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SUMMER LOVING
FURNITURE & ACCESSORIES FOR
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THE ENTERTAINING ISSUE

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Designer Amgad Kamel based his design for this apartment on the grand library at Sydney's five-star Sofitel hotel, with pendant lights from Yellow Goat and an Ecosmart fireplace.

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A photograph of a modern interior space, likely a dining or living area. The room features dark wood paneling on the walls and a large, circular pendant light with a dark outer ring and a glowing inner ring. A glass dining table is visible in the foreground, and a dark door is on the right. The overall aesthetic is sleek and contemporary.

COLOUR CODED

PURE CLASS HAS BEEN POURED INTO
THIS SYDNEY APARTMENT

FEATURE | INTERIOR DESIGN



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FEATURE | INTERIOR DESIGN



Left A splash of colourful artwork on the wall adds texture to the otherwise monochrome dining room. Right Accomplished interior designer Amgad Kamel.

Sophisticated has to be the most perfect word to describe this apartment, designed by Amgad Kamel. So elegant is it, we can see the likes of Meryl Streep looking very much at home here.

When Amgad first viewed the three-bedroom apartment in the IKON building in Sydney, he says it was in “reasonably basic condition”. The space is only three years old and was leased throughout that time until the owners decided to renovate it for themselves.

Amgad tells us that the client “requested clean-line interiors with emphasis on contemporary textures and the use of contrasting veneers in line with the library bar at the Sofitel Hotel in Sydney”. The client also travels around the world for business and leisure so a place where they could enjoy their amassed appreciation of music, art, wine and fine dining was necessary, all of course in five-star luxury.

A complete redesign was in order, with almost every inch of the home changed, except for the bathrooms. A cocktail bar was also added for entertaining.

“A classic, contemporary style with focus on finishes that reflect the client’s eye for quality and luxury” was one of the aims for the home, Amgad tells us. The client had already decided on some Giorgetti Italian furniture, which helped set the tone for the rest of the style.

Luxury textures are layered on top of one another for an ultra-opulent finish. “I selected new-age veneer as it was the base of the whole design scheme,” adds Amgad. This is carried throughout the apartment for a continuous flow, with different materials and finishes indicating the change from room to room.

Colour was a careful consideration, with each space being quite different but the look staying the same. “The client’s request for black carpet directed our thoughts to more dramatic finishes and heavily toned colours to complement



