

FEATURE LINDA CLAYTON PHOTOGRAPH NICK SMITH



BATHROOM CASE STUDY

DESIGNER Clare Gaskin, director, Clare Gaskin Interiors, *claregaskin.com*. **THE PROPERTY** Four-bedroom, Grade II listed Georgian home in Islington, north London.

DIMENSIONS 3x3.3m.

BRIEF

The owners wanted to reformulate the space, with a new emphasis placed on the bath. 'The existing small shower room was turned into a dressing room and the existing dressing room became this more spacious master en suite,' explains designer Clare Gaskin. The owners wanted to achieve a luxurious private sanctuary, decorated with reference to a grand hotel bathroom they'd stayed in while travelling in Italy. 'This is a fun, family home so there was also an element of playfulness from the start – the Pink Floyd artwork had to have a prominent spot,' adds Clare.

FURNITURE

Clare worked with Joel Fry at West One Bathrooms to create a double vanity unit with classical references, such as in-frame doors and an ogee-edge profile on the marble countertop.

Custom-made Knightsbridge double vanity painted in Chaste 103 by Paint & Paper Library, from £5,000, West One Bathrooms, westonebathrooms.com.

SURFACES

Suitably Italianate in both colour and pattern, Alba Chiara marble informed the creamy paint finish on the remaining walls. Cut from slabs, each connecting tile was carefully plotted to stop the overall effect from feeling too busy.

Alba Chiara marble on walls and floor, from £486sq m, Stone Age, *stone-age.co.uk*. Walls painted in Stock (37) intelligent matt emulsion, £50 for 2.5L, Little Greene, *littlegreene.com*.

FITTINGS

With its elegant Belle Époque styling, the bath was an inspired find. Heated towel rails in the former fireplace behind the bath ensure a supply of warm towels, while the golden tones of the polished-brass taps and shower controls bring visual warmth.

Fairfield shower head and controls, £3,162; Antique bath shower mixer taps, £2,856; Fairfield three-hole basin mixer taps, £1,534, all Samuel Heath, samuel-heath.com. Albany bath, £3,999, West One Bathrooms, as before. Stourton single heated towel rails in unlacquered polished brass, £589 each, The Sterlingham Company, sterlingham.co.uk. Europium shower enclosure with gold fittings, from £1,640, The Shower Lab, theshowerlab.com.

LIGHTING & ACCESSORIES

An antique filigree frame adds a classical twist to the colourful print hung above the bath. 'The space is modestly dressed to steer the classical elements in a more modern direction,' adds Clare.

For a similar print, try *Pink Floyd* (*Back Catalogue*) by Celebrity Image, 45x65cm print, £20, King & McGaw, *kingandmcgaw.com*.

'SOFTLY CURVED FITTINGS – LIKE THIS SCULPTURAL SHELL-LIKE BATH –
SERVE TO SOFTEN THE HARDNESS OF LARGE VOLUMES OF STONE, CREATING
A BATHROOM THAT'S MADE FOR LINGERING' Clare Gaskin, director, Clare Gaskin Interiors

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