

REINVENTING
AN INTERIOR



LIFE SAGA

Refit Holland Jachtbouw Design Pastrovich Studio

When the owner of the 42-metre Heesen *Life Saga* decided that the interior of his 2008 yacht was looking a little tired, it was natural for him to turn to Stefano Pastrovich, a designer with whom he'd already collaborated on the 50-metre *Mysterie Shadow* superyacht support vessel. That project was a complete reconfiguration, but for *Life Saga* it was a case of a refresh, and it began – as these things often do – with a conversation and a sketch. “The owner told me, ‘Stefano, you did a lot on *Mysterie Shadow*. This time, I just want new upholstery and a new look.’”

The original interior colours – a predominantly cream and tan mix

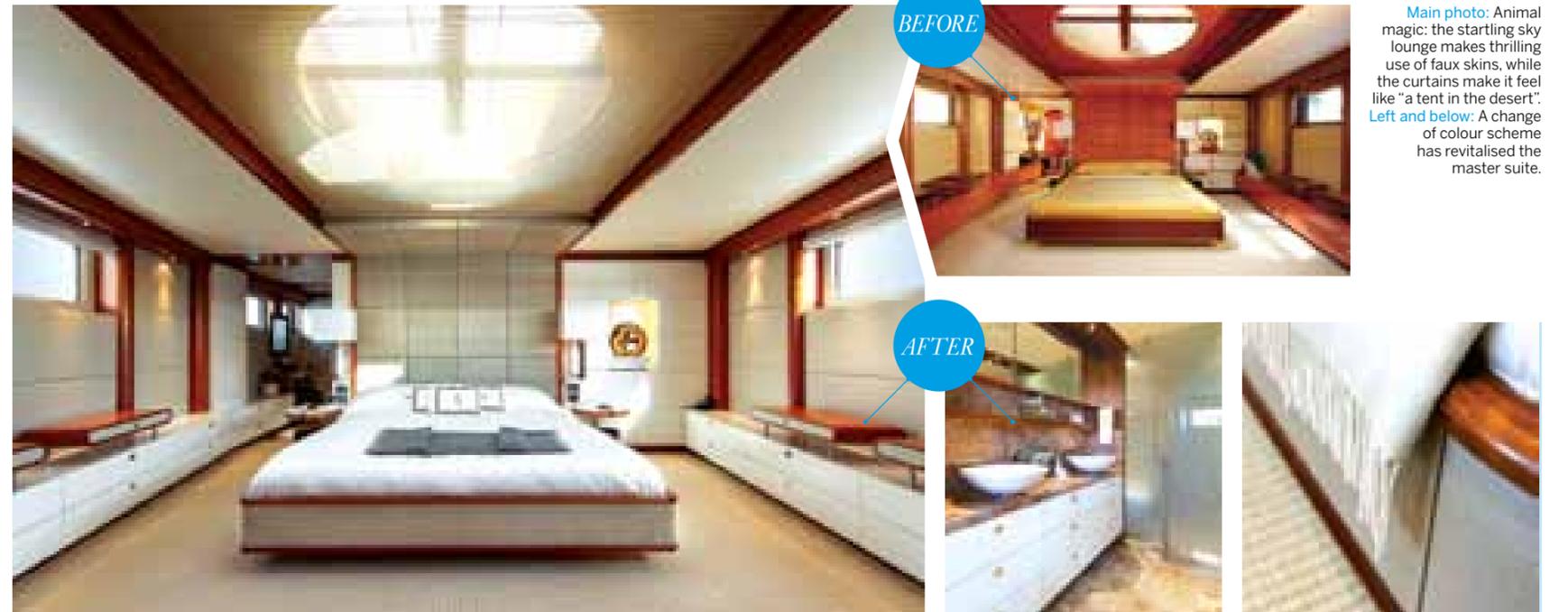


– was starting to grate with the owner, but Pastrovich's initial idea was to tweak the layout, too. “The layout was very conventional on the main deck, with a salon/dining area and asymmetrical sofa. But this is an owner who spends most of his time on deck, so I wanted to join the

inside and the outside,” says Pastrovich. “We split the job into three budgets, with most of the money spent in the salons, the second tranche in the master suite, and the smallest in the guest cabins.”

