

BEAUTIFUL INTERIORS • INSPIRED LIVING

HOME

FEBRUARY 2017

JOURNAL | 美好家居



ASIAN ROMANCE

Fall in love with the elegance of Eastern design

情迷東方典雅設計

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homes

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Hong Kong-based design firm AB Concept weaves Asian flair into this handsome Cote d'Azure abode

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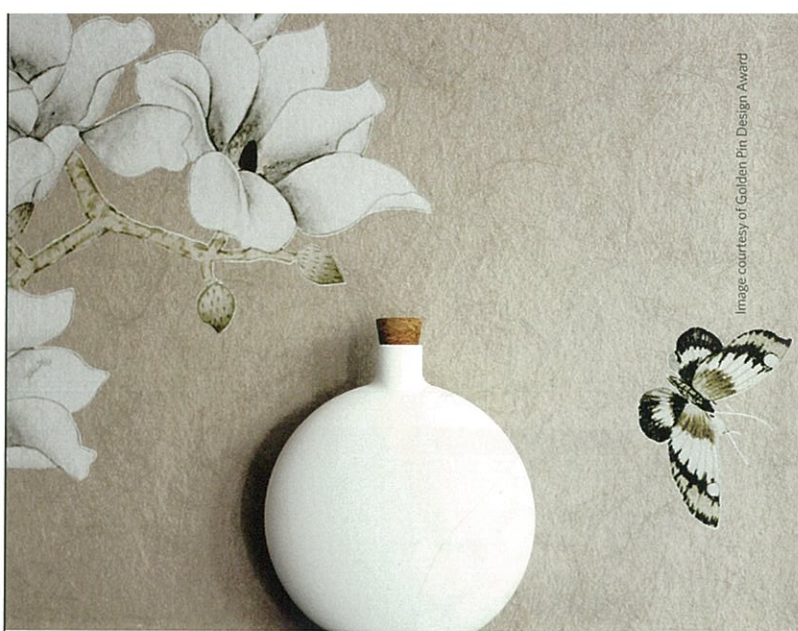


Image courtesy of Golden Pin Design Award

IN THIS ISSUE

Compiling our Asian Romance issue, we spoke with industry experts and recall some of their wise words.

今期亞洲風設計特刊結集業界專家的至理名言。

SHIKUAN CHEN | VICE PRESIDENT OF COMPAL ELECTRONICS AND BOARD DIRECTOR OF WORLD DESIGN CAPITAL

A lot of people think of design as an element itself but for me, design is a tool. It's a tool to produce artefacts that improve the lives of humans.

多數人認為設計是一種元素，但對我來說，設計其實是一種工具，用來生產改善人們生活質素的工藝品。

MÅRTEN CLAESSON | CO-FOUNDER OF MULTI-DISCIPLINARY DESIGN STUDIO CLAESSON KOIVISTO RUNE

This part of the world is on the doorstep of affecting the West. I think Japan has already done it and without any trouble, so I am expecting this also for Chinese design in the near future. I don't see any obstacles really.

東方世界正影響著西方。我認為，日本已輕易做到這點，未來預期也將見中國設計走向此方向。我確實看不到甚麼障礙。

ED NG | CO-FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL OF AB CONCEPT

The idea of having the Mediterranean Sea as the villa's view is already romantic, but we've tied this in with the approach to Asian design where we use traditional elements to uplift it with modernised techniques. It adds a different experience of living through the space where East meets West.

別墅本已是如此浪漫，故我們將地中海意念跟亞洲設計揉合，利用傳統元素和現代化科技提升整體效果，透過中西合璧在空間各處混入不同的生活體驗。

An Eastern Affair



There are few regions which embody the depth of tradition and history we possess in Asia. This is why, to celebrate Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day, we look to the East for timeless design inspiration this month. Day to day, we are so engrossed in the frenetic lifestyle of our city that never sleeps, it's a relief to go home to a peaceful abode that affords escape from the never-ending rush. Asian-themed interiors accomplish exactly that by ushering in harmony and balance. The beauty of the natural world is a common thread tying together design customs across the continent, as is a sense of elegance and integrity. The style also has an exotic edge, but at the same time feels restful and approachable.

