



Pride of place

Zebrawood veneer and Brazilian cherry floorboards provide startling contrast against a white background of countertops and cabinetry

In this day and age, custom-made has, to an extent, lost some of its meaning. However, if you specify an Italian kitchen, and it's made in Italy by artisans from a small family business – who even fly over to install it – then you can be confident you've received a truly customised service.

Such was the situation with this loft apartment. Originally two penthouses, the separate spaces were bought by one owner and remodeled into a single, five bedroom space by Brian Connolly, from Zivkovic Associates Architects.

"One of the owners is from Pescara, Italy, where Favetta Kitchens – a company renowned in

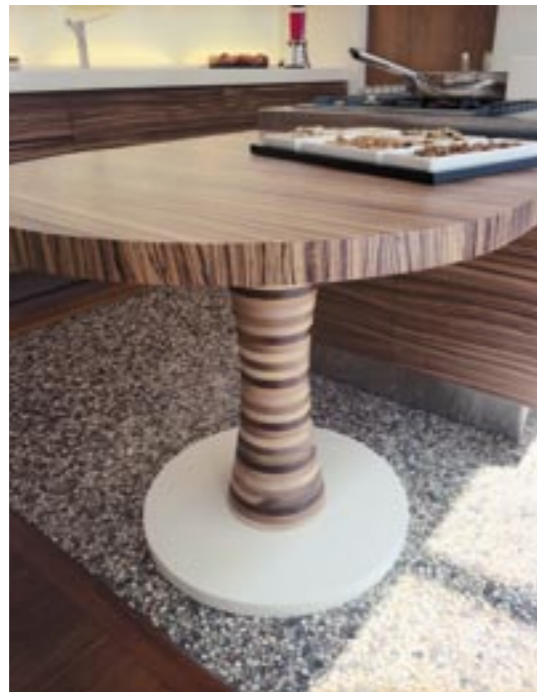
Italy for its stylish designs – is based. This is the first time a Favetta kitchen has been installed in an American home. The kitchen works in relation to the adjacent family room that faces out onto a deck. Sliding doors allow three flowing spaces to be formed," says Connolly.

Zivkovic Architects' conceptual drawings were sent to Favetta Kitchens, who modified and refined the design slightly, as per the owners' instructions. To ensure the utmost accuracy when installed, a Favetta Kitchens' team flew across from Italy to personally install the kitchen.

Overall, the design is relatively simple. A bank

Facing page: Remodeled by Zivkovic Associates, this loft apartment features a custom-made Favetta Kitchen.

Above: While this kitchen appears compact, there is extensive storage hidden in the touch-latched white cabinetry surrounding the refrigerator. The pharmacy-like pull-out shelves feature wire trays.



Architect: Brian Connolly,
Zivkovic Architects (New York)
Kitchen manufacturer:
Fernando Favetta, Favetta
Kitchens (Pescara, Italy)
Floors: Brazilian cherry
Wood veneer: Zebra wood
Refrigerator: SubZero
Oven: Gaggenau
Cooktop: Gaggenau
Rangehood: Gaggenau
Countertops: Corian

Photography by Andrea Brizzi

Top right: A five-burner gas cooktop sits beside a raised Corian dining counter.

Above right and right: Attached to the island, a low oval extension provides additional preparation space. It sits on a tiled floor of small river pebbles, with a pedestal of layered hardwood. The distinctive zebra wood veneer was used to add texture throughout many areas of the kitchen.

of touch-latched, white-lacquered drawers and cupboards surround the refrigerator. Other white accents include the back counter, with dimmable lighting providing a backdrop to the family room, and the countertop itself, which is white Corian.

Contrasting with the brilliant white is the distinctively striped zebra wood paneling. One modification included the addition of a low table to the island. Pedestal-mounted, it sits on column of striped, compressed hardwoods. Adding texture to the floor is an inset of washed riverstone tiling, set in a casing and covered with a durable acrylic, so it appears as if the pebbles are under glass.

