

habitat

THE ART OF LIVING



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ARCHITECTURE

Classical Modern Duo on
the Atlantic Seaboard

DESIGN

Sculptural Innovation in Madrid
East Rand Golf Estate Glamour

FOCUS

Room Outside
Kitchens & Bathrooms

GALLERY

Icon in the Making
Art of Rinat Shingareev



LIGHT ORGANIC

architects: A-cero: Joaquín Torres & Rafael Ullamazares architects - www.a-cero.com
 location: Madrid, Spain
 photography: Luis H. Segovia

THIS DETACHED FAMILY HOME IS A COMPREHENSIVE REBUILD OF AN EXISTING DWELLING WHOSE OWNERS FOUND THE NEED TO UPDATE ITS IMAGE BOTH EXTERNALLY AND INTERNALLY. IT WAS COMPLETED IN MID-2012. ▷

these pages: Influences from the original structure and the verdant garden are natural foils for this spectacular contemporary residence.

overleaf: The architect also prescribed the interior components. Almost luxury yacht-like, they are both innovative and dramatic.



Say the architects: 'This had been a magnificent home originally, but required attention both aesthetically and functionally. Our work focused on two factors: to provide additional accommodation through a renewed external image and create a modern interior full of light.'

The property is situated on a generously sized 5 200 square metre plot with a slight slope to the south. It is heavily wooded with a well established garden that had to remain as part of the finished project. We began in December 2010 with a planned built surface of 550 square metres and finished in June of 2012.

'Outside intervention is more apparent on the south side, since this is most visible through a clear elevation of the house, partially clad with ivy. This look was maintained, as was the adjacent building that houses the garage and services. The new form of the south façade was created with aluminum sheeting and is both more modern and organic, following a signature guideline of Arcero studio. >





these pages: Sculpted forms are matched to old wooden pieces and artifacts. The essentially white palette benefits from natural light and contemporary luminaires.

'In addition to this formal review, we also made structural improvements inside through the expansion of the living areas and an extension to the porch; in this way successfully leveraging the volumes of the new projections.'

Inside the change is more substantial and obvious, revealed in an interior replacing a dilapidated old structure lacking in natural light. Entrance is from the top floor where a foyer offers access to different areas. This floor is the bedroom level: a large master bedroom with dressing room and bathroom, plus two bedroom suites, one child and one guest. There is also an office area opening off the foyer.

A sculpted stairway leads down to the ground floor - directly into the large living / dining area - a light and generous space with a predominance of white on walls, floor, support structures and furniture. Large sliding windows access the garden and terrace and various interlinking environments are adjacent: dining, TV / relaxation and a reading area with fireplace. The kitchen and services complete this floor. >



these pages: The master suite overlooks a tranquil garden. Furnishings and fixtures are slick and low-profile.



Apart from certain existing items, all new furniture was designed by A-cero. The guiding thread of white, very evident in the interior decoration palette, is broken only by shades of brown in the murals and light grey in the upholstery and sculpted vertical screening. Sitting and dining areas are delineated with architectural structures and recesses, most being white, follow the guideline chromatic. Bedrooms show warmer tones but maintain the modern concept.

The architects summarise their thinking on this unique home: 'Besides the very obvious changes in living style the project optimised on performance across the board. It's an innovative quality result achieved on a very tight budget.' □