

PERFECTLY FORMED

Striking bookmatched marble, a sculptural bath and contemporary fittings bring tailored glamour to this newly decorated retreat



DESIGNER
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Can you describe the project?

Our client was moving from Switzerland to Kensington, west London, and asked us to gut this seven-bedroom house from top to bottom and create a family home she could move straight into. We bought every piece of furniture and even toys for the youngest of her four children. The brief was to make the house feel lived in; she didn't want a slick, over-designed look that's more hotel than home.

How did you approach this bathroom?

This is the master en suite, which has open access from the bedroom as the owner agreed that in terms of flow and light it would work better without a door. The room has beautiful French doors opening onto a balcony, which took us down a slightly more glamorous route, though still very comfortable and easy.

Where did you source the sanitaryware?

It's from The Water Monopoly, as is the brassware. In the bedroom, we went for an oversized Ralph Lauren bed and elegant silk wallcovering, and we wanted the pieces in here to complement that look and feel. The bath is truly stunning. It looks like fireclay but is a modern stone and mineral composite, so it is not as heavy. The strong shape of the double basin was an instant hit. We could have gone for some really unusual wall treatments, as the client is pretty adventurous, but we decided to let these furnishings speak for themselves.

What about the shower?

The client wanted a steam shower, and it was important for it to be big enough to sit and move around in comfortably, without feeling claustrophobic. She and I went on a stone-hunting trip and we both fell in love with this marble the second we saw it – there was no debating. The bookmatching is particularly special and I ensured the enclosure was as frameless as possible to enjoy its full impact.

Is the wooden flooring original?

No, but it is designed to look that way. We spent many hours looking into the various wooden flooring options, bearing in mind that this bathroom would be well used. Eventually, Ebony & Co sourced these solid antique oak floor planks, which have been specially treated for extra protection. The wood played a pivotal role in my plan to make this space feel very much a part of the bedroom suite and not like a typical tiled bathroom with a completely separate identity.



ABOVE The two tall slender mirrors are lighter than one single large mirror, making it easier to access the recessed cabinets behind. These are clad in rich dark oak to complement the flooring.



ABOVE Beautifully bookmatched lilac-toned marble creates a dramatic impact in the luxurious steam shower.

WORDS: LINDA CLAYTON PHOTOGRAPHS: NICK SMITH

WHERE TO BUY

FITTINGS Hanley freestanding bath, from £7,190; Bistrot freestanding bath/shower mixer, £1,974; Antique Deco double basin, from £5,191; Carpe & Lyre basin taps, £1,739 a pair; Carpe & Lyre thermostatic shower with hand shower and domed ceiling rose, from £5,681; heated towel rail with Soho valves, from £1,142.40; all The Water Monopoly, thewatermonopoly.com. **Similar bespoke steam shower**, from £7,400, CP Hart, cphart.co.uk. **WALLS AND FLOORING** Walls in Snow, Elite Emulsion, £48 for 2.5 litres, Zoffany, zoffany.com. **Shower in Lilac Marble slabs**, from £840sq m,

Stone Theatre, stonetheatre.com. **Specially sourced antique oak wide flooring planks**, Ebony & Co; for similar try engineered oak flooring, from £144sq m, ebonyandco.com. **ACCESSORIES** Curtains in Felice 10274 993, silk/cotton mix, £120m, Zimmer+Rohde, zimmer-rohde.com. **Lonsdale towel rings**, from £154.80 each, The Water Monopoly, thewatermonopoly.com. **Madeleine framed bevelled mirrors**, from £600 each, Frame Emporium, frameemporium.co.uk. **Lang wall lights** in Antique Silver, £1,352 each, Collier Webb, collierwebb.com.



The elegantly curved bath framed by graceful silk curtains against a Juliet balcony brings a theatrical element to the scheme.