

Gran de Gracia mini apartment by YLAB Arquitectos

Datos

Architecture/interior design:	YLAB Arquitectos Barcelona www.ylab.es,
Authors:	Tobias Laarmann & Yolanda Yuste López
Project:	Interior renovation of an apartment in
Area:	Barcelona 38 m2
Photographer:	YLAB Arquitectos Barcelona
Contractor:	Sesac 14, Interiorismo Indarama
Partners:	Sesaelec, Gunni & Trentino, Domestico Shop

YLAB Arquitectos Barcelona is a Spanish-German architectural design firm formed by Tobias Laarmann and Yolanda Yuste. From their studio in Barcelona, YLAB works on the design, management and construction of architecture and interior design projects. YLAB is specialized in residential, commercial and corporate design.

Description

The project consists of the interior reform of a former gatekeeper residence, located on the roof of a building in the Barcelona district Gracia. Enjoying a privileged location overlooking the neighboring buildings and surrounded by a large terrace, this apartment showed serious deficiencies such as its small size of 38 m2.

An Australian couple wanted to reform the apartment to work as an occasional residence, giving priority to the day spaces. They wanted a warm, comfortable and functional space, as versatile and with as much storage as possible.

Functionally the intervention proposes the creation of a main space formed by a kitchen with an island and a living area. At night, this space turns into a bedroom through the opening of a pull-down bed integrated in the wall cabinets. Hidden behind the kitchen is a more private area, consisting of a closet-studio that gives access to the bathroom.

The design concept focuses on the enveloped space, covering walls and ceilings with custom-made carpentry that alternates white satin lacquer with natural light oak veneer. This perimeter carpentry forms functional and storage elements that optimize the small apartment and allow for the unification and refinement of the space. The result is a small, warm and luminous flat, where the many details are veiled by an overall pure and simple image.

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Therefore the windows, whose holes could not be modified, are replaced by new windows finished in the same oak veneer and amalgamated into the enveloped space. The wall claddings hide cabinets with different depths and functions. The flooring is finished in light oak parquet, similar to the rest of the wood. The original concrete beam ceiling is also cladded with white wood, hiding the construction imperfections and installations.

The core formed by the kitchen wall unit and the closet, finished in white lacquer, is the only space partition. The AC unit is concealed in its upper component, supplying air through the front grilles.

The kitchen includes a small work area with oak upper cabinets and concealed LED lighting. The kitchen island extends the work area and forms a lower dining table in the same finish as the kitchen. Two suspended &Traditions lamps and the Vitra chairs furnish this area, located in front of a fully oak cladded wall with a window.

The living area, at the back façade with a long horizontal window, is completed with a white wall unit that hides a pull-down bed with extra storage space. The living area is furnished with light and easy to move pieces such as the Paulistano lounge chairs, the Marset floor lamp and an auxiliary table by Muuto.

The closet area has floor to ceiling white cabinets. Facing it, an oak covered façade with a window is equipped with a custom-made furniture piece containing a removable writing desk, hinged lid and diverse cabinets and drawers. This area forms a vestibule to the only bathroom, soberly decorated with white porcelanic tiles, a built-in shower in the same material and a large washbasin with oak front doors and a wall to wall mirror.

Listado de marcas y productos / Products and brands

Flooring	Colour Grotto oak parquet by Hakwood Ice White Foster porcelanic tiles by Inalco (bathroom)
Wall finishing	Valentine white paint Ral 9010 Ice White Foster porcelanic tiles by Inalco (bathroom)
Custom-made wood furniture and claddings	Finishings in white lacquered wood and light natural oak wood veneer
Custom-made windows	Custom-made pine windows natural oak veneer finished
Lighting	LED Downlight Carree by Deltalight Kalu LED downlight by Mundolight Copenhagen suspended lamp by Andtradition Scantling floor lamp by Marset Funiculi desk lamp by Marset, delivered by Domestic Shop Cesta lamp by Santa & Cole, delivered by Domestic Shop
Bath elements, sanitary ware	Link suspended WC by Flaminia Solid and oak veneer washbasin by Ikebe Tricolore Verde chrome finished faucets, shower sets Max-tres accessories by Tres
Custom-made kitchen furniture and kitchen appliances	Custom-made kitchen finished in white lacquered wood, light natural oak wood veneer and Artic White satin worktop by Neolith Graphite Linus-s mixer and white Sublime 500F sink by Blanco Oven, dishwasher, fridge and induction cooker and cooker hood by Bosch
Electrical accessories	White Livinglight elements by Bticino
Commercial furniture, delivered by Domestic Shop	Upholstered EPSC DSX chair by Vitra Paulistano chair by Objekto Oak Around table by Muuto Flip Around stool by Menu Round oak table by Hay Yellow Season pouf by Viccarbe
Décor	Mortar Craft by Normann Copenhagen, delivered by Domestic Shop Salt & pepper grinder Plus by Muuto, delivered by Domestic Shop Rotary tray by Vitra, delivered by Domestic Shop Teak breadboard by HK-Living Ceramic vase and cups by HK-Living