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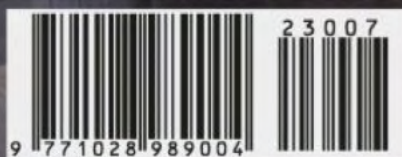
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DOUBLE TAKE

Part getaway, part meeting space, this Chelsea apartment by Hubert Zanberg Interiors hits every note for an out-of-town client

text EDWAIN STEENKAMP photography ELSA YOUNG

anyone

who knows interior designer Hubert Zanberg would also know that he is no stranger to eclecticism. Walk through any of his projects, and his signature style is quite evident: a clever use of colour, an amalgamation of styles, and a careful curation of art and objects from every decade. This was just the case for a recent renovation and interior design project led by Hubert Zanberg Interiors – HZI – on a two-bedroom apartment in Chelsea, West London. The out-of-town client was seeking a soft landing that could serve as a resting and meeting space for his short trips to the borough. With a maximalist design approach, and with equal amounts of comfort and practicality in mind, Hubert and his team created a space that offered the client a playful take on a gentleman's club.

And playful it is. Through every corridor and around every corner, there are moments that surprise and delight. Take, for example, the artwork. Roger Moore, David Bowie, The Beatles, and other larger-than-life legends are framed around the home; while album art and a mounted guitar pay homage to the country's musical legacy. Elsewhere, a combination of interesting objects – sports memorabilia, vintage collectables, and other curiosities – make for a space that feels at once personal and lived in.

But don't for a moment think that this space isn't also very serious. Carefully placed throughout the apartment you'll find decor and furniture that would make even the most discerning collector swoon. In the sitting room, a magnificent mid-century Charles and Ray Eames Lounge Chair for Vitra sits across from a stack of vintage Louis Vuitton trunks. In the guest bedroom, a Vivienne Westwood for The Rug Company flag received new lease on life as a headboard in a custom design by HZI, while throughout the apartment Ralph Lauren textiles adorn several walls and soft furnishings. ▶



PREVIOUS PAGE Comfort is the name of the game. The sitting room is decorated with various custom-designed treasures by HZI

THIS PAGE Below the ornate 'Coco' chandelier by Collier Webb, a set of 'Klismos' dining chairs by Soane Britain hugs a custom HZI dining table



The sitting room exudes luxurious comfort from every corner. Vintage finds like the Louis Vuitton trunks, and a selection of books and other curiosities are brought to life with modern pieces like the Ralph Lauren coffee table



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Custom cabinets by HZI are every bit as chic as they are practical, and contrasts polished materials like the Lefroy Brooks taps; the 1930s art deco drinks trolley makes for a striking focal point, decorated with vintage decanters; the entrance lobby boasts a custom HZI console table and a collection of vases; the Ralph Lauren wallpaper makes for an unexpected visual break from the rest of the house





ABOVE The guest bedroom is a collage of contrasts, colours and collectibles

BELOW A Farrow & Ball wallpaper brings life to the monochromatic guest bathroom



The spirit of London is perfectly captured with a custom HZI headboard using a Vivienne Westwood flag from The Rug Company, along with framed album art and sports memorabilia



ABOVE The master bathroom features custom onyx floors, walls and vanity designed by HZI

RIGHT The master bedroom hosts an array of custom HZI designs, including bed linens, lamps and a headboard



“This is a fusion of a warm, MASCULINE aesthetic, with traditional HERITAGE design.”

HUBERT ZANBERG

Standing among these heritage brands, HZI designed several custom pieces for this project. The table in the dining room, several mirrors, cabinets, objects, and impressively, even the ceiling detailing in the sitting room were all created by HZI. Several items, like the lamps in the entryway, were reimagined and updated using objects Hubert found at markets while traveling around the world. Therein lies one of Hubert's greatest passions: finding objects in interesting places. “All my life, I have been a collector of beautiful things and rare curiosities,” says Hubert. “Throughout the years, I’ve spent countless hours at fleamarkets and auctions to acquire interesting and unique pieces, which then receive a new home through projects like this.” About the Chelsea apartment, he says “this is a fusion of a warm, masculine aesthetic, with traditional heritage design.”

The lavish designs of HZI will soon be seen more regularly on South Africa's design circuit, as the firm will launch their services locally, represented through Acasia Design. ■

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COMPILED: EDWAIN STEENKAMP. PHOTOGRAPHY: ELSA YOUNG. SUPPLIED



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Faux fur scatter cushion in charcoal, R279, Woolworths; ‘Reza’ cushion in mustard, R1 295, Block & Chisel; Architecture angles’ framed art, R1 499, @Home; ‘Charlotte’ rug, R6 999, Coricraft; Eurolux ‘T355R’ table lamp, R305, Lite-Glo; ‘Omega V’ server, POR, Okha; ‘Farah’ objet in brass, R349, Coricraft; ‘Greyhound Oskar’ sculpture, R137 199, Kare Design; Cédric Ragot ‘Radian’ occasional table, POR, Roche Bobois