

# *Super Yacht*

i n d u s t r y

**METS 2010**

MARINE EQUIPMENT SHOWCASE

**Composite Rigging**

NANOTUBES AND THIN PLY

**Vantage**

SLEEK AND ELEGANT

**Eleanor Allen**

INVITING INTERIOR REFIT



# *Eleanor Allen*

## Interior Rebirth



**ELEANOR ALLEN**

INTERIOR REFITTING  
REFIT DESIGN  
INTERIOR DECORATOR

Arredamenti Porto  
Kirschstein Designs Ltd.  
Julie Neupert



*Built in 1979, Eleanor Allen boasts classic lines and characteristics that surely stole the hearts of her new owners. Her interior however was ready for a complete makeover, to achieve the comfortable feel and practical features her owners required. The extensive interior refit project was entrusted to experienced refit shipyard Arredamenti Porto in Genoa.*

In the autumn of 2009 Eleanor Allen, a 31 year old classic canoe stern Feadship motoryacht, came to the dock of Arredamenti Porto. The yacht had just been sold to an American owner who wanted to give her a more contemporary and finished interior look as she was really showing her age internally. Interior work being a specialty of Arredamenti Porto, the company was chosen as the perfect place to turn to for the installation of a new interior; within a nine-month period the interior of the lower and main deck had to be newly designed, constructed and reinstalled.

### Atmosphere Overhaul

The exterior of the yacht was generally in good order, however, some exterior work had to be carried out too, including external metal works in line with the expectations of a yacht of this age. Not only was the interior in need of updating, but the layout no longer suited modern requirements for a yacht of her size. Possibly the most unusual work needed was to remove the old car garage in the stern. Eleanor Allen must have been one of very few yachts of her age to carry a car; even if it was only a Mini Moke. The car-lift was removed, as were the ramps and large hatch, replacing these with a smaller hatch and stairs down to a lazarette space which needed sorting with shelves and layout.

The owners entrusted the yacht into the hands of well known designer Michael Kirschstein of Kirschstein Designs Ltd (MKD), as well as to close family friend and interior decorator, Julie Neupert, who was already very familiar with their interior tastes and style of living. The owners worked closely with these two designers and Arredamenti Porto to create a cosy atmosphere with a combination of subtle fabric colours, a warm mahogany interior and two types of Emperador marble with khaki and light emerald hues. This created the inviting and modern new interior desired by the owners family.

### Clever Master

In the original owner's cabin the bed was situated forward with a TV on the aft wall bounded

by wardrobes with an adjacent bathroom towards the stern. This type of layout meant that the cabin had massive floor space but very little usable space. To solve this, the owner's cabin was completely demolished and then re-partitioned to MKD design. This moved the bed from its original position forwards to port, to a central position on the new aft bulkhead. In this position the new king size bed has been raised to give a full 270° view out through no less than nine windows; six large oblong windows split into three each side and three large circular portholes facing forwards.

The original bed position forwards had covered, to some extent, the step in the deck which allowed for greater headroom in the crew quarters below, and made use of this classic yacht's shear. In the new design this step in the structure of the yacht is covered by the addition of full height cupboards on either side and a large sofa and side tables creating a love seat or day bed on which to lounge or read a book. At the end of the bed, a cabinet contains a large pop-up TV which either serves the bed, or can be remotely rotated to face the day bed below the forward facing circular portholes.

The owner's bathroom was completely dismantled and re-built in such a manner that it allows for a separate shower and bathtub area with double sinks and separate toilet area; all fitted out in the two shades of Emperador marble with mahogany accents to complement the rest of the owner's cabin.

Within this area MKD found enough space to create a dressing table. The re-designing of the partitions in the owner's cabin by Michael Kirschstein also allowed for the creation of a walk-in-wardrobe area which simultaneously acts as a lobby to this cabin.

### Down Below

The original layout for the guest area consisted of a VIP cabin with en suite bathroom and two other guest cabins; one with full size bed and the other with two twin beds sharing one bathroom plus a day head to be used for all the lower deck cabins.







The size of the old car garage aft reduced the total length of the VIP cabin to such an extent that passing between the end of the bed and the forward wall of the cabin was a squeeze.

