





## ONE ALDWYCH, LONDON

An iconic London landmark, the chic Edwardian building that once housed the print rooms of *The Morning Post* has had a sophisticated spruce up. Operating as the beautiful 5-star One Aldwych since the late 20th century, the hotel is a beacon for visitors of Covent Garden and the city's famous West End. Sophie Harper took a trip to the newly-refurbished hotel to discover how its latest look pays homage to the building's past.

Covent Garden is still one of my favourite areas of London. I remember the first time I visited as a child, all wide-eyed and gawp-mouthed at the street performers and glossy-fronted shops framed by open stalls selling colourful wares and fragrant candles. To this day, it's my first port of call leading up to Christmas and it's still as magical now as it was 30 years ago. It's the backdrop for many iconic buildings, but just over a century ago, Covent Garden became home to a smart looking, unusually triangle-shaped building, constructed in 1907 for The Morning Post Newspaper.

A standalone building designed by Anglo-French architects Mewes & Davis (responsible also for the Ritz London) Inveresk House, as it was known then, was an iconic landmark on London's cityscape. In 1937 The Morning Post was absorbed by the Telegraph Group and the smart Edwardian building eventually found a new calling as a bank before its Grade II listing in 1986 and resurrection as a luxury hotel, with the new name of One Aldwych, in 1998.

The hotel then, renovated by Jestico + Whites with interiors by Mary Fox

Linton, was quite different to the typical luxe look of fancy hotels dripping in gold and crystal, and became a marker for a new kind of luxury. Staying true to its roots. One Aldwych may have just undergone its first major refurbishment, but it is very much the same animal, albeit a more polished, refined version of its former self.

Drafted in to redesign the 86 guestrooms and 16 suites, leading British designer Robert Angell has chosen a delicate colour palette of coral, celadon green, soft blue and lavender. Pairing soft neutral furniture and accessories with hints of gold detailing and marbled surfaces gives each room a true feel of luxury (even the light sockets are stylishly finished in brushed champagne brass), but subtly so, which makes for a sumptuous but relaxing environment.

The suites take advantage of dual aspect windows, which not only offer spectacular views of the city but fill the interior spaces with natural light. The famous Dome Suite has been reimagined, with amazing vistas over Waterloo Bridge, the Southbank and the City. The bedroom for which sits under the building's cupola, and makes quite the setting with curved furniture, fireplace, and a glassy falling leaves chandelier above the bed.

From original artworks, of which there are more than 400 pieces on >







display throughout the hotel from the owners' personal collection, to books, woollen throws, and handcrafted furniture, the rooms have a distinctly residential feel. Each room has been carefully designed to feel like a familiar space, elegant in appearance with unobtrusive user-friendly technology.

On the ground floor the Lobby Bar, at the heart of the hotel, has been given a striking new look by Tom Strother and Steven Saunders of Fabled Studio. The design duo worked with Jestico + Whiles to reconfigure the hotel entrance, creating a more impactful welcome to guests with clean separation between check-in and lobby areas. Inspired by the Art Nouveau and Parisienne touches throughout the original architecture, the fanlight over the entrance was the touchpoint for the new black and white marble inlay floor and wrought iron screens that help to separate the Lobby Bar.

While the iconic Boatman with Oars sculpture by André Wallace sits overlooking his surroundings at the helm, it's the grand double-height ceiling, impressive columns, huge arched windows and original panelling that set the tone for the lobby. The space is laid out like a dramatic stage setting with an eccentric floral display as the central focus, and brightly-coloured seating lures guests in to get comfortable and take a better

look. The original timber panelling has been extended along the back of the lobby and up into Indigo, the restaurant space set within the mezzanine, connecting the two areas seamlessly. The copper and verdigris cladding of the building's cupola were the inspiration behind the new colour palette in the lobby – echoed in the eglomisé mirrors and cushion covers. A simple but beautiful nod to the building's past comes in the form of specially made newsprint block-embossed tabletops in The Morning Post's own typeface.

The best seats in the house can be found in Indigo. Overlooking the lobby, the restaurant is now a chic space with a new colour scheme that pays homage to its name. Sumptuous new banquettes are graced by beautiful woven fabric, mixed with leather upholstery. The timber panelling is offset with the coppery shimmer of the mirrors and bespoke plaster and bronze lamps.

The latest work builds on other developments, including the Eneko Basque Kitchen & Bar, which was launched in 2016. The restaurant is an alluring but relaxed space, with its statement Basque oak wall, ruby red leather flourishes, and friendly communal dining atmosphere. Elsewhere, the gym has undergone a full renewal with the latest Technogym equipment, including Skillrow, Skillmill and Artis range of cardiovascular >



machines, as well as a dedicated free weights area. Meeting and private dining rooms offer fabulous contemporary areas for up to 50 seated or receptions of 85, the screening room (or cinema) seats 30 for private screenings and presentations with an adjoining dining room, and in the building's basement the spa, which offers exclusive Natura Bissé and OSKIA products and treatments, leads on to the 18-metre/56-foot chlorine-free swimming pool with underwater music, steam room and sauna.

