

A NEW VISION

Georgian elegance meets vintage style in a scheme that breaks all the design rules



DESIGNER

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Can you describe the project?

The property is a Grade II-listed Georgian terraced townhouse in north London and this space was originally the first-floor drawing room and office/play room. The brief was to fashion the entire floor into a sizeable main bedroom and adjoining, but not enclosed, en suite. The clients asked us to push them beyond their comfort zone by coming up with something braver and more exciting than what they might have conceived.

Did you face any challenges?

We were very restricted by listed building constraints. In short, nothing could be fixed to any original walls, coving or panelling and we also had to work with the wonky old wooden floor, which undulates wildly across the rooms. The solution involved a steady dialogue with conservation officers and the building of false walls, invisible supports and customised furniture with uneven feet.

Can you tell us about the shower design?

We discussed the clients' likes and dislikes – which were sometimes divergent, as with most couples – and the final design melds their shared aesthetics. The utilitarian steel-framed Crittall-style shower enclosure, juxtaposed with beautiful artisanal tiling and lovely antiqued brass controls, makes it wonderfully feminine and masculine at the same time, creating a justifiable focal point for the suite.

What influenced the choice of vanity unit?

We decided to repurpose a mid-century Danish rosewood sideboard; we felt that a natural material was needed to soften the effect of the steel shower enclosure. The sideboard had to be strengthened to support the incredibly heavy marble basins, and a frame was built for the 'floating' mirrors. It took days to find



A mid-century Danish sideboard has been repurposed to create a beautiful vanity unit that doesn't detract from the room's elegant Grade II-listed features.