

N°2

Cercle

SHARING A NEW EXPERIENCE

HIGH LIGHTS

by Caroline Sarkozy

WHEN I WAS APPROACHED TO RENOVATE AND JOIN TWO 300 SQUARE METER FLATS IN A VERY PRESTIGIOUS NEIGHBORHOOD OF LONDON, I ASKED MY LONG STANDING PARTNER AND ARCHITECT LAURENT BOURGOIS, TO JOIN ME IN THIS NEW ADVENTURE. TOGETHER WE SPENT SIX MONTHS PREPARING AND DRAWING TO FIND SOLUTIONS FOR A HOME DESTINED TO FREQUENT ENTERTAINMENT AND A BOISTEROUS FAMILY LIFE WITH FOUR YOUNG CHILDREN. I BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL IN SUCH A PROJECT THAT ARCHITECTURE AND DECORATION BE APPREHENDED ON COMMON GROUND AND WITH A COMPLICITE ENERGY TO CREATE A HARMONIOUS RESULT.





Our objective was to create a quietly refined and luxurious environment to sublimate our clients extensive contemporary art collection whilst respecting the essential need for a comfortable, functional home. We worked with a local english entrepreneur and solicited an extensive array of the best of french artisans to interpret our design.

Teams of French artisans crossed the channel once the english team had laid the ground work. Technique Transparent realized the sliding doors in the bathroom. They are composed of 5 millimeter thick slabs of onyx, thermo clad to white tempered glass and rigidified by a brass nickeled structure. A real technical performance! The artists, Perrin and Perrin worked on the great glass slabs that compose the bar in the tradition of glass makers of the 1930's. The great Parisian joiner Malville interpreted the checkered tinted walnut marquetry of the doors, whilst the traditional establishment Ets Schmidt realized our hardware designs. The parisian, Phelippeau upholsterer accompanied us for window treatments and the upholstery of armchairs bought at auction or commissioned from contemporary designers.





Our research for finishes was guided by our clients' love of «fine» materials, careful attention was brought to the choice of silk velvets for sofas, a glass clad wall, or berber white linens assembled with silver threads to create carpets. The clients interest in furniture spans a vast domain in french decorative arts, ranging from the 1930's to contemporary design. It was our mission to harmonize and complete this collection.

This apartment is a fine example of a Franco-English collaboration in craftsmanship and technique. Coming from a bi-cultural background, having been spent the majority of my childhood and studied in the USA, it was a real pleasure to work in this environment.







