



A HIDDEN GEM

This Marylebone mews house has the wow-factor



When a client approaches an interior designer and gives the brief "I want the wow-factor", you know it's going to be a special project. This was the case for Mark Howorth of Callender Howorth, a multi-discipline interior design practice, who says of the Marylebone mews house, "if I had to describe this house in three words I would say it is breathtaking, bright and unexpected".

The client, a bachelor, wanted somewhere suitable for entertaining friends, and so the

design focussed on this, creating a light and airy space with plenty of room for parties. From the outside the property looks like a typical stylishly modernised London mews house, but once you step inside the whole place comes alive.

When you enter the front door, you are met by a staircase that leads down to the lower-ground floor. This floor houses the stunning kitchen and separate dining which both have immediate access to the white marble courtyard. Also on this level is a

guest suite, a laundry and utility room and an air conditioned wine cellar – ideally designed for entertaining.

On the ground floor there is a walk through sitting room with glass partition walls through to the hallway with its glass balustrade and glass floor walkway on the first floor. The floor to ceiling glass windows face into the courtyard, which really makes the back of the property open up.

The top floor of the house that formerly housed three poky bedrooms was gutted.

EXCLUSIVE INTERIORS

By opening up the ceilings and adding a raised platform, an instant 'wow factor' master suite was created, including a mirrored dressing room, bar area and cinema area and bathroom. Rather than being a standard bedroom, this is more like a hotel suite; whether you want a glass of champagne or a cup of coffee, it's all on hand in the master suite.

The soaring open spaces inside really hit you as soon as you walk in and there is a real sense of light and drama. The abundance of glass used throughout allows light to flood the house making it feel bright and airy. And all of the windows at the rear of the house fully open to a marble courtyard complete with three storey water feature.

Whilst the owner of the house doesn't really enjoy cooking, he is a single man who likes to entertain, which means that a good kitchen is a must. The newly created kitchen area is slick and more 'club like' than a typical kitchen. The central Corian island in the kitchen is lit with neon from beneath so at night with the doors open the kitchen really feels like you are in a stylish bar club in Miami not Marylebone!

State of the art music, media and light systems help this house to come alive at night so the whole place could rival any 5 star hotel. The lighting was very important in this design – at night the house has to be properly lit to mirror the brightness of the natural light and space during the day.

And the result is that you get these very dramatic effects. The slick finishes and custom furniture add to a real level of luxury and style making this bachelor pad somewhere the owner can really enjoy hanging out.

As the client really wanted to collect some art, Mark spent lots of time in galleries with him to help him to amass an impressive art collection. It's important to Callender Howorth that each client's home reflects their tastes and personality and art is a great way to show someone's personal tastes and style.

When Callender Howorth take on a brief, they try with each client to visit the clients existing or previous property to garner a better understanding of what interior design decision have been made in the past and how they make use of their living space. "It is very important to us that we create an interior that very much reflects each individual client. We don't have a house style that we try to adhere to; we like to see the client's personality reflected in the final design."

*** For more information about Callender Howorth visit www.callenderhoworth.com**

