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Planned Spontaneity

As with most kitchens, symmetry was the leading design principle here. Balance is key in a room where you shift from counter to stove to fridge and back. It can also be utilitarian in nature, and so principal designer Friedemann Weinhardt added an elevated whimsy to the space. Disparate elements augment the functional aspects. Think of it as planned - no, designed - spontaneity. To wit: the texture and colour of the polychromatic mosaic island make it a focal point. The boldly coloured range hood extends the length of the counter. Backsplashes are made of marble. Cabinets are set in contrasting tones. There is a graduated grandness to the space that is achieved through the use of colour and material. Your eye goes from the limestone herringbone-patterned floor to the counter, through the Philippe Starck chairs, and lands on the wowing Chinese wedding cabinet (which disguises the fridge). The thinking behind this design is rooted in the beaux-arts style, which favours noble spaces designed with eclectic touches. Mission accomplished.

Design: Design First Interiors Contractor: Crossford Construction, managed by Doug McCausland Chinese wedding cabinet: Artcraft Kitchens Cabinetry, range hood, dish pantry: SieMatic Sink and faucet: Design First Interiors Marble counters and backsplashes: Empire Marble and Granite Island mosaic: Aquilo Mosaics Appliances: Design First Interiors Flooring: Design First Interiors Lighting: Lightolier (recessed), Arevco (pendant), client supplied (sconces) Table, chairs: From Gabriel Ross





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