

# DRAWING BOARD

Designers Justine Bullock and Melissa Gray have created a contemporary Art Deco design for a 1930s bathroom in Acton, west London

Words: Hayley Gilbert

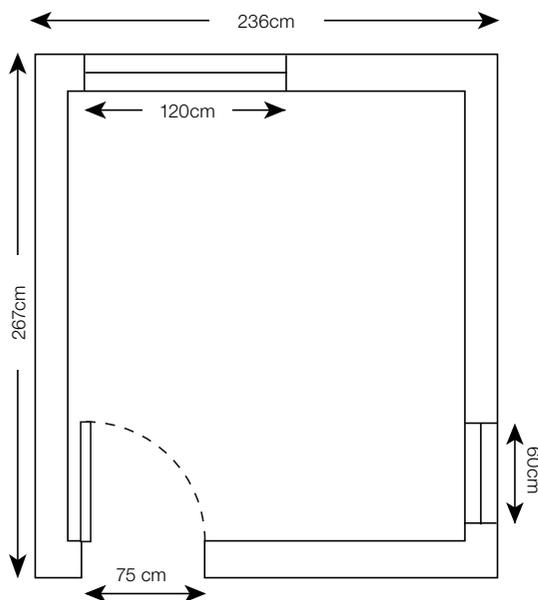
## THE CLIENTS

Juliet and Neal McDonald have lived in their semi-detached 1930s house in Acton, west London, for four years. "We were attracted by the generous proportions of the rooms," explains Juliet. "They have wonderful light and original architectural features." The current bathroom has simple white sanitaryware, porcelain marble-effect wall tiles, and charcoal-look ceramic flooring but is not quite to the couple's taste.

## THE BRIEF

"Our preferred look is a style reflecting the house's 1930s period, without giving it the feel of a museum," adds Juliet. "We'd ideally like a contemporary spin on the Art Deco look. Neither of us uses the bath, so we'd like to remove it and have a large shower with a rectangular tray and frameless glass screen instead. I prefer quality taps and would like real stone for the floor, although the lack of a strong sub-floor may determine otherwise. We both prefer glazed ceramic tiles and are especially keen on subway brick styles as well as geometric patterns. We would like to have a monochrome scheme with a splash of colour – maybe a watery shade, such as celadon or teal."

## THE SPACE



"The toilet is to the right of the left-opening door. It seems a good place for it, as it is hidden from view when the door is left open," explains Juliet. "We were thinking about putting up a mini wall with shelves, to hide cleaning products, and moving the radiator as it's close to the door opening. Other ideas include moving the basin, so it sits beneath the largest window, and including a freestanding console unit as a focal point. We'd also like to include a bidet." The ceiling height is 258cm and the room is spacious, with two windows letting in plenty of natural light.

## THE BUDGET

£15,000, excluding installation.

## SOLUTION ONE

### JUSTINE BULLOCK, THE TAP END



Justine, co-director of The Tap End in Pontyclun, creates beautiful cost-effective spaces with passion and attention to detail. She carefully selects brands that make designs come to life.

## SOLUTION TWO

### MELISSA GRAY, BAGNODESIGN



Bathroom manufacturer Bagnodesign offers a complete solution for every bathroom. Melissa joined the company as a designer and is always inspired by new industry trends.

## YOUR PROJECTS

Do you have a kitchen, bedroom or bathroom project in the pipeline? If you'd like to put it to our Drawing Board designers, email [kbbmag@taylistmedia.com](mailto:kbbmag@taylistmedia.com) and tell us more.



## SOLUTION TWO

MELISSA GRAY, BAGNODESIGN



“Juliet and Neal’s request for a modern twist on Art Deco meant our award-winning Art vanity unit would be a perfect fit for the McDonalds’ bathroom. Named after its Art Deco inspiration, this collection has an innovative, mid-century modern design; the elegant curves and metallic detailing clearly outline Italian hand-craftsmanship, which we are sure the couple will appreciate. It also provides plenty of handy storage.”

“The striking gloss black finish instantly creates impact upon entering the room – even before, if you happen to catch a glimpse from the hallway. It would be possible to reduce the partition wall’s depth, but at this depth it is possible to include shelving next to the Tiffany bidet and WC.”

“The monochrome tiling scheme concentrates on both pattern and texture. The irregular, uneven texture on FAP Ceramiche’s Manhattan tiles plays with light beautifully, while the metallic Listello 3D border adds a level of decadence. The gloss black London trim finishes the half-height tiling perfectly. The handmade Ca’Pietra terrazzo floor tiles are a classic choice, their pattern offering a nod to the traditional. I’ve included a panel of the terrazzo tiles on the shower wall and their speckled effect complements the shower tray’s black sparkle. The contrast of these tiles behind the shower’s stunning brushed nickel finish creates a striking focal point.”

