

UTOPIA

KITCHEN & BATHROOM

LOVES... STYLE | DESIGN | TRENDS

£4.75 JULY 2014

NEW LOOK

Freestanding *chic*

UTOPIA
LOVES

Inside
60
PAGES OF
REAL
HOMES



HIP IDEAS / APPLIANCE LAUNCHES / LUXURIOUS OPEN-PLAN LIVING
MUST-KNOW SECRETS / WISHLIST ENABLED / GET-THE-LOOK
AMAZING FLOATING KITCHENS / A TAP THAT GOES IN THE DISHWASHER





Tall areas of storage and appliances were positioned out of the limelight, which meant the island had to incorporate prep space, cleaning space, cooking and storage, plus informal dining for six people

SUSPENDED BELIEF

A sculptural, weightless-looking contemporary kitchen was the interesting design challenge put before designer Kieron Bell

THE owners

Colin Warrington and his wife Aileen live in an Edwardian end-terrace in Bathgate near Edinburgh with their daughters Robyn 12, Rebekah nine, and Eva five, and Weimaraner puppy Mya. Colin is a building contractor.

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olin Warrington trained as an architect, but ended up going into the family construction business. It seems, however, that he never lost his love of all things architectural, and when the time came to deal with the cramped kitchen in his Bathgate home he let loose with an explosion of design creativity.

Having to put the seemingly impossible into practise was Kieron Bell, who went on to win *Designer Kitchen & Bathroom* magazine's Designer of the Year Award for this design. Kieron says: "Colin is fascinated by sculptural and minimal design work that seems visually impossible, so his brief was essentially to create a kitchen that looked nothing like a kitchen – and as if it couldn't physically be real. He wanted to see floating elements, wrapping details, cantilevers and clever interplay with shape and colour. In essence, his brief was a designer's dream and I instantly felt an affinity with his ideas." Colin was equally pleased: "I have always liked defying gravity, and Kieron latched onto this as a challenge. When he produced hand sketches of his concept, based on my ideas, I knew we'd struck gold."

As the design developed it became more than just a new kitchen. A series of small rooms ended up being combined into one space and Colin designed and built the ceiling 'rafts' which would help delineate and link the spaces. The whole project took over a year, part of which the family spent in temporary accommodation, but the result was worth it.

"Our previous kitchen was fairly small with work tops around the walls and wall units above," says Colin. "We wanted to turn that aged concept upside down. Our house probably had a maid in past times and so the kitchen was separate from the rest of the house and anyone working there was pretty isolated. It has been transformed into the hub of our family life, providing us with a natural place to be together."



The Kohler Stages sink was a great find by Kieron as it provided a perfect prep space and large utility-like cleaning station in one multifunctional design



The Corian cradle concept grasps the line of units like oversized clamps; but Colin's favourite feature is the floating island, a risk he feels paid off





THE designer

“It’s really important first of all to find a designer who can listen to you properly. In doing so they should be able to understand your needs and requirements in great detail before preparing a concept. In summary, the brief is everything.” **Kieron Bell, designer, Kitchens International**

“All standard approaches to kitchen planning were eschewed and no base units at all were placed around walls, giving the planning space and visual dominance to the island.”

Kieron

THE details

Leicht Avance units in Lava, topped with Gravel Grey quartz by Zodiaq, wrapped in Glacier White Corian. Tall furniture is Leicht high-gloss Frosty White. Designed by Kieron Bell, designer, Kitchens International **kitchensinternational.co.uk**

Gaggenau AC402180 ceiling extractor, CX480100 zoneless induction hob, BO270111 single oven, BS275111 combi steam oven, BM274110 combi microwave, RC462200 Vario fridge, WS261111 warming drawer x2, RF463203 Vario freezer, RW424260 wine cooler **gaggenau.com**

Siemens iQ 300 SN66M054GB dishwasher **siemens-home.co.uk**

Kohler Stages 3761-NA stainless steel sink, 6227-C12-VS Karbon tap **kohler.co.uk**

Funky Little Darlings Dragonflies and Cow Parsley Mural in green and grey **funkylittledarlings.co.uk**

Calligaris Jam swivel stools **calligaris.com**

Flos Wan lights **flos.com**