We discover the universal appeal of this aesthetic, charting the influence of Asian elements in contemporary spaces. Find yourself transported by our homes, from a romantic villa on the Cote d'Azur (Page 76) to a modern luxe residence in Ahmedabad (Page 124), each of which showcases graceful architecture with serene, stunning spaces. In Report (Page 67), we unveil emerging design talents from Chinese-speaking communities around the globe at Taipei's Golden Pin Design Awards, and judging from this year's success, it seems as if the spotlight being shone on the philosophies and products of the *huaren* community is only getting brighter and stronger, and innovative Asian design is a continuous cause for celebration.

For those of you hoping to whisk your significant other away for a romantic getaway, or the family all together for some cherished moments, check out Alila Anji in Zhejiang province (Page 141) which takes you back to simpler times. Alternatively, get inspired by Itinerary (Page 57), showcasing cool corners in Venice - undeniably one of the most romantic cities in the world.

只有少數文化能達致亞洲傳統與歷史的深度。為迎來農曆新年與新人節到臨，我們本月特意望向東方，欣賞其永恆稱心的設計靈感。日復一日，我們只顧專注不夜城的繁忙生活，能回到可讓人逃離這種無止境奔騰的平靜家園是何等重要。以亞洲為題的室內裝潢正好能做妥這點，並以親暱方式帶進和諧平衡。自然界的美態是把亞洲各遍遠地區特色設計串連起來的共通點之一，也就是優雅與正直。如此風格帶有異國氣息，但同時仍教人感放鬆、可親近。

我們發現這種美學也是環球性的，亞洲風裝飾正走進各個當代空間。本月就跟我們欣賞一系列精彩家居吧，Côte d'Azur的浪漫別墅(第76頁)、亞美達巴德的現代豪華住宅(第124頁)，全都展現出平靜而美麗的建築天地。第67頁的Report，我們探索台灣金點設計獎的環球華語社區新進設計人才。觀乎本年成功，看來華人社會的哲學和產品也愈見明亮強大，前衛的亞洲設計也將繼續大受擁戴。

希望為愛人炮製難忘驚喜的你，又或者想跟家人一起渡過珍貴時光，到臨浙江省的阿麗拉安吉體驗舊日簡約之美吧(第141頁)。你也可看看Itinerary(第57頁)收錄的威尼斯旅遊特輯，一睹這浪漫之都的魅力。

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily Leung'.

EMILY LEUNG, EDITOR

HOMES

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Image courtesy of Frederic Docout | Living Inside

HONOURING ASIAN INFLUENCES AND ROMANTIC FLAIR, EACH OF THE ABODES SHOWCASED IN THIS ISSUE ILLUSTRATES EXQUISITE EXPRESSIONS OF CULTURE. WHETHER IN FRANCE, INDIA OR HERE IN HONG KONG, IT BECOMES EVIDENT THAT OUR HOMES ARE SO OFTEN INSPIRED BY BOTH IDENTITY AND ENVIRONMENT.

CHINOISE CHARM

AB Concept unveils its first European private residence
in the Côte d'Azur, which balances Asian contemporary elegance
with architectural precision | 設計工作室AB Concept首個歐洲私人住宅
項目位於Côte d'Azur，完美平衡亞洲當代優雅氣質與精確建築

BY EMILY LEUNG PHOTOGRAPHY EDMON LEONG





Since launching in 1999, Hong Kong-based design studio AB Concept has earned a reputation in the industry as a top choice for leading hoteliers, luxury developers and high-end restaurants. So upon stepping into La Corniche Villa, it's a pleasant surprise to uncover how artistically and organically the dynamic founders and designers, Ed Ng and Terence Ngan, have approached this interior project. There's the understated luxury of space, materials and fittings that's found in all of AB Concept's projects – but beyond that, there are the personal touches and consideration for the homeowners' lifestyle, which ensure this is truly a home away from home.