The overall look is one of understated luxury. Its simplicity in styling and gentle colour palette is what makes the interiors so elegant. With inspiration for the hotel's new look taken from the building's own history, there's a relevance to the design that gives guests a sense of place and knowing. One Aldwych's new look certainly has that British charm about it, and manages to fit just perfectly within its magical Covent Garden setting.

**GUESTROOM DESIGN:** Robert Angell  
**PUBLIC SPACE/F&B DESIGN:** Fabled Studio  
**ARCHITECTS:** Jestico + Whites  
**SUPPLIERS:** *Glassware:* Riedel *Ceramics:* William Edwards *Bathroom fixtures:* Axor, Kohler *Eco toilet:* Evok *Bathroom radiator:* Terma *Coffee machine:* Nespresso *Speaker system:* Bang & Olufsen *Cutlery:* Robert Welch *Towels and bed linen:* Frette *Bathroom amenities:* Mitchell and Peach *Bath TV:* Videotree *Bathrobes:* Tielle *Hairdryers:* Dyson *Lift:* Kone *Socket plates:* Focus SB *Pillows:* Muhldorfer *Woollen throws:* Skye Weavers *Gym equipment:* Technogym *Spa treatment products:* Natura Bissé and OSKIA *Carpet:* Brintons *Beds:* Hypnos *Lighting:* Chelsom

[www.onealdwych.com](http://www.onealdwych.com)

# — CHELSOM —



Bespoke lighting by Chelsom

Custom Over-Bar Pendant and Bar-Top Lamps at Mr.C Coconut Grove, Miami. Designer: Martin Brudnizki Design Studio.

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## MR. C COCONUT GROVE, MIAMI

From the fourth-generation hospitality leaders, brothers Ignazio and Maggio Cipriani, comes Mr. C Coconut Grove Miami, an oasis within bustling South Florida surrounded by breathtaking views of Biscayne Bay and the Coconut Grove skyline.

**D**esigned by internationally-acclaimed architecture firm Arquitectonica, the Mr. C Coconut Grove Miami's interior features a nautical motif by Martin Brudnizki Design Studio. A total of 100 guestrooms and suites with private outdoor terraces, a new Italian dining concept with indoor and outdoor seating and the rooftop Bellini Restaurant and Bar provides guests with attentive European service, complimented by luxury accommodations and amenities.

A modern version of old-world simplicity and stylish European glamour, the hotel's accommodation provides guests with comfortable, elegant and effortless living that blends contemporary amenities with discreet, personalized service. Rooms are fitted out with custom Italian furniture by Tedeschi USA, fine Italian linens and bedding by Casa Rovea, a spacious work desk and custom La Bottega bathroom amenities, and other features include a dining area with a four-seat dining table, a dimmable lighting system by Lutron and a kitchen with Miele appliances in the Presidential Suite. Each of the 100 guest rooms and suites range from 300 to 1400 square feet, all with private balconies and views of Biscayne Bay and the City of Miami. >



Lighting specialist Chelsom worked with Martin Brudnizki Design Studio to create a bespoke lighting scheme for the guestrooms and public areas of the hotel. The scheme was completely individual in its entirety, as to be expected from Martin Brudnizki Design Studio, and the lighting pieces designed for the project were no exception. A selection of Art Deco-inspired fittings were created for the public areas, including the reception and lobby and Bellini, the main restaurant and bar area.

Channelling Miami chic at its finest, fittings for the restaurant include delicate glass wall lights with brass detailing, decorative Art Deco table lamps with domed glass shades and brass metalwork on the banquet seating teamed with classic brass picture lights to frame the artwork. Toadstool-shaped Art Deco lights with perforated brass shades adorn the main bar area with a statement pendant above the bar making a dramatic visual impact. The custom-designed fitting is an oversized shade style pendant in cream with a brass trim detail suspended from a brass canopy. Oversized floor lamps are situated in the lobby area, as well as brushed

brass and walnut table lamps with delicately concaved domed shades being specified for the reception desk.

Key pieces for the guestrooms and suites include statement bespoke ceiling pendants in antique brass with six opal glass globes branching from a central stem with larger double tiered versions specified for the suites. Bespoke floor lamps in brushed brass with a curved arm and decorative locking key joint are teamed with tapered cylindrical shades in cream linen, supplemented by Art Deco table lamps and wall lights perfectly in keeping with both the flawless interior scheme created by the team at Martin Brudnizki Design Studio and the historic building itself.

Mr. C Coconut Grove Miami offers a variety of health and wellness facilities for guests to enjoy. The spa features a private massage and beauty treatment room and a sauna, and the hotel's fitness centre is fully equipped with the latest Technogym equipment. Meanwhile, the rooftop pool and deck is the ideal spot to relax and unwind with unobstructed panoramic views. Private cabanas are fully furnished with seating for up to five people >

and incorporate curtains for shade and privacy. The rooftop also features Venetian terrazzo decking, a refreshment centre stocked with chilled water and towels, and a private bar. Guests can dine poolside on the bayside covered deck, savouring menu specialties from the pizza oven or poolside menu and refreshing cocktails.

