

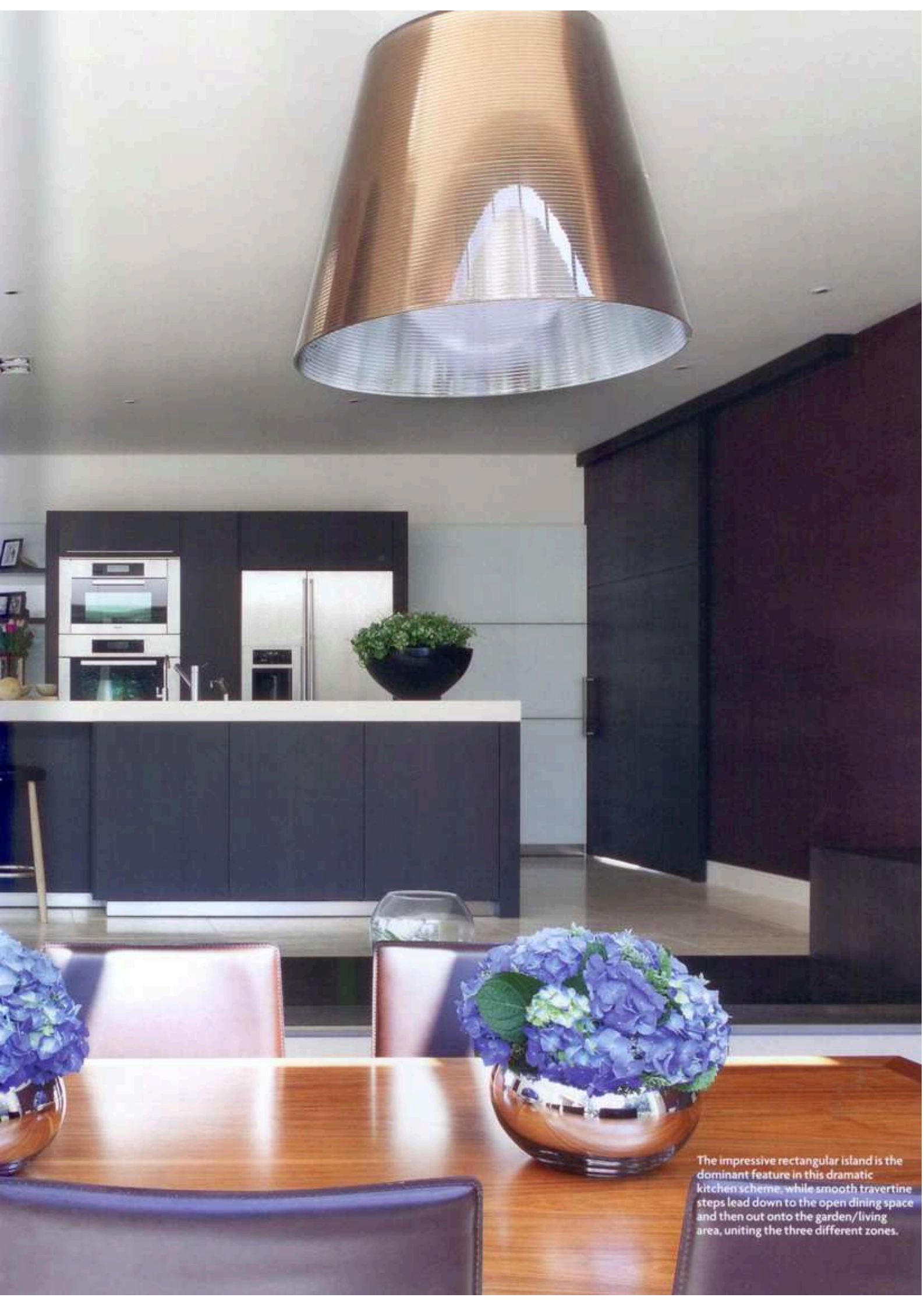


SETTING THE SCENE

A dramatic kitchen, full of impact takes centre stage in this open-plan space.

