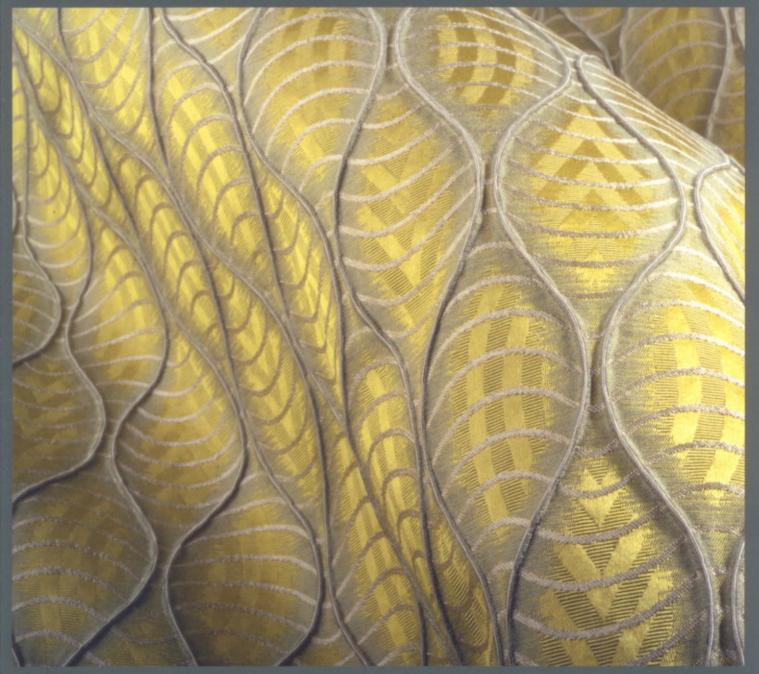
Superyachterior Space Screativity and Architecture



CASE STUDY

Frank Laupman talks about the growth of Omega Architects with the launch of Galactica Star.

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APOSTROPHE/HAKVOORT REYMOND LANGTON DESIGN

Built of steel and aluminium with naval architecture by Diana Yacht Design, 40m Apostrophe was launched in April. The exterior styling reveals Reymond Langton's by now familiar dart-shaped superstructure bulwark, but a tour of her interior during the Monaco show came as a pleasant surprise.

"The owner wanted a very detailed art deco interior," explained Andrew Langton as we began our tour from the sundeck. Indeed, the interior design is remarkably detailed with superb joinery mostly carried out in-house by Hakvoort. Based on walnut, ebonised walnut and macassar ebony with mother-of-pearl inlays and a few exotic timbers such as bubinga thrown in for good measure, the high level of finish is more akin to a much larger yacht.

With loose furniture by Christopher Guy and low tables by Archer & Smith with bronze inlays, the sky lounge sets the tone for the rest of the yacht with its curved sliding doors of smoked glass opening on to the aft deck. In fact, the interior design hardly presents a straight line, which creates an impression of space and volume. Reymond Langton prefer to either disguise doors or make a feature out of them, and Apostrophe is no exception. The sliding doors are panelled with fan-cut veneers and decorated with intricate brushed nickel and mother-of-pearl detailing.

The mirrors in the bathrooms are backlit to highlight the etched art deco motifs and automotive stitched leather lines the window boxes in the cabins.

The designers called in two favourite



suppliers, DKT and Sterling Studios, to provide much of the decorative artwork. DKT reproduced the Gustav Klimt-inspired paintings that appear throughout the yacht, but especially on the dining room bulkhead. These paintings were presented in the original renders merely to provide a dash of colour, but the owner decided to include them in the finished design. Anxious to avoid yet another Klimt pastiche, Pascale Reymond insisted that the artist travel to Vienna to study the original works. Sterling Studios was commissioned to produce the hand-painted Eglomise glasswork

in the stairwell, which looks not unlike glass wallpaper. It is softly illuminated by the fretworked metal and glass light pillar made by Crystal Caviar extending through the main and upper decks.

While not to everyone's taste, the interior stands out for its attention to detail and high-quality execution. "Despite the incredible complexity of both the exterior shaping and the interior décor, this sophisticated and challenging project has been finished to perfection," confirmed Hakvoort's project manager Alexander Speksnijder.