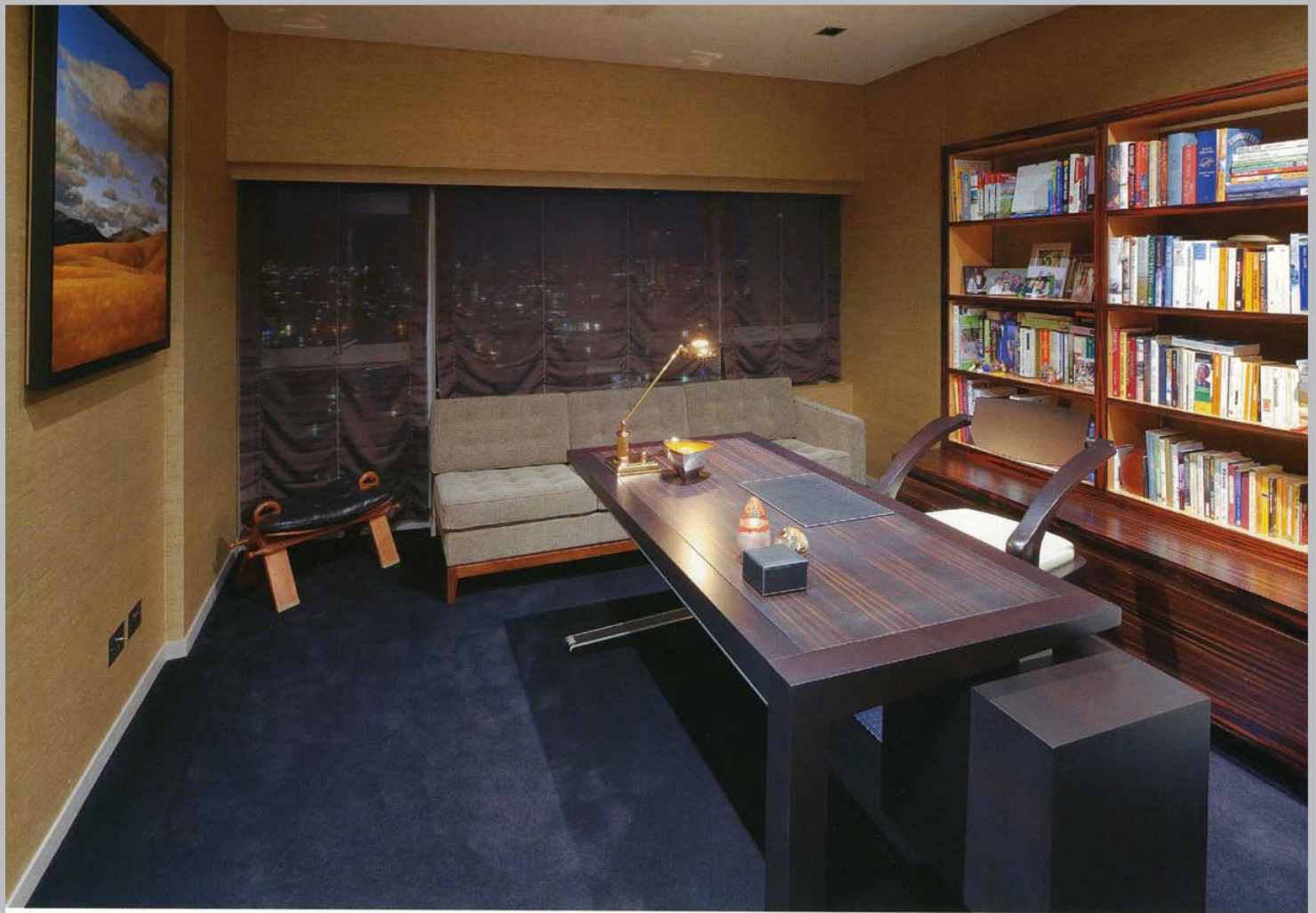
WHEN AMGAD FIRST VIEWED THE THREE-BEDROOM APARTMENT IN THE IKON BUILDING IN SYDNEY, HE SAYS IT WAS IN “REASONABLY BASIC CONDITION”. THE SPACE WAS ONLY THREE YEARS OLD AND LEASED THROUGHOUT THAT TIME UNTIL THE OWNERS DECIDED TO RENOVATE IT FOR THEMSELVES.

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An elegant cocktail bar was included, with customised wine refrigerators to house the owner's extensive wine collection.
Opposite page A number of different light fixtures were used in the bedrooms and study including lamps, wall-mounted sconces and halogen downlights.

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rather than contrast,” says Amgad. Dark timber veneer was used in the living and dining room, which is complemented by a cream sofa and Ecosmart fireplace. An existing mirrored wall was kept here and highlights the joinery work and materials used in the room, as well as creating the illusion of space.

The kitchen and hallway ceilings were both painted in the delicious-sounding Toffee Fingers by Dulux and a black reflective stone with mirrored particles was used here and in the foyer to add a sense of glamour.