PHOTOS PAUL CRAIG WORDS ANNA TOBIN



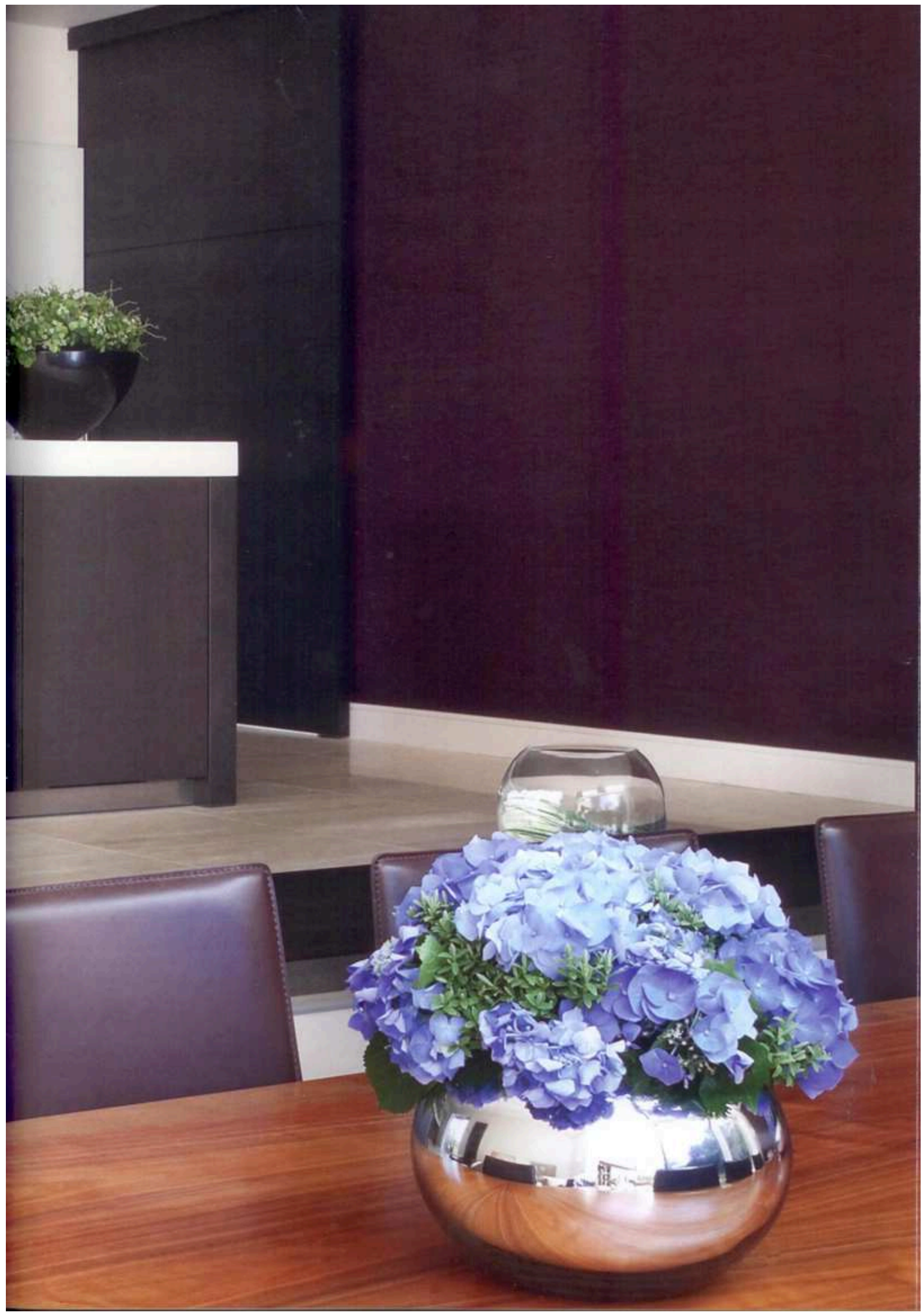


The impressive rectangular island is the dominant feature in this dramatic kitchen scheme, while smooth travertine steps lead down to the open dining space and then out onto the garden/living area, uniting the three different zones.

