

DRAWING ROOM

'We use this table all the time because the room gets so much light,' says Adrienne of the elegant yet informal new space.

Bespoke table, designed by Studio Indigo and made by Charles Saunders, charlessaunders.co.

Castelle pattern oak flooring, from £237.60sq m, Naturally Wood Floors, naturallywood.net.

VICTORIAN REDESIGN

DRAWN *to* the LIGHT

A new layout has created bright, open spaces that beautifully showcase an exquisite collection of art and antiques

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When Adrienne and David Newland's children left home, the couple decided that instead of moving to a smaller house, they would stay put and modernise the place where they already lived. It would not be the first time they had taken on such a project: when they bought the property in the Seventies, it had been divided into five flats. This time, with the help of Studio Indigo, they have dramatically yet sensitively transformed their grand Victorian house in London into a haven of rare beauty where they can enjoy a new chapter in their lives. We asked Adrienne, and Mike Fisher, creative director of Studio Indigo, to tell us more.

Why did you choose Studio Indigo?

AN Mike showed us his houses in London and Cape Town, and we liked his style. He was also the only person who suggested putting the drawing room at the back of the house, overlooking the garden, which was an idea that David and I loved.

What structural changes have been made?

MF Adrienne and David had already extended the house at the back some twenty years ago, but the link between the old and the new had never felt fully resolved. A decision to

DINING ROOM

The chairs (above left) were designed to accompany the antique refectory table. Adrienne and David's daughter-in-law painted the large abstract work, while the decorative frieze above the picture rail was commissioned after David visited Florence. A painting by one of the Dutch masters (above), which Adrienne inherited from her father, is teamed with a table from her grandmother. **Bespoke dining chairs.** Ben Whistler, benwhistler.com. **Chair backs in Bukara in Col 2 Bronze.** £276m, Dedar, dedar.com.



DRAWING ROOM
 Glazed cupolas at either end of this room are dressed with a pair dramatic chandeliers in an oak leaf design. The seascape is by Kurt Jackson: 'It's so evocative, you can almost hear the waves breaking,' says Adrienne. **Standard Oak Tree chandelier.** £11,760, Cox London, coxlondon.com.



KITCHEN

The pair of carved walnut doors (above) are from Adrienne's grandmother's house in Zurich. 'They are the most lovely colour and a very unusual feature for a London townhouse,' she says. Glazed sliding doors (left) enable the kitchen to be closed off from the drawing room. Bespoke kitchen, Artichoke, artichoke-ltd.com.

ENTRANCE HALL

Venetian polished plaster was applied to the walls to reflect light. Its butter colour provides a contrast to the dark metalwork of the original staircase. Small Oak wall light, £3,240, Cox London, coxlondon.com.

remove a secondary staircase (which connected the original house with the extension) restored the sense of importance to the original staircase and to the entrance hall. It also enabled us to reorganise the layout of the rooms and put the main living spaces at the back of the house, overlooking the garden. This created a better sense of cohesion between the old and new parts of the building.

What influenced the interior decoration?

AN The house was already full of light, but I wanted it to be even brighter, which the new layout and pale colours on the walls do very well. I have inherited pieces from my grandmother and my mother, and I was delighted that the new spaces enabled me to use them.

MF Our intention was to incorporate Adrienne's fantastically diverse collection of art and antiques into a design that was full of character. In that way, we hoped not just to preserve the history and the memories with which they are associated, but to bring them back to life and make them relevant once again.

Do the schemes feature any bespoke furniture?

AN We have various bespoke items, including the chairs in the dining room. I love handmade pieces and it is wonderful to be able to support talented craftspeople.



GUEST BEDROOM
 This eclectic room is furnished with Chinese and Tibetan pieces that were collected by Adrienne's mother. They are complemented by a bespoke headboard in ebonised wood and mirrored glass, designed by Studio Indigo and inspired by Chinese screens. Walls in Ammonite estate emulsion, £43.50 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.



GUEST BATHROOM
 The modern design of the hourglass-shaped slipper bath (above) is exaggerated by its proximity to traditional paintings and an ornate frame on mirrored glass (above left). Cabrits freestanding bath, £3,675; Amalfi 55 basin, £490, both Victoria + Albert, vandabaths.com.

CHILDREN'S BEDROOM
 Curtains in a fabric embroidered with delicate flowers are a highly suitable match for a pair of charming beds painted with foliage and bird motifs, which Adrienne inherited from her grandmother. 'I used to sleep in them when I stayed with her in Switzerland,' she says. Curtains in Wisteria, from £124m, Chelsea Textiles, chelseatextiles.com.



MAIN BATHROOM
The double shower enclosure, which was designed by Studio Indigo, gives the bathroom a standout sculptural element, while heavily veined Calacatta marble and a large-scale painting lend visual energy. Bespoke shower enclosure, made by Spa Glazing, 020 7998 9320.



MAIN BEDROOM
A mix of patterns adds a playful feel to this exuberant scheme. The headboard, designed by Studio Indigo, echoes a metal example in Adrienne and David's Cape Town house. Raindrop chandelier, from £2,900, Valerie Wade, valeriewade.com. Architectural and interior design, Studio Indigo, studioindigo.co.uk.