

The new Chelsom collections – launched June 2014







Chelsom Edition 24 launch party attracts 400 guests

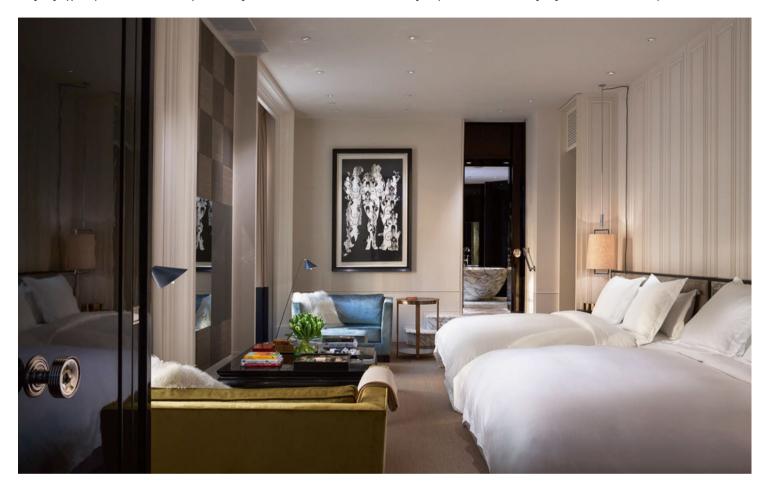
am from HBA (from left<mark>) Ma</mark>rgarita Mirakov TeckWei Choo, Katie Sargent

Chelsom celebrated the launch of their stunning brand new collection in style with a fabulous party on Thursday 12th June in central London. Attended by almost 400 specially invited guests from the global interior design, hospitality and marine industries, the launch party took place at One Marylebone, a deconsecrated church and now one of London's most prestigious venues for fashion shows, product launches and social gatherings. An assortment of sumptuous cocktails and delicious canapés were served from 5pm to 11pm as guests networked, partied and enjoyed an exclusive preview of the striking new product ranges on display.

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BELOW: Tony Chi & Associates' guestroom designs combine furnishings by Interdecor with high gloss black lacquer finishes and Arabascato Vaglie Oro marble in the bathrooms. Lighting supplied by Chelsom includes bedside pendants using cream linen French drum shades around seeded glass cylinder shades. Blinds and lighting are controlled via a Lutron system

► Edwardian Belle Epoque building in 1914 as the headquarters of the Pearl Assurance Company, would approve. Monckton himself spared little expense in specifying the Pavonazzo marble which rises up through all seven storeys of the hotel to a spectacular 166ft cupola and has been painstakingly restored, as have many other original architectural features, by a team of craftsmen overseen by main contractor and fitout specialist Beck. The task of maintaining the integrity of Monckton's original designs through Listed Building Consents, whilst working with the interior designers to implement their vision, fell to executive architects EPR. In addition to the front of house, EPR Architects also designed and implemented all adjacent back of house areas, with the assistance of consultants for the food and beverage outlets.

That seven-storey staircase - one of the

finest examples of its type in England – offers access to 262 guestrooms and 44 suites where horsehair wall panels, darkened black lacquer doors and redwood flooring combine to create a sophisticated residential feel. Against this backdrop, Tony Chi & Associates has specified custom-made furnishings by Interdecor and fixed casegoods by Beck. Artworks, books and objets have been carefully curated.

The detailing is exquisite. Take for example, the high gloss lacquer to the joinery in the suites. According to Beck, this lacquer was built up of eight layers, each left for 24 hours to dry, then wet sanded and cleaned before the next layer applied. The top coat was then left to harden before being burnished with a series of progressively finer polishing mops. The overall process takes a fortnight. Even the door hinges had to be specially procured from the US as they are a unique 'swing clear' type of hinge, that allows the door to swing into a pocket at a right angle to the door frame, completely clear of the opening.

Another recurrent design feature is the hand gilded glass tiling by Brooklyn-based artisan Lisa Stimpson. These 'Verre Eglomise' tiles are made through an old mirroring process which dates back to the pre-Roman era, used in the finest European estates throughout the Middle Ages and later revived in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Screens of these tiles are used in the lobby and meeting areas to create smaller pockets of privacy and intimacy, with Beck going to great lengths to satisfy Chi's requirement that the screens should be freestanding, with minimal fixing to the fabric of the building.

Such design features were inspired by the theme of a classic English manor estate -a theme that has also lead to the naming of