

LUXURIOUS AVANT-GARDE



Imagicasa would like to take you to a minimalist one-bedroom apartment, meant as a place to unwind in a city that is always on the move. The architecture firm Caprini & Pellerin Architectes reinvented a Hausmann home in the heart of Paris, France. Today, we are unveiling this beautiful, understated 180-square-metre apartment, also known as the 'quiet refuge' or 'a shield from the hustle and bustle of the outside world'.

The architecture firm Caprini & Pellerin, based in Cannes, was founded by Kevin Caprini and Jerry Pellerin in 2008. The two architects - and friends - started with a shared passion for residential design as their foundation. 'Kevin and I met at boarding school and a friendship quickly developed. As you can imagine, we made some unforgettable memories during our school years. Kevin is like an older brother to me. We would daydream for hours and design our perfect islands with resorts and cabins. Kevin has always been a great sketcher with an enormous artistic talent. I have so much respect and admiration for him,' Pellerin tells us. 'We are connected by the same passion for architecture, despite our differences. Our relationship is expressed by bringing together the emotional (Jerry) and the rational (me) in a way that is rooted in a rich understanding of meaning and place. I couldn't imagine doing this with anyone else, because our partnership is so natural to us. I am older than Jerry - when I was studying architecture, Jerry never hesitated to come and help me with my homework until the early hours. Later, when I was working and Jerry was taking his final exams, I was there to advise and help him. So you could say that our respective degrees are a collaboration,' adds Caprini. The duo works on both luxury residential and commercial projects. From 2014, they took over Collection Privée Architecture, a renowned design practice with an experience of over thirty years. Since then, they have built a fine reputation thanks to





the delivery of their many timeless designs. Caprini & Pellerin expanded and grew into a team of over twenty designers, architects and consultants who share each other's skills. Their avant-garde vision of luxury with a personal stamp of authenticity and their meticulous focus on detail always ensure successful collaborations with their clients. With a rich professional background

at renowned architecture firms: Wilmotte & Associés, Moatti&Rivière, Valode et Pistre and Atelier 2/3/4, the two men, supported by a multidisciplinary team, manage their projects from their offices in Cannes. Imagicasa takes you to one of their most recent projects located in the metropolis Paris.

WHERE HARMONY AND SOFTNESS REIGN Architectural duo Caprini & Pellerin completely reworked the volumes and materials of a Haussmannian home to create a 1970s-inspired space where contemporary pieces and vintage treasures flow freely into

one another. The founders of the architecture firm focused on maximising the space within the apartment by drawing in new perspectives and creating surprising elements that can change perceptions and turn the eye outwards for panoramic views of the Grand Palais and the Eiffel Tower. The architects infused the home with a 1970s-inspired spirit, combined with contemporary lines where harmony and softness reign. The client entrusted the designers of the Caprini & Pellerin Architectes studio to transform the spacious Ottoman-era apartment into a modern elegant and comfortable home.

Subtle balance between minimalism, modernism, vintage style and eclecticism

Much of the original architectural influence of the home was recomposed by adding a theme of arches, niches, curved partitions and barrel vaults. A soothing palette of beige travertine skirting boards and mineral plaster runs throughout. Although the colours used are subdued, the architects injected an extra sense of warmth through the use of oak, walnut and bronze. Calm and softness are the keywords of this project and find all their meaning in the virtue of organic materials, neutral colours, sober lines and finesse of details, all means used by the architects to emphasise volume and thus create an orderly scenography. The architects have not only played with matter and volume, but also with light. They carefully studied the choices they had to make in selecting the furniture. The architects chose Holland & Cherry and James Malone fabrics to produce the curtains and Bisson Bruneel for the upholstery. They also customised the library in walnut and bronze, the amazing copper bathtub and the cheminee with travertine, brick and bronze splines. They designed the lighting,