The bulk of the work was on the main deck – “I completely

destroyed the main salon!” he says – and the first key solution was to replace the asymmetrical door with a round door aft that opened fully, and to create a circular seating area where the original sofas had been. It then occurred to Pastrovich to reconfigure the dining area as a second circular area, with a table that could be sectioned off with Japanese screens. The transitional area between was turned into a bar. The aft deck area is like a terrace that functions with the first part of the main salon. With independent air-conditioning for the seating and dining areas inside there is also a more efficient use of resources. “It creates something like a beach club where the inside and outside are



BEFORE

AFTER

Main photo: Animal magic: the startling sky lounge makes thrilling use of faux skins, while the curtains make it feel like “a tent in the desert”.
Left and below: A change of colour scheme has revitalised the master suite.

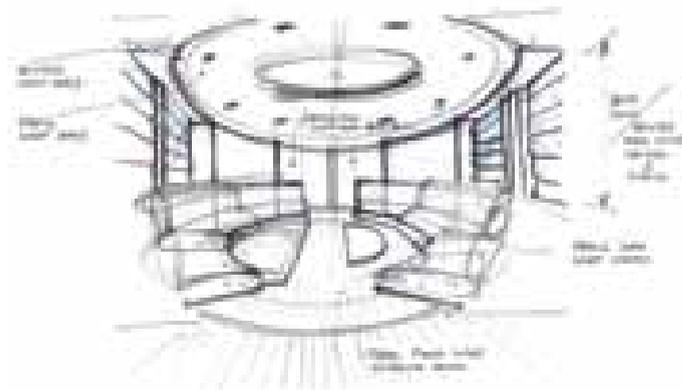


BEFORE



AFTER

This photo: A feast of circles in the main salon. Below: A sketch from Stefano Pastrovich showing his ideas for making use of the circles.



“There is a lot of geometrical stuff in the sofa!”

joined. A modern yacht has an exterior designer and interior designer, but it is important to me as an architect to do the interior and the exterior. This is the best way to design a boat. The interior guy never talks to the exterior guy! I try to destroy this border. After all, the terrace of my house is an important part of the living area.”

One way that Pastrovich has achieved what he calls the “continuity of space” on *Life Saga* has been to flow the teak of the main deck into the salon. The teak inside *Life Saga* is not varnished but waxed, as the exterior. “It’s not just about opening up physical spaces, but also keeping the same materials inside and out,” he says.

The geometrical nature of the main salon spaces was also key to Pastrovich’s design, in which he was inspired by Palladian architecture – specifically, circles. “A circle is visual shape without end. My solution was to use circles in both the salon space. The eye of the guest on board will search for an end point and not find one, and therefore there is greater feeling of space,” he says. “But there are a lot

of elements that help that perception. There is a lot of geometrical stuff in the sofa!”

Dominating the sky lounge is the image of a jaguar. In its previous incarnation, the sky lounge was a busy area, with gym equipment hogging one side of the cabin. “The space was divided into too many areas.” It was important to get some uniformity. The first thing I did was to ensure the ceiling was one colour,” he says. The motivation for

the jaguar was a simple one: to create a ‘wow’ effect. “I wanted there to be a contrast with the elegance of the salon below. I wanted it to startle.” As well as the jaguar print, there is faux crocodile used to upholster the sofa, while the carpet is in skunk skin. But it’s the bar that really catches the eye. This has been created from a high-resolution print behind Plexiglass.

The gloss paint was dominating the sky lounge, and Pastrovich has

used a transparent floor-to-ceiling curtain all round. “The feeling is like a tent in the desert,” he says.

As a pilot himself of gliders and light aircraft, Pastrovich has an appreciation for instrument panels and how a helm position works, which has fed into his redesign of the wheelhouse. The grey ceiling, a leather-lined area around the ceilings, while the oak cupboards add a lightness. “The use of horizontal lines makes the space look bigger,” says Pastrovich.

If an endorsement was needed of Pastrovich’s work, the owner and designer are working together on a new 72 metre. They have also collaborated on the owner’s villa in the South of France. “He’s not the sort of guy who sits down on board all day. He prefers to be having fun on the toys outside.” *Life Saga* is now a fitting contemporary platform for private cruising and for having fun.

The facts

LOA 42.1m Builder Heesen Year 2008
Guests 12 Crew 10 Contact
hollandjachtbouw.nl