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ISSN 1447-4922

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FIRST CLASS

Refined elegance is often coveted but rarely so well executed

By Donna Peters



To find such a demonstration of unquestionable style we visit England, the home of polished panache, and tour a London address created to be a beacon of smart sophistication for modern interiors. It is the product of collaboration between Regal Homes and world-renowned interior designer, Kelly Hoppen. There were great expectations for the project and it has not disappointed.

Its ultimate success can be credited to the attention paid to details — those big and small. Each and every element of the design was por-

over with acute consideration and a view to provide luxury living at its finest. This pursuit of excellence led to the highest-quality materials being used throughout to maintain a sense of exclusivity. "Every aspect is inspired by the desire to develop absolute perfection," says Simon de Friend of Regal Homes.

The home is one in a series of refurbishments — a varied selection of buildings, including flats, house conversions and luxury period residences were overhauled — in London's most sought-after areas. Known as Fairbairn Gardens, South

Hampton, this property possesses an iconic calm, elegant aesthetic and is filled with luxury fabrics and furniture sourced from around the globe. It consists of a formal double reception room, dining room, utility room and an assortment of bedrooms, guestrooms and sitting rooms, but the pinnacle is arguably the opulent, open-plan kitchen that adjoins the casual dining and family room.

The space is a gentle wash of pristine white featuring CaesarStone benchtops, streamline cupboards and a mirrored splashback. At the heart

of the symmetrical design has a sprawling island with underbench cupboards for extra storage and integrated wine fridges for easy access when entertaining. At its centre is a top-of-the-line induction cooktop that allows the cook to mingle while preparing the next course; however, the deep-set sink has been positioned within the parallel rear bench to avoid untidy clutter. It is all illuminated by the pure light of well-positioned downlights and a feature fixture that hangs low over the room. Truly, the charm of this kitchen is in its simplicity, which results from its balanced layout and understated inclusions.

There is only one space that rivals the kitchen and competes to be the most indulgent room of the house and that is, of course, the master bathroom — for it would not be a luxury abode if the most private quarters weren't the most indulgent. Here, dark-stain wood and faultless porcelain are married to form a harmonious union. The two-tone aesthetic avoids unnecessary fuss; a refined appearance that proves obvious statements of grandeur are not needed to accomplish a splendid space. Instead, inclusions



The residence was designed to offer the feeling of flexible space throughout the rooms.

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such as the sculpted custom bathtub have been left unadorned and able to shine.

As in the kitchen, straight lines and structured forms are the order of the room, with only the tub standing out with its curved shape. Storage has been concealed behind the large mirrors to maintain the undisturbed illusion of the space and robust shutters have been installed to manage the flow of natural light for ultimate control over mood and ambience.

This controlled poise is the essence of not only the bathroom and kitchen but of the entire residence. It is this quality that is regularly imitated without being replicated and it is what makes this a first-class home with few peers. **RHS**

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