

FULHAM FUSION

The bespoke kitchen of Rob and Armelle Lamont successfully blends traditional architecture and furniture design with 21st-century styling and lifestyle requirements.

REAL READERS' HOMES

THE owners

Armelle Lamont, an interior designer, lives in this Victorian terraced house in Fulham, Greater London, with her husband, Rob. The couple moved in knowing they had an extensive renovation project on their hands, but they were excited for the challenge.

Photography by: Keroni Neilson

The sophisticated, light toned Arabascato marble provides a fabulous visual contrast with the rustic tongue and groove wall panelling.

Just as the original Victorian architecture successfully blends with the modern extension, the kitchen furniture cleverly fuses traditional cabinetry with contemporary touches. The in-frame cabinets are painted in vibrant Hague Blue from Farrow & Ball and are topped with slender, plain-edged Arabascato marble.



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hen Rob and Armelle Lamont found their Fulham-based Victorian terraced home, it was in need of a complete renovation. This would have put most people off, however, Armelle is an experienced interior designer and could visualise the property's potential as the perfect family home.

"The fact that it had been untouched over the years was a positive bonus," comments Armelle, "it meant I could work with a blank canvas rather than have to work with years of DIY adaptations and unsympathetic extensions that mar so many Victorian terraces."

Armelle, through her interior design connections, knew of Heaven & Stubbs; a bespoke furniture maker that, with its sister company UJ Developments, offers a full building, kitchen design and project management service.

Stuart Heaven worked closely with Armelle to design and build a single-storey extension to the rear of the property, which almost doubled the size of the existing kitchen space.




"A bespoke solution is the best way to make a difficult space work; it needn't be overly expensive."

Armelle Lamont, homeowner

A large fridge freezer, two integrated ovens and an induction hob offer the owners all the food storage and cooking capacity they require.

Even a modest sized island, specifically proportioned to allow easy access on all sides, can still fulfil many functions. In this instance, the island provides additional storage, worktop space, a home for the induction hob and an informal dining arrangement. Exquisite details, such as the oak pull-out trays and cutting boards, provide visual interest and a practical touch.



The 'L' configuration of the cabinets provides a visual divide between food preparation and socialising zones, as well as essential additional cupboard storage and homes for integrated appliances.

THE designer

"For smaller kitchen spaces I would always suggest using few, if any, wall cabinets; this will stop the space from looking too crowded and closed in. This is important if you want to create the feeling of space and light. However, you then need to create pieces of furniture that provide plenty of storage, as well as answering many other needs such as integrated appliances and informal dining."

Howard Stubbs, co-founder and designer, Heaven & Stubbs



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The extension, in matching brick, has a contemporary flavour with its flat roof design and full width bi-folding doors. The integrated, glazed roof panels and fully glazed doors allow light to flood into the home as well as extending the living space out on to a decked sun terrace. “When the doors are fully open we have an almost alfresco experience while dining and socialising with family and friends,” says Armelle.

Choosing a bespoke design company meant Armelle’s furniture concepts and unique design touches could be brought to life, and that custom-sized cabinetry, perfectly in keeping with the architectural proportions of the property, could be produced. “From experience, I knew an ‘off the shelf’ furniture solution wouldn’t work; Heaven & Stubbs achieved everything I required,” explains Armelle.

Ergonomics were essential, however function worked hand in hand with form to create a beautiful and useable design. An attractive combination of knob and cup brass handles, copper pendant lights and tasteful accessories completes the look.

THE details

Kitchen design by Howard Stubbs, co-founder of Heaven & Stubbs, including solid timber cabinetry painted in Hague Blue by Farrow & Ball, and Arabascato marble worktops and upstand heavenandstubbs.com

Building works by UJ Developments
ujdevelopments.co.uk

Smeg SF372X integrated oven x2 smeguk.com

Neff T41 B3OX2 induction hob,
S51M53X1GB dishwasher neff.co.uk

Fisher & Paykel RF540LDUSX4 ActiveSmart
French door fridge freezer fisherpaykel.com

Astini ‘Belfast’ 100 single-bowl sink astini.co.uk

Abode ‘Ludlow’ bridge tap in antique brass abode.eu

Armac Martin solid brass handles martin.co.uk