





/ WORDS JULIANA LOH

# RESPECTFULLY YOURS

Brewin Design Office's first interiors project in Hong Kong creates an elegant penthouse against stunning views of the city.

American splendour comes to the upper Mid-Levels in Hong Kong through The Morgan, a residential project that exudes the grandeur of Manhattan's luxury apartments with high-ceilings and thoughtfully-curated artworks.

Designed by New York based Robert A.M Stern Architects (RAMSA), it towers over the older apartment blocks on Conduit Road. It is done in a signature modern classicism style, peppered with a bronze lattice screen detailing over floor-to-ceiling windows, and a cascading vertical plant wall on its façade.

The crown jewel of this prime real estate is the penthouse that occupies the entire 30th floor.

Designed by Singapore's Brewin Design Office (BDO), it has a private lobby of polished marbled floors and Circuit Series wall lamps by New York-based Apparatus, shaped like pill capsules, creating an ambient and intimate mood lighting.

Two entrances are visible here: one leads directly to the guest bedrooms and another to the living areas.

/ 1  
The expansive outdoor terrace of The Morgan's Penthouse fitted with Tribis outdoor furniture.

BDO's founder Robert Cheng says, "During our design process, we were deeply inspired by the penthouse's natural surroundings and wanted to highlight the contextual element as much as possible.

"A bonsai tree is placed in the foyer – a gallery-like space that connects the outdoor and indoor living rooms, setting the scene for a dramatic entrance into the two living areas. Mirrors on both sides reflect the mountain views to give the space a majestic feeling."

With this in mind, the design approach of the penthouse was to use soft finishes and colours that don't overtake the greenery and lush landscape just outside the windows.

The result is a neutral, elegant palette complemented with pops of colour from soft furnishings and art.

"The Hong Kong cityscape informed our colour choices for the living and dining rooms. It is derived from tones of the skyline and harbour, where blues and silvers contrast with burnt umber, blacks and natural timbers," Cheng shares.

In a nod to BDO's commitment to artisanal and bespoke culture, the expansive, column-free space is fitted with an eclectic choice of customised furniture and soft furnishings, tastefully blending elements of East and West.

The public areas designed for entertainment and social interactions are elegant and modern, yet pay homage to traditional details, such as the custom-made black quartzite stone coffee tables with storage.

In the foyer, there is a Venetian plaster paint ceiling and art deco wallpaper by French

**/ 2**  
Unrivalled views of The Peak's lush greenery on one side, and striking urban vistas of the city of Hong Kong.

**/ 3**  
The bonsai plant flanked by two large mirrors acts as a nodal point to separate the indoor and outdoor space.







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interior designer Jean Michel Frank.

Christian Liaigre sofas and Gio Ponti chairs occupy the expansive living room, hugged by wooden fins, creating layers and textures over the playful hand-painted wallpaper of blue, green, silver and gold by New York boutique Calico.

Complementing the wallpaper is a custom-

made Taiping carpet in a similar colour scheme – inspired by Hong Kong’s skyline.

Meanwhile, a 73-part, aged brass glass chandelier by Apparatus hangs over the 12-seat customised dining table.

On the division and transition of open spaces, Cheng explains, “Our design for the living, dining and bedrooms emphasised a pleasing design symmetry.

“We’ve intentionally placed two of each pieces of furniture in two integrated sitting areas to accentuate the elegant grandeur of the open-planned space.”

