

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

# metropolitan

THE BEST OF CITY LIVING

HOME

EXCLUSIVE

## KOURTNEY KARDASHIAN'S HOME

BOLD, DARING &  
FASHIONABLE

COPY THAT!  
HALLWAY  
LOOKS BY TOP  
INTERIOR  
DESIGNERS

LOCAL RETREAT  
DISCOVER  
PENANG'S  
HIDDEN GEM



## 1 | PERLA LUCHI

Perla Luchi is an interior designer, furnishing and home object designer as well as an author, with her 2014 coffee table book recently published. Since founding her namesake firm, she has designed the interiors of hundreds of luxury homes, offices and palaces around the world. Her clients include professionals, royalty and famous figures in the world of sports and entertainment.



## 2 | SHIRLEY GOUGH

Graduated from famed Parsons School of Design in New York, Shirley Gough has worked in several leading interior design firms in the United Kingdom, Spain and New York before finally settling down in her homeland and lead Elva Goughes as principal interior designer. Armed with an acute sense of style, Shirley has an affinity for mixing rural classic style with modern aesthetics.



## 3 | CRISTINA JORGE DE CARVALHO

Founded her eponymous atelier, Cristina Jorge de Carvalho currently resides in the city of her choice, Lisbon. The Mozambique-born designer has since won the coveted Best Hotel Interior for Europe and Best Hotel Interior for Portugal for the European Hotel Awards. Although her projects vary from private homes, to spas and hotels, her signature contemporary, stylish and understated aesthetics are present in every project.

## 4 | STEREOUL

Represented by Marketing Manager Majken Nielsen, Stereoul, a luxury European property developer across the Asian market on the back of the luxury sector. With Covid-19 the first property was set on Malapenas esp., Stereoul is set to develop more large scale residential properties this year for the close reality.



## 9 | JOHN WILLEY

New York based interior designer Willey is known for his colorful and gracious approach in conveying his clients' demands with pleasing and laud results. Since founding his firm in 2004, Willey Design has completed projects throughout the United States, including New York City, Los Angeles, the Hamptons, Connecticut, and Maryland. Prior to that, John also operated renovations in London, Miami, the Caribbean, and the Bahamas.



## 8 | PEPE CALDERIN

Boasting over 30 years of experience in high-end residential and commercial projects, Pepe Calderin is renowned for creating innovative and modern design throughout the Americas, Europe and South Asia.



## 7 | JEFF ANDREWS

Known for his elegant play with colors, textures and materials, Jeff Andrews is the go-to interior designer when it comes to creating timeless and functional living spaces. His long list of celebrity clients includes Ryan Reynolds, Michael C. Hall, Lerner and Oliver Cohen, Bruce Willis, John Denver and Courtney B. Vance.



## 6 | KELLY WEARSTLER

More than just a style icon, Kelly Wearstler is best known for her eclectic, Hollywood glamor style which comes to her design scheme. Having worked with numerous A-list celebrities, Kelly has become a household name not just in interior design but also in the fashion world in London, Miami, the Caribbean, and the Bahamas.



## 5 | AS YOU SEE IT

Established by John As You See It in early 2010 after he completed his studies in colour and design as well as a diploma in interior styling, AS-You See It Interior Solutions was later joined by European Region with a background in the IT industry and landscape architecture.



# MONOCHROMATIC ALLURE

Cristina Jorge de Carvalho demonstrates her acumen of designing a contemporary interior style using soothing neutral shades.

TEXT: MARTHA BARREIRA IMAGES COURTESY OF FRANK MORDE ALMEIDA/SAS





THE CLEVER USE OF INTRIGUING  
ARTWORK AND SCULPTURES  
INTERSPERSED BETWEEN  
CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE  
PIECES ADD INTEREST TO  
THE SPACE.

Adopting a monochromatic palette in interior design is incidentally associated with being safe and uninspiring. But when done right, it has that wow factor many desire. Like in fashion, a profuse amount of thought and effort are put into creating that effortlessly chic look. And Portuguese interior designer Cristina Jorge de Carvalho is adept at creating stylish, understated, and timeless aesthetics, especially manifesting in this 200-square-metre duplex apartment situated in the North of Portugal for a family of four.

Due to the spaciousness, and inviting manner of the duplex, the Mozambique-born designer separated the private and public spaces of the apartment between the two floors – with the shared bathroom, living room, dining room, kitchen and terrace on the entrance floor while the family room, bedrooms and private bathroom take residence on the floor below.

In the effort to keep the apartment light and airy, the wall in the entrance hall that gave access to the living room was deconstructed and replaced by an antique-looking lacquered screen reminiscent of a traditional Chinese window grille. Designed by Cristina herself, the addition of this decorative element housing a strong presence and character is also placed by the staircase leading to the floor below – great for dividing spaces whilst still maintaining a visual connection between them.





In the living room, the open-plan concept accommodates two functional areas – a sitting area and a dining room – both of which are aesthetically connected through similar colour choices and contemporary furniture. The colour palette, predominantly of soothing white and grey sets the tone for the sophisticated and cosmopolitan interior style punctuated with occasional pops of green and yellow; most obvious being the blonde armchairs by Munira upholstered in dark yellow in the sitting area and the chest of drawers by Established & Sons standing generously in the entrance hall.

With materials ranging from fine woods, lacquered, iron and steel, the interior architecture is fearlessly timeless and embellished with several intriguing art pieces by contemporary Portuguese artists such as the captivating iron sculpture in the entrance hall that greets its inhabitants and the André Gomes photographs plastered on the wall by the stair landing.





USING ONLY NEUTRAL SHADES, CRISTINA EXECUTED HER TIMELESS AMBIENCE SIGNATURE STYLE IN THIS DUPLEX, PROVING THAT MINIMALISM CAN BE IMMENSELY CAPTIVATING.



Continuing her design approach downstairs, the family room housing an office area, media room and reading area is cleverly divided with a structured volume covered in black vinyl to create a more private area for the office. The two black iron shelves next to the media room that hold the owner's growing collection of books is designed by Cristina. In fact, many furniture pieces in this duplex are her creations: the chest of drawers, grey sofa and armchair in the family room, the large-scale mirror in the master bedroom and nearly all the rugs in the apartment.

Set against a relaxing green silk backdrop, the master suite is the only room that shies away from neutral coloured walls and have the floors covered in wool carpet to reinforce the feeling of comfort and intimacy. The master bathroom is no less romantic with floors and walls all adorned with statuary marble and a mirrored suspended cabinet designed by Cristina.

In the children's rooms, the lacquered furniture is in light grey. The natural linen drapes and carpet serve as a neutral canvas for decorative elements to layer upon, making it easy to update through small details when the children's tastes evolve as they grow older. For added text and vibrancy, the fair wall detailing by S&D anchors the look together - a signature of Cristina that proves to be a fail-proof approach in adding life to any space she designs. ♦

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