

Ego by Abimis plays the starring role in a *scene* loft in Florence

Industrial atmospheres, contemporary design, 'contributions' from the past and from the art world, tell the story of a loft boasting extraordinary charm, the result of a major conversion task on a former multi-storey factory from the 1950s situated in the Oltrarno district of Florence.

The building immediately revealed its potential to make the dreams of its owners - contemporary art lovers and fans of finding rare and vintage objects - come true: i.e. to build an open-plan home thanks to a conversion process that focuses on the philological aspect of the architecture and able, on the inside, to 'stage' their experiences, their stories and their emotions, in a kind of 'autobiographic display' consisting of furniture, furnishings, iconographic references and unique pieces. An authentic and charming blend of objects, styles and personal memories which creates a strong sense of familiarity with the surroundings.

The building conversion gave rise to settings without 'boundaries', making the passage from one area to the other smooth and seamless, featuring a strong personality, defined by a fascinating styling impact and full functionality with a contemporary twist. Developed over three storeys and obtained through the saturation of an inner courtyard, the loft is a cosy and protected place, which does not overlook the main road.

The inspiration to create a venue with a charming stylistic combination of exteriors and interiors thus led to the definition of all the architectural and functional details to ensure the concrete structure liaises with superior domestic comfort and with a 'clean scenery' to enhance the appeal of the furnishings and emphasise the artworks. Arches and façades with exposed brickwork, plate glass doors, skylights, white lacquered walls, furniture upholstery in pale colours act as a 'frame' for the furniture, where every single element is part of a broader 'symphony' where colours, lights and combinations have never been left to chance.

The ground floor, the largest setting in the building, develops around a scenic central element: the ***Ego*** kitchen by **Abimis**, an elegant bespoke stainless steel island tailored to the needs and wishes of the owners. ***Ego*** is the 'beating heart' of this loft, the departure point which then defines the surrounding space.

The stainless steel kitchen is brilliant and 'bright' thanks to its polished mirror finish, which matches the items of furniture in warm wood, marble sculptures, glassware, iconic modern pieces, vintage lighting, to create that eagerly-awaited, surprising and mesmerising styling contrast.

In this project, the island kitchen constitutes not just its primary function, but rather a genuine furnishing solution that helps divide up the spaces, allowing the inhabitants concurrently to create continuity between the living and dining areas without interrupting moments of sociability.

The kitchen is fitted with the exclusive recessed plinth in the **Ego** line, an advantage which makes for greater flexibility in all tasks, while the **Abimis** tall storage units, which feature the orbitally-polished finish, make the kitchen even more complete and functional.

The distinctive bevelled flush doors are perfectly integrated into the structure of **Ego** and they are teamed with large ergonomic handles in a refined brass finish. The stainless steel worktop, which also houses the cooking and washing area, is joint-free to guarantee maximum hygiene and the utmost practicality.

Ego is made entirely of AISI 304 stainless steel and it is a tailored kitchen, which combines the superior performance levels of professional restaurants with the more elegant, clean-cut shapes of domestic kitchens.

Project: Architect Mario Perini

Styling: Serena Dolfi

Photos: Matteo Cirenei