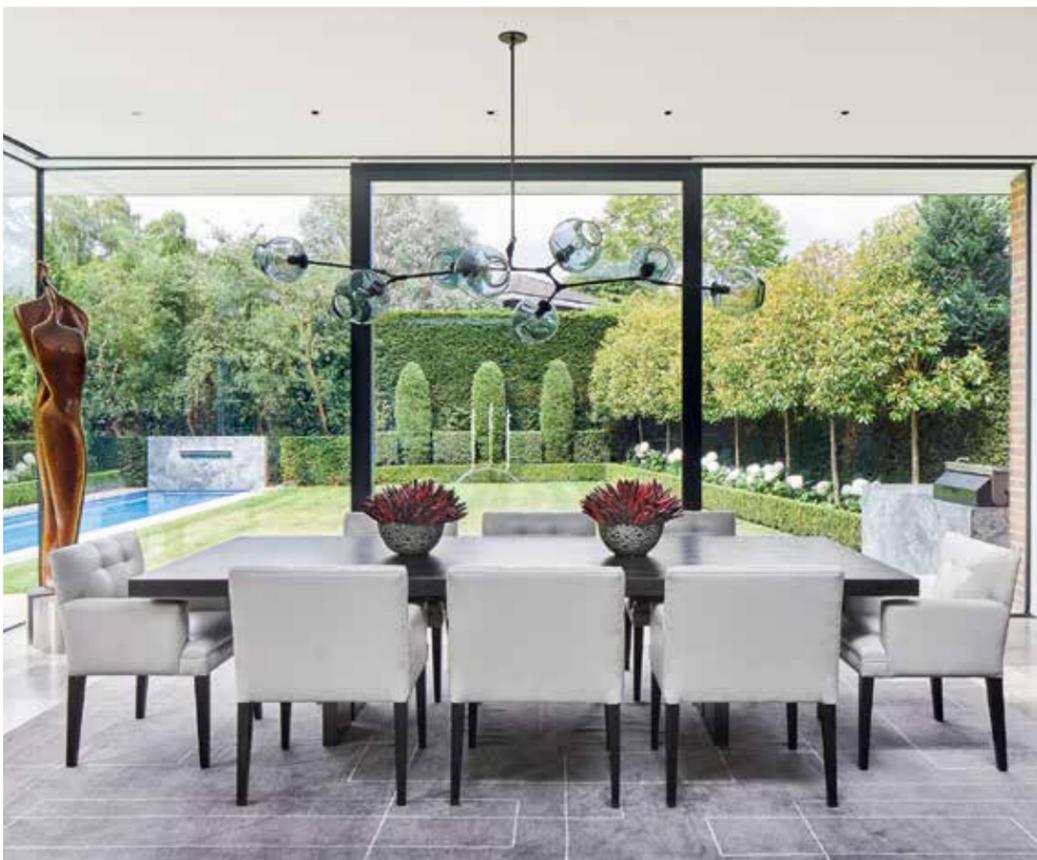
**DRAWING ROOM**  
Classic architectural details, including the chair rail and fireplace surround, were added to help emphasise the formal nature of this space. To keep the look modern, the walls and woodwork were painted the same colour. English Bolection travertine fireplace, from £5,400, Thornhill Galleries, [thornhillgalleries.co.uk](http://thornhillgalleries.co.uk). LNA coffee table, from £11,100, Christian Liaigre, [liaigre.com](http://liaigre.com).



**KITCHEN**

The floor tiles here extend throughout the ground floor and on to the terrace, ensuring a seamless connection between inside and out. The otherwise monochrome scheme is lifted by upholstered stools, in homeowner Eleanor Klein's favourite colour, plum.

**Bespoke floor** in Brushed Italian Marble, Limestone Gallery, limestonegallery.com. **Byron bar stool 02**, from £552, The Sofa & Chair Company, thesofaandchair.co.uk.



**GARDEN**

'We based the layout of the planting (above left) on the geometric grid that was designed for the interior,' says landscape gardener John Sallis Chandler, 'and we kept to a strict green and white palette to allow shapes and textures to stand out.'

**Landscape gardener**, Sallis Chandler, sallischandler.co.uk. **Bespoke lap pool**, Guncast Swimming Pools, guncast.com. **Architect**, Ray Thompson at Thompson+Baroni, thompsonbaroni.com.

**ENTRANCE HALL**

The porch was remodelled with new side windows and the internal glazed doors (above) were created to match. **Rounded Ridged lamp** in Silver and Bronze, £550, Louise Bradley, louisebradley.co.uk.

**DINING TABLE**

An articulated pendant light and chairs with low backs (left) were sourced to allow for an uninterrupted view of the garden beyond. **Trocadero dining table**, from £12,834, Armani Casa, armanicasa.com. **Bespoke Cityscape rug**, £9,372, The Rug Company, therugcompany.com.

For a sporty family used to the reliably good weather and relaxed outdoor lifestyle of Los Angeles, living in London might come as a bit of a shock. However, when work moved Canadian-born Eleanor and Michael Klein and their family to Britain ten years ago, the environs of leafy Richmond Park proved to be a worthy substitution for their previous home.

