

# HAUTE & HANDSOME

Joel Kelly hits an evocative note by using time-honed materials in a cosmopolitan manner

Written by  
LORI JOHNSTON

Photographed by  
EMILY FOLLOWILL

2018  
Kitchen  
of the Year  
Contest  
**WINNER**

RESIDENTIAL &  
INTERIOR DESIGN  
**JOEL KELLY DESIGN**  
ARCHITECT  
**CASTRO DESIGN**  
STUDIO LLC





A sketch for a paneled kitchen reminded designer Joel Kelly's clients of their visit to Hollywood's storied Sunset Tower lounge during a shopping trip to Los Angeles. Seeing his clients' positive response, Kelly set out to fulfill their dreams of a cosmopolitan kitchen.

"When a client looks at you, and their eyes widen and that little grin comes over their face, they don't even have to say anything and you know you've hit a home run at that point," he says. "And as a designer, it's what you live for."

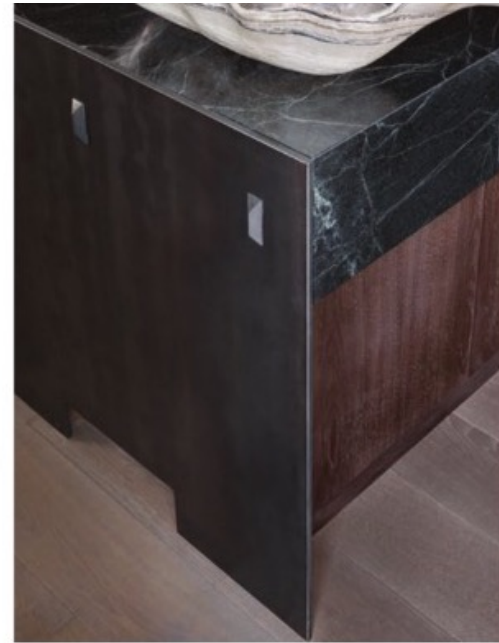
The evocative kitchen with bespoke details anchors the end of a formal entertaining space but doesn't shout, "I'm a working space." The home's "stripped traditionalism" was a starting point to blur the lines between utility and theater, seen in the slightly deco detailing of the walnut. "It's just a really beautiful paneled room at that point," Kelly says.

The wood, stone and steel convey a strong sense of handiwork, which helped create a sense of history in the new residence. The handmade quality of the surfaces gives the kitchen an intimate feel, Kelly says.

The high ceiling required thoughtful consideration and ultimately was wrapped in double layers of walnut, which, along with the deep upper cabinets, give it the aura of a paneled room. The integrated refrigerator columns helped create a seamless wall of cabinetry; even the dishwashers and hood liner disappear into the sophisticated surroundings.

A second island was crucial for entertaining, while the side steel panels with rivets, in a waterfall-like configuration, beg to be noticed in the masculine space.

"One might imagine this kitchen in a penthouse apartment, which resonates well with clients who have lived in upscale urban environments," Kelly says. "It's reminiscent of their past chapters but is also expressive of where they want to go."



## DESIGN DETAILS

RESIDENTIAL AND INTERIOR DESIGN  
 Joel Kelly, Joel Kelly Design; (404) 221-0422; joelkelly.com ARCHITECT  
 Rodolfo Castro, Castro Design Studio LLC; (404) 514-7247; castrodesignstudio.com CABINETRY Block & Chisel  
 COUNTERTOPS AND BACKSPLASH Walker Zanger STEELWORK ON ISLANDS Skylar Morgan Furniture + Design  
 APPLIANCES Wolf/Sub-Zero LOUNGE CHAIRS Mattaliano through Paul + CHAIR FABRIC Holland & Sherry  
 SIDE TABLE Jean de Merry through R. Hughes CUSTOM COUNTER STOOLS Skylar Morgan Furniture + Design  
 FABRIC Chella through Paul + HARDWARE Ashley Norton FAUCETS Waterworks PENDANTS Ochre through R. Hughes  
 SCONCES Fuse Lighting through Paul + WINDOW SHADES Conrad Shades through Jerry Pair LANTERNS ON COUNTER Gregorius Pineo through Jerry Pair  
 PLANTER AuthenTeak THROW B.D. Jeffries CLAY JAR ON COUNTER B.D. Jeffries STONE BOWL ON ISLAND Brenda Houston through Jerry Pair  
 METAL BOWL IN FRONT OF LOUNGE CHAIRS A. Tyner Antiques TEAK BOWL Chip and Company WOOD ACCESSORIES Scott Antique Market

38 YEARS OF  
 INGENUITY AND AUTHENTICITY

**DG** DESIGN  
 GALLERIA  
 kitchen and bath studio

404-261-0111 DESIGNGALLERIA.NET



Photography by Mali Azima

