

Polished performer

Appliances are cleverly concealed in this streamlined, clutter-free, open-plan kitchen environment, making it a striking, dramatic space in which to entertain







When guests come over, it's easy to simply shut the doors and keep mess at bay. Designer Natalie Du Bois of Du Bois Design has hidden the oven, the microwave and pantry behind a stack of sliding doors, and two DishDrawers are only visible from the inside of the island. The only items suggesting a kitchen that you actually see when you walk into the room are the fridge, freezer and the hob.

Abstract modern art features throughout the home and Natalie says this inspired the vivid orange graphic glass that wraps around the cooking hob and behind the internal sliding pantry area. The wall opposite the kitchen has a large painting with the exact orange colour — Tropic Orange — used in the kitchen; this balance creates a feeling of continuity throughout the space. The orange teams up with the polished black and stark white glossy lacquer cabinetry. With the highly reflective stainless steel on the island, the sleek surfaces convey an elegant, contemporary feel.

Excessive polishing of the stainless steel below the island gives a mirror effect. It's so shiny that sometimes you have to look twice to see whether there is actually a support below the island, says Natalie. "The reflections it creates make it look as if the floor runs all the way through the island."



The natural warmth of the travertine floor grounds the hard colours and surfaces to create a welcoming effect.

An antique black crystal chandelier suspended above the dining table emphasises the room's high ceilings, adding drama and a touch of femininity to what could have been a hard, masculine space.

With the three cabinetry finishes, the flowing, shiny organic granite top and bold colours, Natalie Du Bois has created a kitchen that is vivid and exciting to complement the strong architecture of this new home. It won her an "any region award" in the latest NKBA awards.

Who, what, where

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