



NOTTING HILL DRAMA

THE POWER OF A GOOD STORY

Notting Hill is certainly not the wallflower of London's villages. And the people who choose to live in its vibrant surrounds are not going to be the quiet type either.

Walking through its impressive streets you notice that it's both traditional and iconoclastic, home to the established and the irreverent. Important, imposing homes stand side-by-side with pastel-painted mews houses, the mix creating an exuberant, energetic melting pot representative of London living at its best.

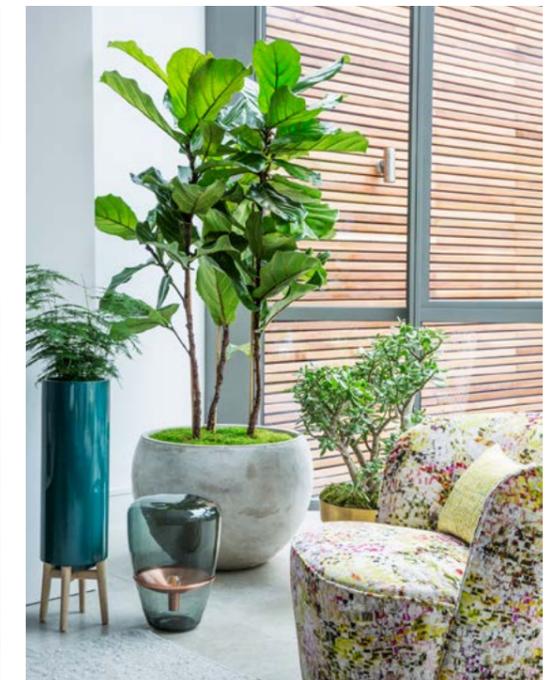
This impressive home on one of Notting Hill's most beautiful communal gardens was designed to capture these contrasting elements as family developers Thornsett together with Capital Architects and interior designers Staffan Tollgard Design Group brought this already handsome home into the 21st century.

In architectural terms the house was sensitively extended and a new basement added to its already generous footprint. The team carved out a liveable, modern family home over five floors, maintaining an appropriate gravitas and formality in some of the important entertaining spaces, and carefully concealing all the creature comforts of modern living throughout.

On the ground floor the scene is set with a palette of dark herringbone floors, bespoke joinery and dramatic sculptural pendants. On the family floor below, though, the atmosphere is lighter and more tropical as the open-plan kitchen, dining and living room extend into the private garden space beyond. One floor lower and the cinema and wine room create intimate and cozy spaces. The top three floors contain a luxurious master suite and four further ensuite bedrooms.



Photography by Daniella Cesarei





Important architectural features such as the decorative cornice and existing stained-glass windows were maintained, creating a dialogue between old and new that adds energy and interest to the journey through the house.

A DRAMATIC PAUSE

True to its Notting Hill setting, the house thrives on dramatic discourse, on the energy of contrasts. Old and new sit side-by-side with natural stone, parquet and deep cornices meeting new age ceramics and corian, laser-cut aluminium and crystal-clear glass. The natural vibrancy of the garden cuts into the calm architectural palette on every level, adding life and colour.

The team is understandably proud of the new staircase at the heart of the house. The open treads and glass balustrade create dynamic internal architectural views and connect with the garden vista outside. The laser cut screens protect the original stained-glass windows and also blend the clear sunlight and green glass, creating new and engaging works of art in three dimensions.

In the master bathroom the interplay between the strongly featured Fiori di Bosco and the clean lines of the corian bath and basin is vibrant and engaging. This dialogue between materials is reflected and repeated in other areas of the house to create a strong red thread.

Creative director and founder Staffan Tollgard explains “We are great believers in honest luxury and the power of a good story. This home uses solid, valuable materials in a clean, architectural and truthful way – and the outcome is refreshingly authentic. There is drama and impact in the rooms that need this energy, but we temper this with cleaner, quieter, purer materials.” Moments of calm at the heart of the action ... just like Notting Hill’s famous garden squares.

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