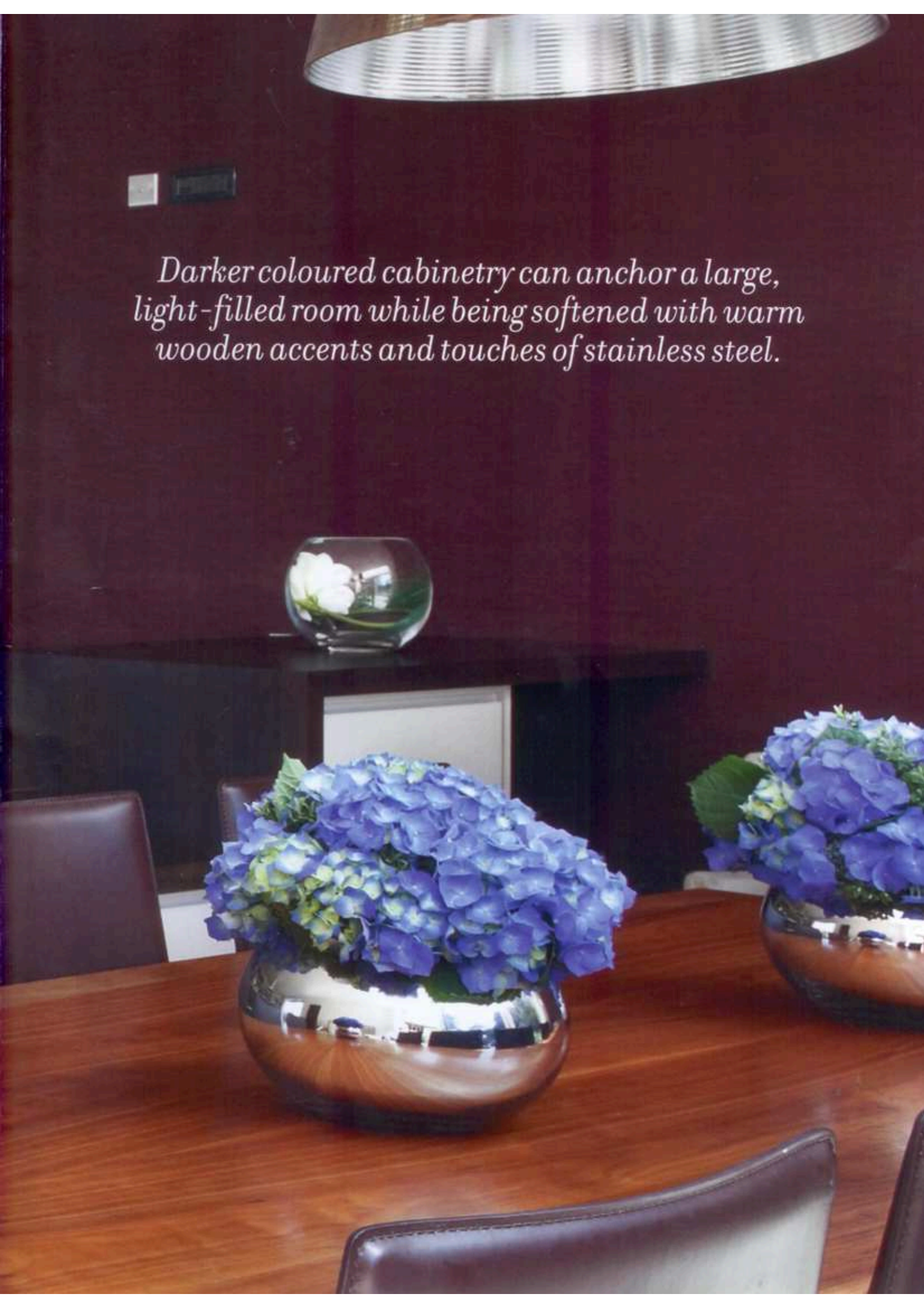


Setting this sleek and contemporary kitchen on an upper level separates the various areas and also gives the overall design a huge impact, while the cool colour palette completes this timeless, desirable scheme.





Darker coloured cabinetry can anchor a large, light-filled room while being softened with warm wooden accents and touches of stainless steel.





Excellent performance, dramatic glamour and practicality were what this young family wanted from their new kitchen.

Many would have passed it by, but lawyers Sally and Nigel Knowles saw the potential in the East Sussex cottage they bought as a weekend home five years ago. 'It was a huge renovation project,' explains Sally. 'The original house is a tiny two up, two down 16th century cottage and this had suffered various

ill-fitting extensions being bolted onto it.'

Sally and Nigel knocked down one of the extensions and instructed architects Camillin Denny, to rebuild it in a contemporary style that both contrasted and complimented the original part of the property.