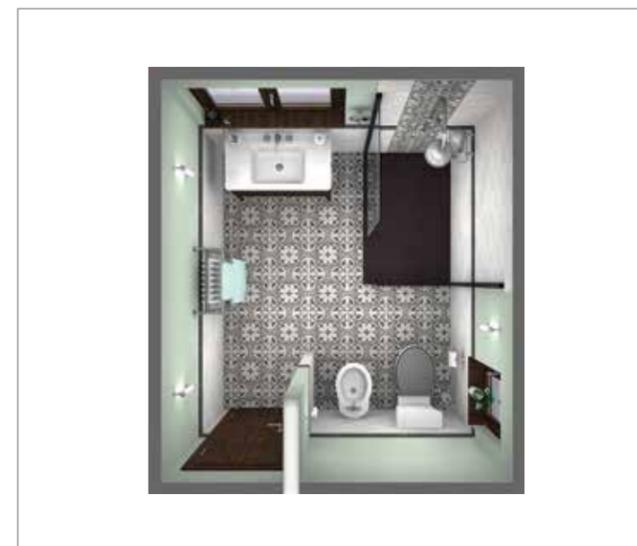
“The Princess Nouveau column incorporates a dual function for an adaptive, customisable showering experience. A sleek frameless

opening has been created using two shower wall panels – with an elegant black profile that continues the black colour scheme. All these items together in the showering area create another stunning feature in the room; a shower can be just as striking a focal point as a bath, if not more so.”

“Introducing the Salix paint from Little Greene on the walls adds a softer, warmer tone. Painting half the walls ensures the bathroom can be freshened up over time. Changing the accent colour on the walls and accessories easily transforms a room, without incurring the higher cost of replacing tiles. As well as keeping the colour scheme running throughout the room, the finishing touches and attention to detail have been key to completing this design. A complete range of brushed nickel accessories makes for a perfect match in finish and quality to the Princess Nouveau brassware; and not forgetting the stunning pillar wall lights. These final touches create an air of opulence, quality and timeless style to be enjoyed for years to come.”

**Bagnodesign**  
01924 233977 or [bagnodesignlondon.com](http://bagnodesignlondon.com)

Turn to page 88 for the specifications and the verdict.



“The striking gloss black finish instantly creates impact upon entering the room – even before, if you happen to catch a glimpse from the hallway.”

## SOLUTION ONE

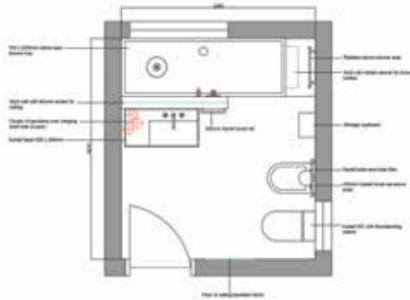


## THE SPECIFICATIONS

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Sanitaryware                      | £3970          |
| Brassware                         | £2720          |
| Tiles                             | £1800          |
| Pendant lights                    | £905           |
| Bespoke mirrors and shower screen | £839           |
| Accessories                       | £201           |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>£10,435</b> |

## CONTACTS

All other products are available from The Tap End.



## THE VERDICT

"This is more contemporary than we would have chosen for ourselves," says Juliet, "but that said, we do really like most of Justine's choices and would be very happy to have this crisply modern bathroom design in our home. If we'd been left to choose the sanitaryware, we might have referenced the 1930s period of our property more overtly. We think the use of space is clever. I wouldn't have thought of putting the shower in front of the window – or having it boldly span the entire width of the room,

thus making the cubicle truly enormous. The positioning of the vanity – the simple style of which we really like – in front of the shower's half-height stud wall is inspired and gives the room a focal point. We are both a bit puzzled by the shower seat; we don't think we'd ever use it, unless we're still here when we're more advanced in age and might need to sit down. Still, I guess it's clever to think ahead! The choice of the grey honed marble and the white metro tiles is lovely. We approve of the idea of the half-height stud wall clad in grey marble and segueing to the floor – a very luxurious look."

## SOLUTION TWO



## THE SPECIFICATIONS

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| Accessories  | £1381          |
| Basin        | £4044          |
| Lighting     | £1876          |
| Shower       | £3328          |
| Tiles        | £3614          |
| WC           | £1799          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>£16,042</b> |

## CONTACTS

All products available through Bagnodesign.



## THE VERDICT

"The layout of Bagnodesign's concept is very close to what we had imagined for our bathroom," says Juliet, "and we think this design – using the space around the walls – would accentuate the size of the room. We really love the slightly traditional feel of the sanitaryware, surfaces and lighting. This concept successfully references the Art Deco period, but doesn't feel like a pastiche and would suit our décor perfectly. I particularly love the styling of the Tiffany WC, bidet and lights, while my husband remarked on how much he liked the Art vanity unit."

We think the partition wall for privacy works very well and we really like the way the bidet and loo are sectioned off – though we did wonder if it would make the installation of the WC and the positioning of the soil pipe a bit awkward. The frameless open shower is very sleek and contemporary. It takes up the space in the corner and along the wall, but it is still a statement shower and plenty big enough for us. The black shower tray is not what we would have naturally chosen for ourselves, but it is certainly very striking and we would definitely consider this as an option. The half-height tiling is dramatic and we like the combination of plain and pattern as well as the gloss black border and trim."