

HOME

The Standard 英文虎報

APRIL 2014

Spring

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World class

Hong Kong promotes itself as a "World City" but it is more than that.

Actually, Hong Kong is an international luxury class city. We have better luxury shopping than Paris or London, so I am told.

It all started about 10 years ago, when the famous labels saw Hong Kong as their stepping stone to the fabulous mainland market. Top labels popped up in Queen's Road, and other major streets in Central.

But that was not enough. Some of the world's top brands had to go further, and open fabulous "Flagship stores." In fact, some of them never had a flagship store in Europe. But, in Hong Kong, they went all-out, creating billion dollar, three-story, prime-locations, fitted out with top-level designers' recommendations.

A good example is the Chaumet showroom, which includes a museum of jewelry created for the noble heads of Europe in the 1880s. These labels enjoyed several years mainland shoppers. The craze may have softened with so many labels having made the jump to the mainland, but we are left with a dazzling array of flagship stores, the envy of London and New York.

Even a light riffle through this magazine, will show how it reflects the world-class labels.

And something more. We also have interviews with world-class architects and designers. Some are offering their services in Hong Kong. No doubt Hong Kong is a super-luxury city!

Robert Curran
Editor





Harmonic Love

How does the dream home of you and your loved ones look? Max Lam plays with lights and colors to bring a contemporary-yet-warm family home for two.

Text Nia Tam

Photos Moderne Design House



The DECO pendant lamps spice up the space.



This vast kitchen space is where the home owners spend much of their time together.



Track lights are used in bathroom to provide functional lighting.



All living spaces are connected with no barriers.

A pair of simplistic pendants lightens up the master bedroom.

The blue and beige color tones create a relaxing atmosphere throughout the project.

Max Lam, from Moderne Design House, is the brain behind this 1,800 sq ft contemporary home nestled at a friendly neighborhood in Ho Man Tin. He has a multi-disciplinary expertise in the complementary interior design and lighting design for ten years.

To design a home for two, Lam emphasizes the use of lighting and contemporary designs to create a warm, relaxing mood that strengthens the romantic bond between the young couple.

"We at first identify the function of space, then decide to use which kind of lighting." First off, Lam explains how he arranges lights to create a modern living space. "Spotlights or track lighting are keys to build the main functional lighting when designed pendant lamps or wall lamps are more often used as decorative lighting."

"Spotlights are indirect lighting that bring light to the space in general." He further elaborates on his use of spotlights in this case. "When we look at the dining room, the platform was raised

and installed with diffused lights to create a richer visual – multiple layers – and increase the depth of space."

When we divert our attention from the platform to the dining room, three exquisite pendants instantly catch our eye. Matching in style and color in the overall design, the DECO contemporary design lamps are set to spice up the dining space.

Lam also used the home owners' favorite colors, blue and beige, as the main tones together with thoughtful arrangement in lighting to construct a home in style and harmony.

Standing at the corridor between the living room and kitchen, we are overwhelmed by the sense of space. The designer changed the original layout to expand the kitchen area. "The home owners love cooking and they spend a lot of time in the kitchen. That is why we made an open kitchen which connects to the living room and helps enhance the couple's relationship."

"As home owners requested, they need a comfortable and spacious home. We try to enhance the sense of space by building a sliding door and a wall both made of clear glass for the study room to make the corridor look as wide and spacious as it can. This also results in the living and dining rooms being visually wider."

Apart from making rooms look big, Lam actually did make the spaces bigger from layout.

"Considering use of spaces from the home owners' point of view, we also changed one of the bedrooms into the current dining room as they simply did not need that much of bedroom space and a wide, comfortable dining room can provide the perfect space for them and their friends to enjoy food and

life," adds Lam. "The final layout builds a connection between living room, dining room, kitchen and the study room, in perfect harmony.

This is my favorite part in this whole project." **Moderne Design House Limited | 2838 2183 | www.moderne.hk**