Newly-envisioned dining concepts for Mr. C Hotels have been thoughtfully reinvented by Maggio and Ignazio Cipriani. These concepts are influenced by the Cipriani's extensive travels throughout Italy, discovering a crossroad between their family time-honored tradition and wonderful recipes from different regions. Inspired by their family tradition, but with their own independent personality, Maggio and Ignazio Cipriani have always been curious travellers willing to discover and embrace tastes throughout the diverse Italian landscape.

Bellini offers a modern take on traditional Italian cooking that can be enjoyed morning to night, seven days a week. The restaurant features, amongst others, selections of grilled specialties, delicate Crudi di Pesce, and pastas such as Tagliolini with Zucchini and Scampi, Bucatini Cacio & Pepe, and Spaghetti with Sea Urchin. Guests can sip cocktails such as the original family Bellini as an aperitif with friends at the bar, while dining in the restaurant, or relaxing in the lobby lounge.

The approachable nature of Bellini extends beyond the menu, featuring an attentive staff with European sensibility and an atmosphere that is warm, sophisticated and inviting. The restaurant is easily accessed from the hotel's lobby. Another option for guests is Il Giardino, an intimate setting reminiscent of a European-style garden. Whether choosing to enjoy an evening cocktail or delight in an al fresco continental breakfast, Il Giardino provides a private escape from the city bustle.

In addition, the hotel has multiple traditional as well as unique indoor and outdoor event venues and meeting rooms. The unparalleled panoramic >





views from the top floor Starlight Ballroom capture the beauty and landscape of Miami and Biscayne Bay, with South Beach being visible on a clear summer's day. This event venue features a wrap-around terrace and floor-to-ceiling windows. What's more, the hotel's porte-cochere provides a unique covered outdoor space well-equipped to host impressive private soirees surrounded by natural greenery. The space is a blank canvas waiting to be curated to the event of choice, ideal for social, non-profit or corporate events.

Mr C. Coconut Grove Miami is sure to appeal to those with discerning taste, as well as guests searching for a luxury getaway with a chance to recharge and relax. Offering a unique mix of old-world charm and European style, the hotel is sure to leave guests with a memorable impression and a new appreciation for the beauty of the surroundings of Miami.

**INTERIOR DESIGN:** Martin Brudnizki Design Studio  
**ARCHITECTURE:** Arquitectonica  
**SUPPLIERS:** *Furniture:* Tedeschi USA, *Bedding:* Casa Rovea, *Bathroom amenities:* La Bottega, *Lighting:* Luton, Chelsom, *Kitchen appliances:* Miele, *Gym equipment:* Technogym

[www.mrchotels.com](http://www.mrchotels.com)



## ASTRO LIGHTING

Astro Lighting's new Fold Wall is a simple structure that captures the moment a soft material is frozen as it drapes over a linear form. The Fold Wall offers a minimalist lighting design which is fully adjustable thanks to its low glare shade. Soft illumination is produced from a linear LED chip which is tucked into the shade of folded metal. A clear frosted diffuser protects the LED and diffuses the light.

[www.astrolighting.com](http://www.astrolighting.com)



## LIVING AB

Living Design is a Swedish based international interior design company with an unparalleled reputation across Europe in the industry that thrives on perfection. Since its establishment in 1984, Living Design has consistently honed the skills of the best design talents available from across Europe to provide its clients with a service that is second to none.

By providing such customized services for clients and endlessly seeking a progressive approach to design, the company offers a wide range of innovative and creative services. It forges positive relationships and brings together art, architecture and interior design.

[www.livingdesign.com](http://www.livingdesign.com)

## CHELSON

Chelsom recently exhibited at Boutique Design New York (BDNY) 2019 which took place at Jacob K. Javits Center New York on 10th-11th November. Having been ranked among the fastest-growing trade shows in the US for the past five years, BDNY successfully inspires and connects hospitality professionals from all facets of the business.

This was Chelsom's fourth consecutive year at the event where the company exhibited a selection of products from its current lighting collection, Edition 26. The collections harness and refine the latest trends in finishes and materials and have been created with the requirements of the international hospitality marketplace at the core. In addition Chelsom also provided an exclusive preview of brand new pieces from the upcoming collection, Edition 27, designed entirely in-house by Robert and Will Chelsom and available from May 2020 onwards.

Chelsom has become one of the leading designers, manufacturers and suppliers of decorative contract lighting to the international hospitality sector working on a number of significant projects in the last 18 months, including Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park London, Autograph Louisville and Pittsburgh, Ritz Carlton Chicago, Mr. C Coconut Grove Miami and Kimpton Marlowe. Supplying both standard and custom-designed lighting products, Chelsom has the expertise to enhance any hotel interior, whether 2-star or 6-star, from cutting-edge contemporary to period buildings, guestroom to corridor to public spaces.

[www.chelsom.co.uk](http://www.chelsom.co.uk)



LIGHTING ^