As the new kitchen was to be housed in this new modern extension, the couple

wanted it to be equally contemporary in design. Sally and Nigel commissioned designer and managing director of Kitchen Architecture, Rob Gelling to create a bulthaup kitchen that would both look great and function well for them and their two children, Jack, four; and Oliver, two.

Sally could tell from the start that →

Above A purpose-built bank of smooth, stainless steel appliances provide essential functionality, while accenting the super thin bar handles.

Right The inconspicuous induction hob is fitted flush with the worktop, maintaining the clean uninterrupted lines of the unit top.



DESIGN PROFILE

Dark chocolate-coloured oak bulthaup b3 units melt luxuriously into the background of this larger open-plan living area. Whilst, the slim stainless steel worktops on the wall units elegantly balance the thicker Okite worktop on the central island unit, finishing off the perfect backdrop to the heart of this sociable family home.

Kitchen design: Kitchen Architecture Ltd, 145-149 Lower Richmond Road, Putney, London, SW15 1EZ. Tel: 020 8785 1960. kitchenarchitecture.co.uk. Bulthaup b3 kitchens start from £35,000.

Architect: Camillin Denny, Unit E, Level 8, North New England House, New England Street, Brighton, BN1 4GH. Tel: 01273 689 700. camillindenny.com.



The island is deep enough to offer an alternative eating area, with a more informal feel. A thin stainless steel work surface was chosen for the back bank of units to allow the island's thicker reconstituted stone surface to remain the more predominant feature.



'We love being able to cook at the island unit while looking out over the garden area.'

Rob would provide them with a great design. 'He just had every detail thought through, from where we should store spices to the best position for crockery drawers. When we're entertaining we can have one dishwasher on and another one ready to fill, it's really useful.'

By leaving the basics to the designers, Sally found she was better able to enjoy picking out the more fun bits, such as choosing the colour scheme and the appliances. 'We initially had a

lighter colour in mind for the kitchen units, we really fell for this chic darker tone when we saw it in the showroom, we also would never have thought of going for two different work surfaces until we saw this on a kitchen in the showroom. It was a bit of a risk, but I think it works really well.'

The couple opted for a thin stainless steel work surface on the back bank of units and contrasted this with a thick reconstituted st



worktop for the central island unit. The thicker surface not only makes the island the focal point of the kitchen, but it's also extremely practical as you can put hot pans straight on it.

The flat induction hob also helps to maintain the clean lines of the island unit, but it has taken Sally a while to get used to. 'We've always previously cooked with gas, so psychologically at first it felt strange not to see a flame, but I wouldn't be without it now. ➔

Above The island divides the room, while a bank of cabinets house a multitude of appliances.

Top right Bespoke pull out storage options make the most of this sleek, intelligent design.

Right A burgundy feature wall balances the cool uses of cream and steel in this large room.





I particularly like the power boost function. It's great when we arrive late from London with two starving little boys. I can have pasta ready in a matter of minutes.'

The Knowles family are delighted with their weekend home kitchen. 'We never wish we had more cupboard space here or had put an appliance somewhere else. And it's lovely to be cooking at the island unit and to be able to look out over the garden. This kitchen has just been put together in a way that works.'

STOCKISTS INFORMATION

APPLIANCES

G2582scvi dishwasher, £1,108, ESW4820 XL warming drawer, £1,053, H4880BP XL oven, £3,159, H4081BM XL microwave, £2,937; all by Miele. RS495-310 fridge/freezer, £4,000, CI482-100 hob, £1,474, AI200-102 extractor, £1,555, all by Gaggenau, at Kitchen Architecture.

FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS

Prep sink, £180, at Franke; Inox taps with pull-out spout, £540, at KWC; Boiling tap, £880, at Quooker;

Carl Hansen barstools, £600 each, at Kitchen Architecture; Oxleys Exterior Wicker cushion armchair, £695 each, sofa, £1,195 each, all from Lapstone Furniture; Floor tiles, Rapolano cream travertine, from £110, at Stonell; Dining table, made to order, £POA, at Philip Koomien; Latina dining chairs, £615 each, at Christopher Wray; Philippe Starck Flos K-Tribe suspension light, from £302, at David Village Designer Lighting; Karawan armchair, from £1,500, at Roche Bobois.

*All prices are approximate. For stockists, see page 118.

Above and below: Sally with her two boys enjoy the terrace where the travertine floor tiles blend with the stone outside - an integral part of the kitchen and dining areas.

