Saint-Roch Duplex

Studio Louis Denavaut
Location Paris, France
Square footage 70 m² (755 ft²)

Interior architect and designer Louis Denavaut was commissioned to renovate and decorate this Parisian duplex on rue Saint-Honoré that boasts a staggering view of the dome of Saint-Roch Church.

Home to two artists, the redesigned space celebrates the apartment’s original features and provides an elegant, modern backdrop to the classicism of the skyline.

Antiques and works of art are mixed with bespoke, tailor-made items. In the living room, a huge circular window puts the dome center stage, and custom-built bleached oak banquettes with leather cushions are positioned to make the most of the view. Underfoot are the geometric lines of the original parquet floor, while suspended overhead is a round sculpture whose curves mirror the window, opposite.

Shapes, textures, and materials echo each other throughout the space. The glass mezzanine floor has a pale wooden seam, and the combination of wood and glass is also found in the coffee table, as well as the large oak-framed skylight and the desk that sits beneath it.

Also featured in the mezzanine is a steel railing inspired by vintage ocean liners, its stark framework reflected in the tubular chairs and the legs of the 1970s Italian table below.

The kitchen and bathroom are adjacent on the lower floor, with the fluted glass of the bathroom enclosure playing off the rippled marble that forms the sink and culinary workstation. In the bathroom, glinting black zellige tiles cover the custom-made bath and walls, under a matte black ceiling.

Wood, glass, steel, and marble are the dominant material elements, set against bright white walls and rare spots of color; this muted, refined palette draws the eye to the view outside.

“The aim of this project was to open up the space by bringing in as much light as possible,” says Denavaut. “As in an airplane, we follow the course of the sun, we see the clouds go by... in summer when there is a storm, it’s magic.”
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Left: Glass on glass on glass in the desk area. Right: Steel details abound throughout the apartment.
The kitchen is simple, with wooden cupboards and a marble countertop.

Glossy zellige tiles add sensuality to the bathroom.

Reeded glass walls keep the bathroom private.
The neighboring dome in all its glory. Carefully chosen antiques work within the limitations of the historic building.