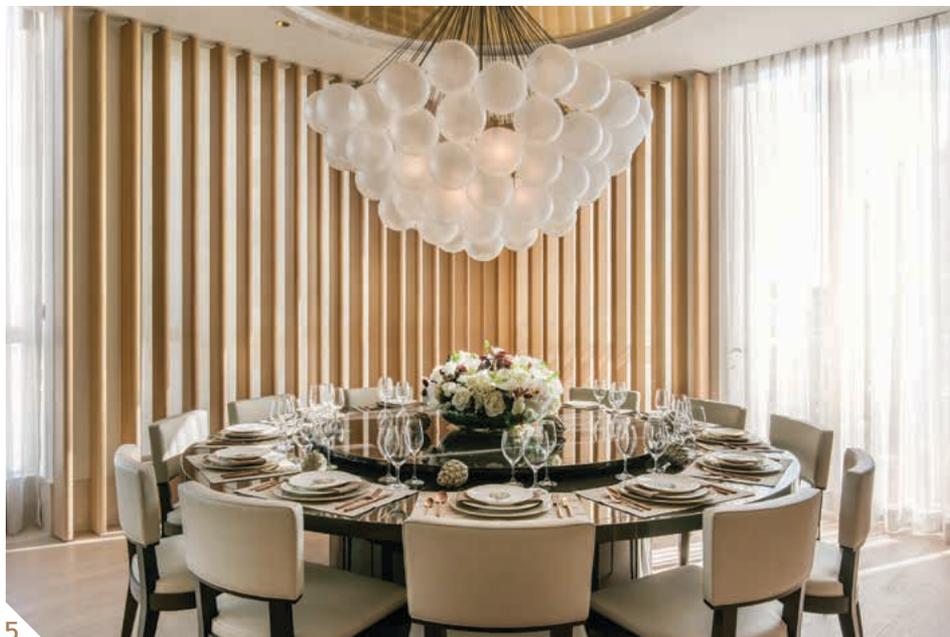
In the private areas, five bedrooms were designed with different themes. The master suite features a 4.5m-high ceiling and gazebo for the bed, with a customised white oak centrepiece.

A large walk-in glass closet connects to an en suite bathroom with views of Victoria Peak. The black Marqunia double vanities countertop from Spain is juxtaposed against walls clad with white marble from Turkey and a free-standing Kohler bathtub.

Of the guest rooms, one is Japanese-inspired with a tatami bed and artwork by

/ 4  
The family area with designer furniture including a 1959 Dinamarquesa Armchair by Jorge Zalsupin and Circular Tai Ping Carpet customised by BDO.

/ 5  
The dining room with its 73-part aged brass glass chandelier by Apparatus hanging above a customised, 12-seat dining table.