in bronze and resin, for the dining room table. Through design, they found a way to illuminate the dining room without using a suspension, thus leaving the beauty of the ceiling untouched. This selection goes nicely with the choice of vintage furniture and the selected works of art. Some selected vintage pieces are the Chandigarh chair collection by Le Corbusier, the Traccia table by Meret Oppenheim and the authentic Valentino table by Cattelan Italia that coexist under the same roof with the Duo Multilaque coffee ta-

bles by Pierre Augustin Rose, the contemporary Groundpiece sofa by Flexform, and the tasteful Inventory carpet by Faye Toogood. Among the works of art chosen for this apartment, architects Le Corbusier and Robert Combas chose the Sculptural. They also chose the Sculptural Chair by Rooms Design, a piece of art in itself. The originality of the interior and the subtle balance between minimalism, modernism, vintage style and eclecticism complete the picture. The harmony of the interiors is strictly linked to

the chosen colour palette. Caprini & Pellerin opted for the use of beige tones, which is also the common thread. This neutral colour palette goes well with soft lines, natural and noble materials and refined details that adorn every corner, creating a relaxed atmosphere. Furthermore, the furniture in all the rooms is combined with design from different eras, which in turn was custom designed by the architectural firm. Everything is well-considered and perfectly attuned to each other. You can see this in the bookcase,

Photography by Céline

copper bathtub and fireplace, which perfectly match the architecture and furnishings of the Ottoman style. The main tasks the designers had to fulfil were to optimise the space and shine the spotlight outwards to give the two iconic landmarks of Paris, the Eiffel Tower and the Grand Palace the attention they deserve. The design team has succeeded amply in connecting the two historical pasts with the present in a single Parisian flat. This is thanks to making the connection between historical heritage, traditional craftsman-

ship, modern technology and design. This luxury home was carefully created down to the smallest details. A conceptual architecture that surprises with its warmth and cosiness. More than that, where smooth simplicity of authenticity is combined with contemporary furniture.

Caprini & Pellerin draw their architecture with unwavering respect for the soul of the place, maintaining the link between past and present, creating a harmony between traditional know-how and contemporary techniques. In addition, one of the managing directors Jerry Pellerin is a huge advocate of traditional French architecture: 'French architecture is a bit like French gastronomy; very rich and diverse! There are many different styles. We are in awe of French craftsmanship and old know-how. We are fascinated by old stone constructions and how they were built in the past, especially castles, palaces, farms and monasteries. Unfortunately, some of these ancestral techniques have disappeared over time. We like to see ourselves as ambassadors of these traditional crafts and take every opportunity to reinterpret or apply them.'

With their established practice in Cannes working internationally on luxury residential and commercial projects, the two architects lead a growing team of over twenty designers, architects and consultants who share a wide range of interlocking skills. This allows them to embrace every aspect of architectural, interior and landscape design. Caprini & Pellerin Architects, skilled in both traditional and modern architecture, deliver an avant-garde vision of luxury, which they believe is achieved through a meticulous focus on detail, bespoke fixtures, characterful materials and by working closely with each client. The two architects draw their creativity from the constraints of each project. They have a diverse

portfolio of properties around the world, ranging from elegant Provençal Bastides, to minimalist contemporary houses, all the way to luxury hotels and mountain chalets. The architectural firm of Caprini & Pellerin makes no claim to a particular style, but to concepts adapted to the wishes of the clients and the constraints of the place. Each project is profound and an opportunity to reinvent themselves with the same desire to integrate the building perfectly into its site, the same demand for quality and the same attention to detail. Their work clearly shows a passionate interest in traditions and crafts of the past, but also in contemporary approaches and technologies. According to Imagicasa, they are therefore a very talented agency that has a lot to offer to its clients. The elegance of Caprini & Pellerin's latest luxury project is reflected in the choice of soothing material and colour tones and an excellent choice of furniture and accompanying decoration. One thing is certain, we will keep an eye on the continuation of this agency's story for undoubtedly more inspiring projects in the future! (Text: Elke Aerts)