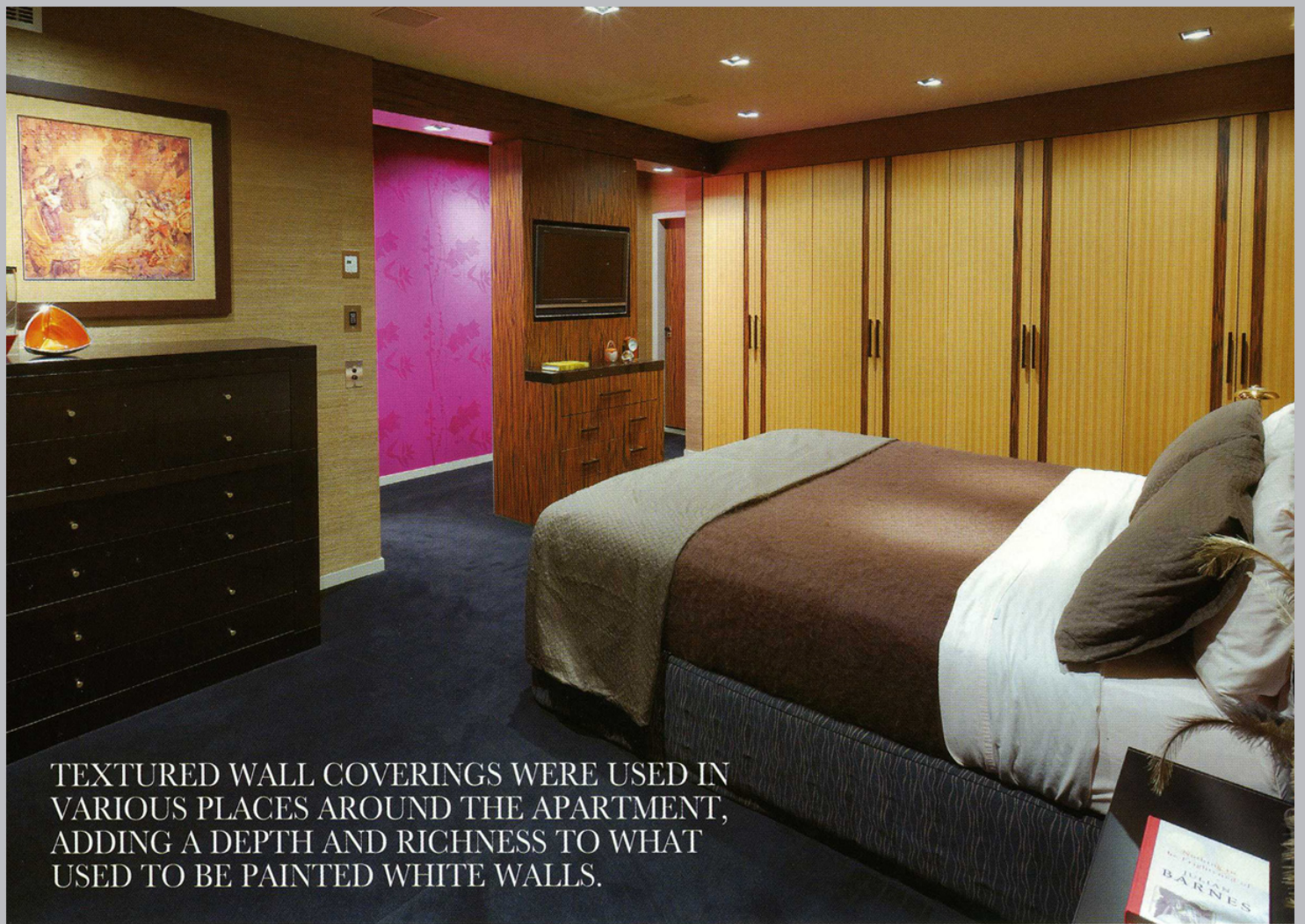
“Textured wall coverings were used in various places around the apartment, adding a depth and richness to what used to be painted white walls,” Amgad reports. The prime example is in the master bedroom, where a special weave paper in Espresso from Garner Agencies was used against feature wallpaper in Brilliant Pink by Ascraft.

Lighting played a huge part of the design, accentuating the textures and colours used. A mix of dimmed controlled recessed ceiling, walls and pendant lights give the client the option to control the ambience and create the desired mood. Wall lights are by Porta Romana from Garner Agencies and shades have been designed by Amgad. The dining room

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pendant lights were also designed by Amgad and manufactured by Yellow Goat Design.

In an apartment renovation such as this, minimising noise pollution during construction was paramount, however the team managed to finish the work without interruption to other residents in the building. It was definitely a group effort, with many specialist pieces and parts having to be fitted throughout the build. All the joinery manufacturing was undertaken in Melbourne, with a team of four people staying in Sydney over a period of one week to carry on the installation on site.

This client/designer relationship was paramount to the smooth running of the project, with daily communication over three months the key to obtaining the overwhelmingly successful project. So successful, in fact, that Amgad has been asked to design one of the client's commercial enterprises. Amgad says success comes from "listening to the client requirements throughout the project, with the belief that nothing is too hard — we just have to find a way to do it".



The bedrooms are soft, plush and comfortable with drapery, bed linen, wallpaper and carpet layered together to create a subtle sense of height and spaciousness.