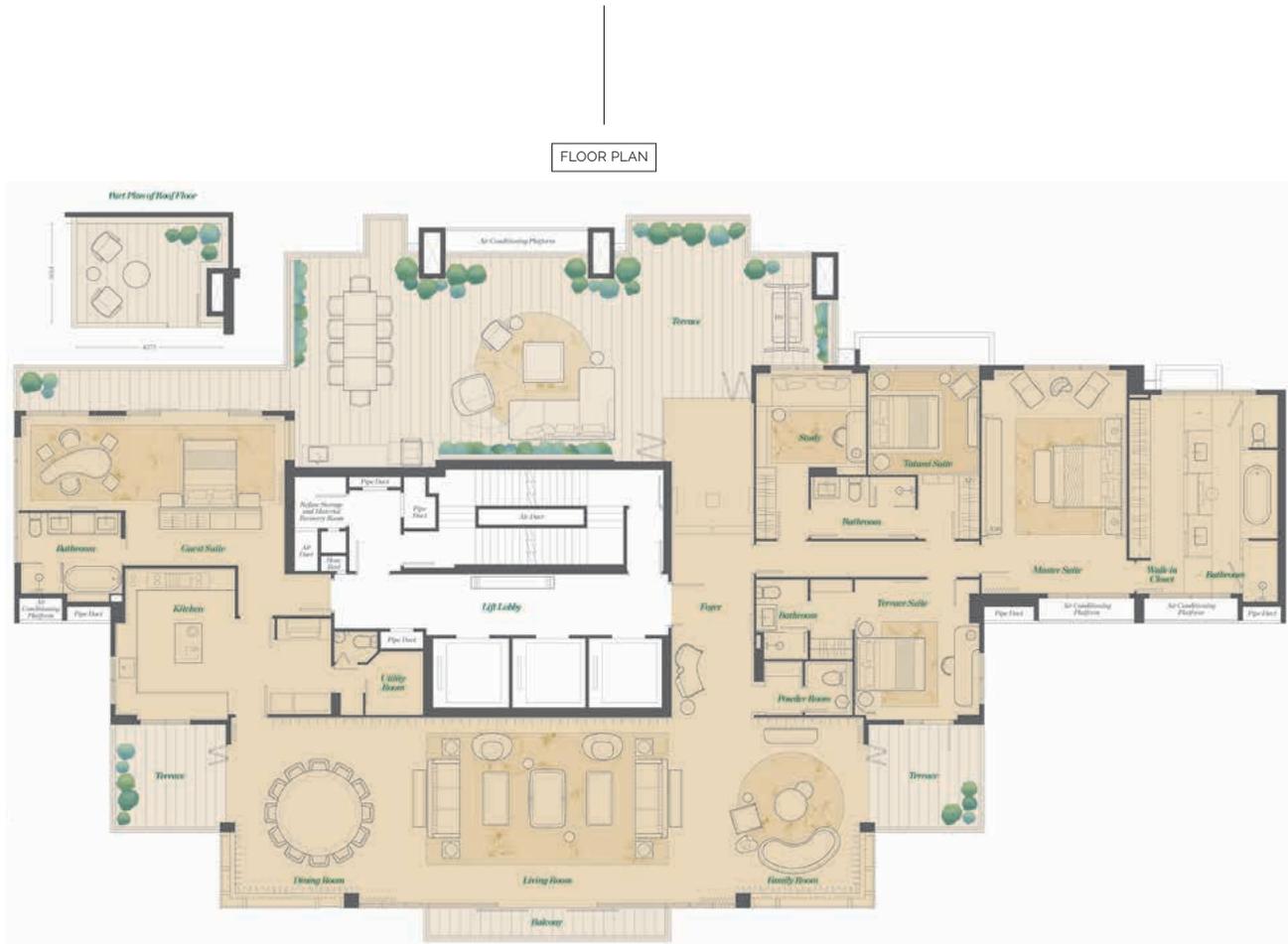
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In the living room sits a Mousson Sofa by Christian Liaigre, volcanic lava stone side-table by Christian Liaigre, Gio Ponti armchairs and a custom-made coffee table in black quartzite from BDO.





Japanese artist Katsutoshi Yuasa. Beside it is a Tendo chair by Tendo Mokko, again fronting views of Victoria Peak visible through the floor-to-ceiling windows.

The remaining guest bedrooms boast of customised headboards made in Hong Kong, thoughtfully put together with a range of furniture selected from MOHD, coupled with an accent of colour from customised Taiping bamboo and silk carpets.

One guest bedroom (with balcony access) includes a study table and the iconic Danish Wishbone chair by Hans J Wegner, its design inspired by portraits of Danish merchants sitting in Ming Dynasty chairs.

The column-free terrace functions as a second “living room” spanning over 1,400ft<sup>2</sup> with an outdoor cascading wall of plants fitted with Tribis outdoor furniture.

There are private nooks that provide vantage points to admire the lush green surroundings, and professionally-fitted in and outdoor kitchens for gourmands.

“Our initial vision was to create a stunning home for a sophisticated buyer



who appreciates beautiful things, but I think we’ve surpassed the brief to create an abode that’s befitting to its location,” says Cheng.

“The resulting design of the penthouse exudes contextualism and timelessness, but more importantly, it’s an expression of a contemporary lifestyle.”

**17**  
The master bathroom with Turkish white marble walls and a free-standing bathtub from Kohler.

**THE MORGAN PENTHOUSE**

LOCATION / HONG KONG  
COMPLETION / 2018  
AREA / 5,423FT<sup>2</sup>  
INTERIOR DESIGN / BREWIN DESIGN OFFICE



**/ ABOVE**

In the master bedroom with its 4.5m-high ceiling lies a bed flanked by bedside lamps Tassel 3 Pendant from Apparatus.