The initial brief was to create something private and family-centric for seasonal getaways and as a venue for gatherings. Ed and Terence took their main inspiration from the location on the French Riviera. "As one of the most renowned vacation spots in the world, we took our first pinch of seasoning from the impeccable view of the coastline," explains Ed. "Further to the local elements, we wanted to bring a dash of a getaway experience – a foreign feeling that's unique to the location."

While natural marble slabs, stone, oak wood and plentiful natural light throughout the residence all create a relaxed, sophisticated villa atmosphere, the designers have chosen decorations and objets d'art that incorporate Asian influences as well. Bronze dividers and

自1999年成立以來，駐香港設計工作室AB Concept一直是頂級酒店、豪華發展商、高級餐廳的業界首選。步入La Corniche Villa，公司創辦人兼設計師Ed Ng和Terence Ngan隨即看出空間的藝術和有機天然魅力所在，遂接手處理此室內設計項目。AB Concept的創作全都帶有低調的豪華氣派，應用的物料和配件也是出色精選，除此之外，他們更會為空間注入個人化點綴和觀乎屋主生活方式而定的細節考慮，確保為客人打造出一片家外家的天地。

初步大要就是打造出專為季度度假而設的私密家庭天地，方便聚會交流。Ed和Terence主要從法國蔚藍海岸地區獲取靈感。「作為全球其中一處最著名的度假勝地，我們一起步就受這無可比擬的海岸線所啟發。」Ed解釋：「與此同時，希望能帶進一點在遠地度假體驗的情懷，也就是處身該地獨有的異地感。」

PRIVATE RETREAT

Exceptional quality natural materials exude the luxury of a personal resort, while retaining a sense of sanctuary and simplicity.

私人天地

出色的優質天然物料散放私人渡假村豪華魅力，而同時保留聖所和簡約主義。









INSPIRED SPACES

Generous communal areas with opulent Italian upholstery and bespoke appointments encourage the family to come together in their home away from home.

精彩空間

共用空間鋪上意大利奢華襪墊和特製傢具，鼓勵屋主在這家外家共聚天倫。

“A SENSE OF QUALITY FRIENDS-AND-FAMILY
TIME WITH FUNCTIONALITY AND HIGHLIGHTED
VIEWS WERE OUR MAIN OBJECTIVES”



STUNNING SETTING

The view commands attention from all aspects, whether in the dining room or the upstairs open plan living area, which receives ample illumination from large scale skylights.

悅目裝潢

不管是飯廳還是樓上開放式客廳的悅目景色，也透過大窗盡享綿綿不絕的天然光。

decor along the window lacing, together with a selection of antique mirrors, exude a sense of contemporary elegance, while brass frames provide the overall skeleton for the home. "We also used square geometric details to line the walls and ceilings in celebration of Chinese culture, all the while maintaining a cohesive look with the relaxed lifestyle of the Côte d'Azur," says Ed.

Spanning more than 10,000 square feet, this stunning two-storey residence is a celebration of style, with unique features such as its own hammam sauna, a private swimming pool, and multiple living areas and dining areas where the family can savour their cherished moments. Ed and Terence

天然大理石板、珍貴石材、橡木與充裕天然光線可見住宅各處，成就出讓人放鬆舒適的精緻別墅氣氛，設計師更精選出能反映亞洲元素風味的裝飾和藝術品。銅分隔屏與裝飾沿窗邊而建，再加上一系列古董鏡，散放出當代優雅氣派，而黃銅框身則充當家居的整體骨幹。Ed指：「我們利用方正的幾何細節裝飾牆身和天花，擁戴中國文化，而同時又能符合Côte d'Azur那種宜人舒適的生活態度。」

這座兩層高住宅面積達超過10,000平方呎，風格超卓獨特，特色焦點還包括自家土耳其浴桑拿、私人泳池、多個客飯廳，讓家人時刻共聚天倫。Ed和Terence希望室內空間能回應四周的動人






