

CREATIVE HOMES THAT  
DO MORE WITH LESS

# Smart Spaces



belle

HIGH-RISE  
GLAMOUR  
D'CRUZ DESIGN  
GROUP AND FANULI

PHOTOGRAPHS NICHOLAS WATT



Marble accents are found throughout the penthouse. Mirror-backed shelving designed by D'Cruz and made by Fanuli adds to the sense of space. Kristalia 'Elephant Slide' armchair from Fanuli.

AT THE HANDS of interior designer Andrea D’Cruz of D’Cruz Design Group and the team at Fanuli, the 163 square-metre Sky Penthouse takes urban living to new heights – the result is as glamorous as it is practical. Located in a luxury development in Chippendale, Sydney, the building, which was designed by Jean Nouvel in collaboration with PTW Architects, is part of One Central Park, a mixed-use urban village. Floating above the city’s skyline, the apartment features abundant natural light, expansive views and free-flowing spaces, grounded by natural materials, including marble, leather, stone, timber and glass.

*How did you become involved with this project and what was the client’s brief?* I have worked with the developers Frasers Property and Sekisui House on numerous projects prior to this penthouse. The client’s brief was to create an environment that embraced natural and tactile materials that harmoniously contrasted with the architectural language of the building. Providing an oasis from the hustle and bustle of the city location also formed a key part of the brief. *What were the challenges of the space and how did you resolve them with your design scheme?* There weren’t any particular challenges from a design perspective as Jean Nouvel’s team had created a space that was a real pleasure to work with. Time was one challenge we faced, and we delivered the project in a very short timeframe. Substantial credit goes to the team at Fanuli with whom we collaborated on both stock and custom-designed pieces for the penthouse. *How would you describe the interior?* It’s warm, calm, tactile and inviting; understated urban luxury and glamour. *What are some of your favourite elements? Were there any devices used to maximise the sense of space?* The rug from Whitecliffe Imports in the living and dining area is one long runner that extends to connect the two spaces. The ‘Guscio’ chairs by Antonio Citterio are among my favourite chairs! The openness and ability to connect with the view beyond is amazing. I also love the vertical garden that forms part of the building facade. *What informed the selection of furniture, fittings and finishes?* Our selections were based on a natural, tactile, warm, calm and understated aesthetic. *Were the clients happy with the finished project? How do the owners use the space?* Our clients (Frasers Property and Sekisui House) were thrilled with the outcome – the penthouse sold within weeks of completion and the buyer bought all the furnishings. [dcruz.net.au](http://dcruz.net.au); [fanuli.com.au](http://fanuli.com.au)



A neutral interiors scheme anchors the apartment against the sweeping city views. Frankie sofa, Sky coffee table, Compe dining chairs, Karm dining table and Guscio tan leather chair, all from Fanuli. Feave candelabras by Philippi.



THIS PAGE Custom-designed oak desk and shelves by D'Cruz and made by Fanuli for the study nook. 'Compas' chair from Fanuli. OPPOSITE PAGE Cole & Son 'Woods' wallpaper from Radford Furnishings. Bed and chair from Spence & Lyda.