



YOKO
KLOEDEN

DESIGN

Past Meets Present
Case Study



When Past Meets Present

In 2020, Yoko Kloeden Design transformed a dated Edwardian townhouse in the heart of south-west London into a contemporary oasis for a corporate power-couple and their two young children.

Seeking a place of solace and serenity after taxing days in the office, our clients set upon an all-encompassing double story extension to allow more room for their growing family and relatives who often stay.

Following the opportunity of sitting down and talking with our client about her new home, we would like to share what her thoughts on the project and the renovation experience as a whole.

In particular, we discussed what surprised her about the renovation project and what she thinks about the experience in general looking back a year later.



What was your home like before?

“Before any renovation work took place the home was structurally ok, but it just did not feel like a home.

Ahead of us buying the property it has been rented so there was a lot of expected wear and tear, and it had very basic décor. It didn't feel cosy or finished.”



Why did you select Yoko Kloeden Design?

“Our first thought was that we really liked Yoko’s design and style; we knew we wanted the house to feel modern but maintain the original features at the same time and we knew she could achieve that.

Also, I really needed someone to keep me on track with the timeline – so essentially someone to save me from myself – otherwise it probably would never have been finished. Yoko’s working style fit perfectly with that ambition.”



What was the biggest project achievement?

“The biggest achievement was definitely fitting all of our furniture and wish list of items into the space. We had a lot of previous furniture pieces, mostly antiques, that we wanted to fit into the renovation – Yoko worked wonders with the space and managed to find a home for everything without making the place feel cluttered.

As well as this, the renovation had to accommodate a new baby while also future proofing the space for a toddler, so it wasn't an easy task but we managed to do it.”



What is your favourite space in your new home?

“My favourite room has to be my living room, which is situated between the front room and the kitchen. The design inspiration behind the space was a sophisticated New York apartment, even though it is in the middle of a very traditional house and leads onto the kitchen.

While my husband’s living space is more his style, mine definitely has a more feminine feel to it and so mirrors my taste while feeling super cosy.”



What home changes most improved your everyday life?

“The space in the kitchen is transformational; we are able to entertain, eat and relax all in the same room, which is brilliant. There is also enough space for our children’s toys without it feeling like toddler stuff is dominating the design. The Fabco doors out onto the garden are fabulous, I never get tired of them and they make the kitchen modern and full of light.

Because the kitchen is such a functional space, the other living rooms are then used for adults only which is super. It feels like a completely different day when we retire to the front room once the toddler has gone to bed. As he doesn’t typically go in the front rooms, and there are no toys in there, it truly feels like our relaxation space.”

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How does your new home make you feel?

“Content and settled. We have moved a lot over the last 10 years and nowhere has really felt like home, but now we finally have a place that really feels like ours and I love the design.

I feel super happy each day to come home and turn the key in the door, I like how the house feels.

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It is our joy to see past clients enjoying their new home and to look back on how the whole process came together. Home renovation is often cited as one of the most stressful experiences and periods people go through in their life time, while our job is to make it less stressful as possible.

Certified by the British Institute of Interior Design, Yoko Kloeden Design provides a highly personalised, boutique architectural design service to our small group of discerning and sophisticated clients.

If you would like to learn more about how we work and what we do, please get in touch.

Yoko



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