

# Biasol

**Name of the project:**

The Budapest Café

**Location of the project (City/Country):**

Chengdu, China

**Website:**

N/A

**Completion (Month/Year):**

October 2017

**Area (sqm):**

178sqm

**Category:**

Hospitality - Cafe

**Name of photographer:**

James Morgan

**Link of photographer website:**

<http://jamesmorgan.com.au/>

**Name of contact person:**

Jean-Pierre Biasol

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**Name of design office:**

Biasol

**Link of design office website:**

<http://www.biasol.com.au/>

**Facebook:** <https://facebook.com/biasoldesign/>

**Instagram:** @biasoldesign

**Pinterest:** <https://au.pinterest.com/biasoldesign/>

**LinkedIn:** <https://linkedin.com/company/biasol/>

**Designer or designer office based in (City/Country):**

Melbourne, Australia

**About Us:**

Biasol is an award-winning Melbourne based design studio specialising in delivering compelling residential, hospitality, workplace and commercial environments. Our integrated working method produces diverse outcomes combining interior design, building design, product design and branding. We operate locally and internationally as a team of designers and architects to uncover the potential of every project. Design is our language of expression — detail, quality and technical precision, the lexicon of our craft.

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## Design Statement (381 words)

Filmmaker Wes Anderson's distinctive visual style provided the inspiration for The Budapest Café in Chengdu, China. Our design draws on Anderson's meticulous, memorable and magical worlds to create an inviting destination with whimsical character and international appeal.

Much like Anderson's mythical Budapest Hotel, The Budapest Café is designed to offer an experience that detaches patrons from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. The client specifically engaged an Australian design practice to create an international hospitality experience, and requested a space that would appeal to social media-savvy females who enjoy café culture. The result demonstrates Biasol's international capabilities fused with our local design style.

We began by understanding Anderson's style: his symmetrical, precise and quirky set designs; vivid and nostalgic colour palettes; and the sentiment that infuses his films. He tends towards one-point perspectives and peering down from above; gives attention to the edges of a set as much as the middle; and frames stories with proscenium arches.

Our modern, minimalist and refreshing interpretation is defined by design, materiality and brand. The building façade projects a sense of grandeur with an arch framing the entrance and welcoming patrons to The Budapest Café. Once inside, customers are invited to engage with the physical design of the café, much like a stage set for patrons to play out their own story.

Layers, elevations and design features encourage customers to explore the space. A mezzanine level provides a view from above; symmetrical arches frame recessed seating and shelving; and stairs and steps lead upstairs, lead nowhere, and are integrated into shelving, fireplaces and the long marble bar.

The Budapest Café is designed to feel feminine, light and fun, despite its loftiness and exposed structure. A pink ball pool, neon signage and original Eero Aarnio Bubble chair inspire playfulness, and the bathrooms surprise with speckled pink terrazzo to complement and contrast with the nostalgic-green hues of the café.

The contrasting hard and soft colours and design details reflect the personalities of Anderson's characters in The Grand Budapest Hotel, enhanced by branding integrated into the café through signage, menus and printed collateral.

Like Anderson, we create imaginative and evocative spaces. Our design for The Budapest Café has a relaxed and indulgent atmosphere; a whimsical and elegant aesthetic; and a hospitality experience infused with Melbourne's café culture.

## Design Summary (92 words)

The Budapest Café in Chengdu, China, is an inviting destination with whimsical character and international appeal. Inspired by Wes Anderson's distinctive visual style and Melbourne's café culture, our fresh and modern interpretation is defined by design, materiality and brand. The Budapest Café is designed to feel feminine and fun, and layers, elevations and surprising design features encourage customers to explore and physically engage with the space. The concept, colours and details continue through the branding, which is integrated into the design of the café to contribute to the imaginative and evocative space.

## Project Quotes (10 – 20 words)

"Our design draws on filmmaker Wes Anderson's meticulous, memorable and magical worlds to create an inviting destination with whimsical character and international appeal."

"Our modern, minimalist and refreshing interpretation is defined by design, materiality and brand."

"Layers, elevations and design features encourage customers to explore and physically engage with the space."

"Concept, colours and details continue through the branding, which is integrated into the design of the café to contribute to the imaginative and evocative space."

## Words

Fresh  
Elegant and chic  
Pure indulgence  
Minimalist  
Modern  
Understated and Bold  
Nostalgia mixed with playfulness/whimsical

## Materials & Finishes

Signorino - Terrazzo  
Artedomus - Marble

## Furniture:

Meizai - Hang Tall Stools in White  
Eero Aarnio Originals Bubble Chair <https://www.aarniooriginals.com/collections/all/products/bubble-chair>  
Muuto Nerd Dining Chairs