SUMPTUOUS SANCTUARY

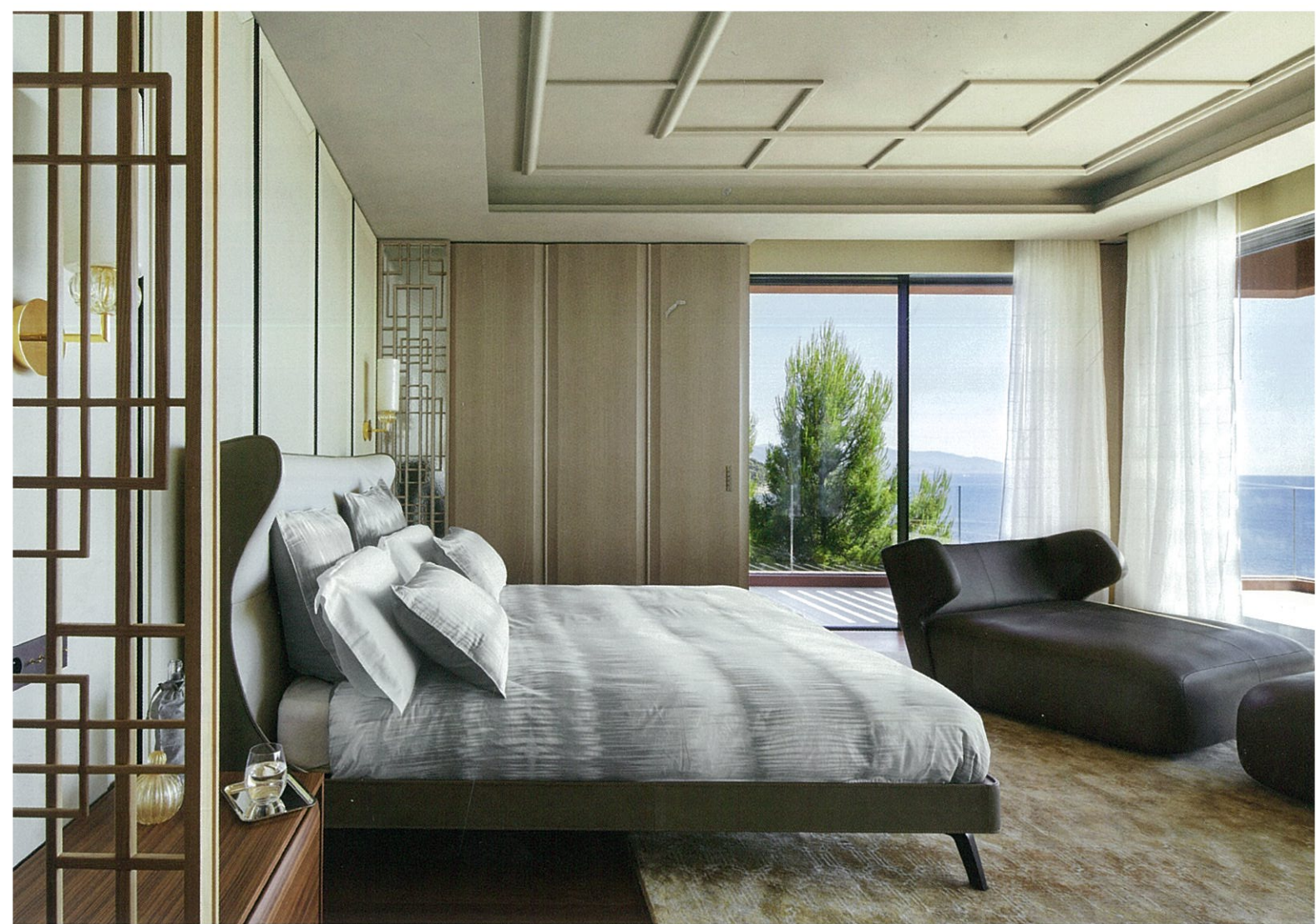
Geometric detailing on the ceiling and floor, as well as the emboidered panels, subtly infuse elements of contemporary Chinoiserie into the elegant bathroom.

