

Diagonal Avenue apartment by YLAB Arquitectos

Data

Architecture/interior design:	YLAB Arquitectos Barcelona www.ylab.es ,
Authors:	Tobias Laarmann & Yolanda Yuste López
Project:	Apartment refurbishment in Barcelona
Area:	163 m ²
Photographer:	Tobias Laarmann
Contractor:	7Works General Contractor www.7worksgc.com Carpintería Construmad www.carpinteriaconstrumad.com
Partners:	Acor, Bticino, Deltalight, Matèria, Vitra,

YLAB Arquitectos Barcelona is a Spanish-German architectural and interior 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, healthcare and corporate design.

Description

Located in the traditional Barcelona Ensanche area, this apartment shared some typical traditional aspects such as a long, narrow and partitioned layout from façade to façade with hydraulic tiles flooring, and wall and ceiling moldings.

The client, having a passion for modern and industrial design, wanted to preserve some traditional elements, free up some space to allocate the common areas while introducing modern elements with raw materials and rich textures such as cement floorings, black iron, dark tinted elm natural wood or bush hammered black granite.

The design looks for the contrast and tension between the traditional elements, predominantly light, and the contemporary elements, dark and powerful, that seem to be inserted in the original space.

The deliberately sharp combination of contemporary design and the old structure creates a very individual space full of contrasts and tensions. The apartment tells the tale of two different periods and samples of craftsmanship combined in the same space.

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The kitchen cubic volume, entirely black bush hammered granite finished, is fitted next to a classic molding decorated corridor. Its monolithic aspect, strong and austere, has been achieved through fine detailed mitre joints and the bush hammered handcrafted texture. Between the kitchen and the corridor, an oak island softens the contrast.

A large black iron made-to-measure furniture separates the kitchen from a dining room with high ceilings and white cornices. This double-faced furniture hides the kitchen appliances as well as the structural elements of the original wall.

In the private area at the other side of the kitchen, the long corridor that gives access to the bedrooms is paneled with a graphite tinted elm wood, as a chromatic continuity to the kitchen volume.

Inside the master bedroom, this dark wood forms the custom-made wardrobes and bed furniture. A large wood sliding door separates the sleeping area from the bath and a closet. The central standing washbasin with a mirror hides the more private areas.

The flooring preserves the essence of the multi-colored hydraulic tiles, forming a central "rug" surrounded by a continuous cement satin white floor emphasizing the style contrast.

The space overall is complemented by art and furniture pieces that bring a cohesive and distinct character to the whole project. A large tinted concrete table by Kristalia occupies the dining room center below a set of cement Foscarini suspended lamps surrounded by the classic Vitra Wire Chairs. At the end, a beautiful engraving signed by Jaume Plensa dominates the view.

Products and brands

Flooring	Hydraulic mosaics by Mosaic del Sur White continuous Pandomo K1 cement floor
Painting and mouldings	Valentine white paint Ral 9010 Coving and mouldings by Orac Décor
Custom-made wood furniture	Finishings in graphite lacquered wood, dark tinted natural elm wood veneer and white lacquered wood
Custom-made metal furniture	Black iron sheet satin lacquer finished
Lighting	Grid In Trimless black by Deltalight Lotis recessed lamps by Modular Aplomb dining table suspended lamps by Foscarini
Sanitaries	Link suspended WC by Flaminia Custom-made washbasins Corian Glacier White finished Custom-made showers finished with Artic White porcelain surface by Neolith
Kitchen furniture, appliances	Custom-made kitchen all finished in black Nero Assoluto Bocciardato natural stone Kitchen island finished in whitened natural oak veneer Faucet Blancolinus by Blanco Cooker hood Invisible 18 EM by Gutman Gas cooker PVA140-1 by Smeg
Electrical accessories	Livinglight by Bticino
Comercial furniture	Dining Wire Chair leather upholstered by Vitra Concrete dining table Boiaccia by Kristalia Kitchen high stools by Mater Alanda central table by Paolo Piva