Michael Kirschstein's designs included a completely new interior layout for the lower deck guest area, giving each cabin its own en suite bathroom without compromising on space or comfort. This was done by rearranging the walls to create the maximum amount of workable floor space while moving as few of the major structural elements as possible. These structural pillars were encased by the new walls and insulated to ensure minimum noise transfer between cabins.

## Upgrade

Once the old interior of the guest area was removed, a warm mahogany interior was installed including new wardrobes, built-in bed frames and new accent pieces. The bed side tables were topped with Emperador marble with pull-out writing surfaces and drawers below. Three new bathrooms were all created in a combination of light and dark marble and mahogany cabinets. Large Corian lined showers with marble floor drains and seats into the hull form were constructed, accompanied by glass doors and a panelled wall to make the most of the available natural light and space. The entire toilet system was replaced and upgraded to reduce noise and increase efficiency. Full height upholstered headboards were created to add style and generate visual head height.



The ceilings were covered with Majilite Destiny Parchment, with a padded backing to reduce noise, and the carpet was also laid on Cloud 9 underlay to reduce noise and vibration. Modern systems were installed within the new joinery, resulting in very comfortable and light cabins.

## Opening Up

The main salon and dining room area had two structural pillars encased by the joinery, used to



visually separate the two spaces and leaving them fairly dark. This was not assisted by the use of hard wood floors which extended over the rest of the interior of the yacht giving too much of a hard, dark feel for the new owners. The galley and lobby area were also in need of a 'face lift' as they had been well used. The existing appliances were old and needed repositioning to make the galley easier to efficiently work in. When the yacht arrived at Arredamenti Porto, the main salon and dining area had already been partially demolished and removed. However, after further investigation it was decided to remove the rest of the interior as well, to allow a completely new design. The existing pillars were altered to permit a more open layout with a more fluid and open feeling for the living space and dining area. The new structural pillars were incorporated into two full-height side bookshelves and storage areas, creating two new structures to frame the entrance to the dining area while not cutting it off visually from the rest of the main salon.

### Comfortable Living

The walls were restructured with mahogany panels and fabric wall coverings. To one side of the new dining room a full length storage cabinet was created, with specially designed drawers to contain all valuable crockery. The cabinet has a marble top and doubles as a buffet. On the main forward bulkhead, full-height cabinets were created, to store the various drinking glasses and china necessary for entertaining on a yacht of this type. The two cabinets frame the central painting which forms the focal point of this space.

For the main salon area another built-in mahogany furniture cabinet has been designed, encapsulating the stairs down to the lower guest cabins. This low level cabinet underneath the windows, framed by Conrad fabric roller shades, contains a state-of-the-art audio visual system with another large pop-up TV. Facing the staircase, there is a large comfortable sofa with four swivel arm chairs around a large central coffee table, thus creating a cosy warm and workable space, much enhanced by the fabrics and colours chosen by Julie Neupert and the owner's wife.



### Completing the Transformation

A further addition to the impressive rebirth of this classic yacht was the inclusion of a new hydraulic Pin-Craft passerelle replacing the old manual one, a new teak deck on the aft main deck, as well as a large sun awning on the boat deck to cover a well proportioned exterior eating and lounging area. The yacht was also fitted out with a new fire alarm, telephone system and network system as well as new safety camera arrangement. The only part of the yacht not rebuilt internally was the upper deck sky lounge. The day head adjacent to this space was redesigned in the same style as the rest of the wet areas with Emperador marble and Corian. During the coming months the skylounge will however be refitted too, transforming it into an owners office and therewith completing the yacht's transformation.

The satisfied comments: "The owner's design requirement to achieve a "warm loving embrace" was successfully fulfilled on-time and within budget, and it is with deep appreciation and gratitude that my compliments are extended to Team Arredamenti Porto who worked so expertly in collaboration with Julie Neupert and Michael Kirschstein Design."



## Facts & Figures Eleanor Allen

### Principal particulars

|               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| Length o.a.   | 34.50 m |
| Beam          | 7.00 m  |
| Draught       | 2.60 m  |
| Gross Tonnage | 233 t   |

|                    |                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Year of Completion | 1979                              |
| Builder            | De Vries Scheepsbouw BV, Fearship |

i. [www.arredamentiporto.it](http://www.arredamentiporto.it)



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