醉人氣氛

天花和地板的幾何細節，還有刺繡牆板，低調地為這優雅浴室注入中式魅力。

A modern bathroom with a large, freestanding stone bathtub in the foreground. The bathtub is light-colored with natural stone veining. A dark brown towel is draped over the left side of the tub. To the right of the tub is a chrome faucet and showerhead. The wall behind the tub is a light-colored stone or marble. In the center of this wall, there is a decorative panel with double-sided embroidery. The embroidery depicts two small birds perched on a branch with red berries. The panel is flanked by two large windows with frosted glass and black frames. The windows also feature the same embroidery design. The floor is made of light-colored wood-look planks. The ceiling has recessed lighting.

“ONE OF OUR
FAVOURITE
ELEMENTS IS THE
DOUBLE-SIDED
EMBROIDERY IN
THE BATHROOM
PANELS”



GREAT OUTDOORS

A neutral, organic palette of earthy tones allows the beauty of the natural surroundings to take centre stage.

戶外世界

中性的有機大地色澤讓美麗的天然環境佔盡主要地位。

wanted the interiors to correspond with the glorious surrounds and feature a relaxing sense of comfort. The open-plan concept helped achieve this, as the living spaces seem to seamlessly flow into one another. The designers explain, "It's quite rare to cross paths with people around the area – it's a place to relax and to forget about daily life."

Functioning like a private resort, the home ensures everyone can indulge in some quality downtime or socialise in the common areas as they wish. "A sense of quality friends-and-family time with functionality and highlighted views were our main objectives, so it made sense to have an open-concept style of living," says Ed. "We didn't want to distract from the natural surroundings – it's essential to preserve the location's soul and either build around it or blend in. With the illustrious sea views, we wanted to connect the turquoise waters with the natural stones and wood we used, which are synonymous with the area." The designers kept to a colour scheme of organic, earthy tones that allow the bold hues of the exterior to stand out.

環境，並注入舒適氣氛。開放式概念便能達致此目的，讓各個生活空間能無縫互通流動。設計師解釋：「此區少會與人們碰面相遇，能讓你真正放鬆享受，忘記日常生活的煩惱。」

這所充當私人渡假屋的家園確保每位住戶也能沉浸於個人休閒時間中，又或者在共用範圍與人交流。「與家人朋友相處的優質時間，再配合實用功能和重點景色是我們的主要目標，採用開放式生活概念也就順理成章。」Ed說：「我們不希望阻礙四周的天然環境，保留當地精髓、依地而建或與之共融才屬關鍵。有了如此美不勝收的海景，我們便應用了等同此區的天然石材和木材，跟青綠色水景相連。」設計師沿用有機、大地色彩組合，讓室外天地的奪目色調大放異彩。





ULTIMATE OPULENCE

A hand-knotted rug designed in collaboration with Hong Kong-based Fort Street Studio adds texture and depth to this bedroom interior.

豪華極至

與香港Fort Street Studio合作設計的手織地毯為睡房的室內裝潢注入深度和質感。

Most of the upholstery and decorative lighting in the villa was sourced from Italy, while the case goods, dining tables and occasional tables were custom-designed by AB Concept. The hand-knotted rugs were designed in collaboration with Fort Street Studio, adding warmth and luxury underfoot. "One of our favourite artefacts is the double-sided embroidery in the bathroom panels, which we added for a touch of Chinese flair," says Ed. "With the blossoming plum trees and birds, it creates a cultural contrast with the picturesque window views of the South of France behind it."

Clearly, the designers are as delighted with the outcome of the project. "With most of the elements so bespoke, we were able to introduce a delicate trace of Asian elements to an overall Western space," says Ed. "We're also really happy to see that it unites flawlessly into a graceful piece of work." //

別墅大部分襯墊和裝飾燈具均從意大利搜購得來，傢具、餐桌和休閒小桌則由AB Concept特別設計。與Fort Street Studio合作設計的手織地毯注入溫暖和豪華氣息。「我們其中一項最喜愛的製成品就是浴室板的雙面刺繡，成功混入中式韻味。」Ed指：「盛放的梅子樹和活潑鳥兒跟後方的南法如畫窗外景色形成有趣的文化對比。」

顯然易見，設計師對項目的成果大感興奮。「大部分元素均特別製作，成功在西方國度注入精緻的亞洲情調。」Ed說：「看到宛如藝術品般優雅細緻的空間，教我們非常高興。」 //