



DATASHEET

Type

Apartment

Author

Fernanda Marques

Project name

LX

Project start date

2015

Project completion date

2016

Location

Lisbon, Portugal

Area

120m²

Photographer

Fernando Guerra

RELEASE

Located in the historical area of Chiado, Fernanda Marques's apartment in Lisbon is part of a building that was revitalised a decade ago by 1993 Pritzker Prize winner Álvaro Siza. Built in 1500, it has housed a monastery but today is exclusively residential.

The units are all different from one another but they're all built with the same thick walls from the original build. "We can say that one can literally feel the weight of history in here", Fernanda says. Creating a space with traits from the past and the local culture were her priorities from the start.

"I like the sense of belonging one feels in here. However, I wouldn't say this makes my apartment less contemporary than my other projects", she says. She directed her team both locally and from afar and completed the remodeling job in 4 months. From the original property only the wood paneling has remained.



The Portuguese presence is immediately felt in an 18th century blue and white tile panel depicting Christ's baptism in the centre of the living-room, and in the kitchen, in the wall covered by marble from the Alentejo region.

Remaining faithful to her minimalist approach she has used both furniture and artwork sparingly. Great emphasis was given to keeping empty spaces, punctuated here and there by key pieces, particularly vintage-inspired Italian design ones, such as the coffee table and its organic lines the architect found in Paris.

“I like to promote unexpected minglings in my projects”, and she is clearly not keen on the idea of matching pieces and styles. “I believe in furniture whose intrinsic qualities make it is autonomous and give it its own identity”, she adds.