At first, the Kleins rented in the area then, having been won over by it, decided to settle there. One street, and one house in particular, caught their eye and, when it came onto the market, as Eleanor explains, 'We jumped. It is right next to the park, and it is also an easy drive into central London.'

The early 20th-century property (including a dilapidated timber conservatory) was run down and in need of renovation. So, while the family continued to rent for another two years,

they worked with architect Ray Thompson and interior designer Juliette Byrne to create a clean-lined, contemporary home that sits in harmony with its parkland surroundings.

#### ALL CHANGE

'We always wanted a house full of light, coming in from as many angles as possible,' says Eleanor. To that end, the function and position of every room were carefully considered to ensure an easy flow of light (and movement) throughout house and garden. Juliette worked closely with the couple to create a decorative scheme for both inside and out that is based on strong lines, order and symmetry. 'I don't like to see clutter,' Eleanor says. 'I need a sense of calm to be able to function.'

On the ground floor, in addition to a study for Michael and a large formal drawing room, a Modernist-inspired glass

box extension was built to house the kitchen, dining table and a relaxed seating area. Its walls of frameless glass sliding doors open onto a geometric garden, which was designed by Ray with a planting scheme to echo the monochromatic scheme inside the house.

Walk-in larders lie immediately behind the kitchen wall, with a boot room and laundry room beyond that, meaning that the kitchen can be kept clear and calm at all times. The first floor was reconfigured to accommodate bedrooms and bathrooms for Eleanor and Michael, their son and guests, and a space was created in the roof to provide bedrooms, a bathroom and a sitting room for the couple's daughters.

As with the structure, the decoration of the house has been exquisitely considered, with Juliette creating a monochromatic scheme that covers every detail, from the handles

and the colour of the glazed panels in the doors she designed, to the various pieces of art and sculpture that populate walls and key vistas around the house and garden.

#### SIMPLICITY OF FORM

The finished home is calm and ordered, just as Eleanor hoped it would be, but minimalist it is not. Everywhere you look, simple shapes vie with luxurious textures and materials. Silks and wools in sophisticated tones are edged with chocolate, black and plum (Eleanor's favourite) leather, or used to soften wood, metal and stone, all combining harmoniously.

'Juliette understood how to translate my desire for an elegant and welcoming home into reality,' says Eleanor, 'and she has created the warm, contemporary style I wanted. I am a perfectionist, and she rose to the occasion magnificently.'

#### KITCHEN

This peaceful room, with its artistic pop of green, is where the Kleins can relax and enjoy the sculpted evergreen view. 'We wanted to come into the house and immediately see the garden all around us,' says Eleanor.

Metropolitan armchair, £2,436, B&B Italia, bebitalia.com. Bespoke fire, GeoFlame, geoflame.co.uk. Honed granite surround, Granite & Marble International, stonework.co.uk. Kitchen, Bulthaup, bulthaup-mayfair.co.uk.



**DRESSING ROOM**

This room was originally the main bedroom, with a bathroom and dressing room next door. Juliette suggested swapping the bedroom and dressing room around so that the Kleins can see the garden from the bed. She designed the cabinetry with mirrored doors (also right) to boost light levels in the naturally dark space. Interior design, Juliette Byrne, [juliettebyrne.com](http://juliettebyrne.com). Sooma dressing table, £5,995, William Yeoward, [williamyeoward.com](http://williamyeoward.com). Light Drizzle chandelier, £2,470, Ochre, [Ochre.net](http://Ochre.net).



**MAIN BATHROOM**

Inspiration for this smart scheme (above right) came from the bathrooms in Michael and Eleanor's favourite Four Seasons Hotel. Travertine wall and floor tiles, from £35sq m; bespoke French limestone basin unit, all Stone Age, [stone-age.co.uk](http://stone-age.co.uk).

**MAIN BEDROOM**

As Eleanor is not keen on pattern, Juliette chose grasscloth wallpaper and textured curtains to introduce interest and warmth to this room (right), and to soften the effect of the dark wood in the connecting dressing room. Domicile Zoe bedside table, £2,322, Bolier, [bolierco.com](http://bolierco.com). Cologne table lamp, £1,392; silk shade, from £181, both Porta Romana, [portaromana.com](http://portaromana.com).





#### **ELEANOR'S STUDY**

To make this long, narrow room (above left) feel as large and uncluttered as possible, Juliette designed a wall-hung desk with handy overhead shelving and used plum as a bold touch of colour.

**Landscape chaise** in Eden 601, £2,966, B&B Italia, bebitalia.com.

#### **DAUGHTERS' BATHROOM**

A compact bathroom (above) for the girls was fitted into the apex of the newly configured second floor. Juliette lined the wall around the window with mirror glass to create a sense of infinity in the small room.

**Opus Romano mini glass mosaic floor tiles** in 12.60, £280sq m, Bisazza, bisazza.it.

#### **DAUGHTER'S BEDROOM**

The bold use of purple (left) helps to link the upper floor with the shades of plum found throughout the house. This room's distinctive Sixties feel is given an extra boost by the Eero Aarnio Ball chair, also in rich purple.

**Spun T1 small table lamp**, £633, Aram, aram.co.uk.