

AS
SEEN IN
BEAUTIFUL
KITCHENS
MAGAZINE

‘The island is a fabulous place to socialise’

An array of walnut wood and painted cabinetry has created a welcoming kitchen for artist Eva O’Donovan and her family

BESPOKE CABINETRY

Tulipwood cabinetry, painted in a specially mixed RAL colour, is teamed with American Black walnut furniture by Andrew Ryan Traditional & Modern Furniture

SPLASHBACK

Oak panelling behind the sink makes an eye-catching alternative to tiles

SEATING

The smart **Leather Bistro stools** came from Meadows & Byrne



BK says

If you don't want an island extractor blocking the view through your room, then consider a downdraft model that retracts when not in use

WORKTOPS
The **Oyster Corian** surfaces feature a neat integral sink

STONE FLOORING
For similar tiles, try **Artesh Travertine** from Fired Earth



WARMING DRAWER
Underneath the **double oven** is a **warming drawer** that Eva uses for keeping plates and food hot. Both by Siemens

COOKING AREA
The island is large enough to fit an illuminated **tabletop extractor hood** by Gaggenau and a **four-zone induction hob** from Siemens

COFFEE MACHINE
Eva gets a lot of use out of the built-in **coffee machine** by Siemens. 'It makes fantastic coffee,' she reveals

CARVED DRAWERS
The island has lots of storage, including these **pull-out drawers** that are engraved with ingredient names. The American Black walnut has been broken up with **slivers of aluminium** routed into the curved pillar



EVA AND JOHN O'DONOVAN LIVE IN A SELF-BUILT HOUSE WITH THEIR CHILDREN, LUCY, 13, KAREN, 10, AND EWAN, SIX, PLUS TWO DOGS, MAX AND RUBY, IN CO OFFALY, IRELAND
Fourteen years after the O'Donovan family built their house, the inevitable happened – they outgrew it. Eva and her husband John considered moving and even extending the house, but soon realised that with a bit of careful plan-

ning and reorganising they could gain the space they needed with less upheaval. 'By moving the kitchen to the opposite end of the room and placing the dining table where the kitchen-diner was, we could gain the space we needed,' says Eva. 'It was just about changing the flow of things.'

Eva knew she wanted to have a New England-style kitchen, so she asked friends for advice on local kitchen designers and was given the name of Andrew Ryan Traditional & Modern Furniture. 'I fell in love with the

displays the minute I walked into the showroom,' she says. 'I just wandered round, picking my favourite bits and hoping they'd work together.'

It was an unusually shaped island that Eva spotted that became the starting point for the whole kitchen design. 'In our old kitchen, everyone used to gather around the island while I cooked and I wanted to keep that social aspect,' she explains. 'Once we had the island in place, it was just a case of building everything else around it, so that I still had my

working triangle, with all the things I needed within easy reach.'

As the design evolved, Eva and designer Aiden Ryan selected a mix of beech and walnut cabinetry for the scheme, combined with hand-painted furniture. Although relocating the kitchen had the advantage of creating a light-filled room, complete with a large church window, there was one problem. 'It was a big room but there was little wall space for cupboards,' explains Eva. Nonetheless, what was lost in wall space has been more than made up in

height. Aiden chose to emphasise the high ceilings with towering cabinetry, creating a feature wall for the family's huge fridge freezer. 'Our last fridge freezer was dwarfed by the high ceilings, so we wanted something with impact,' recalls Eva. 'This was perfect. We pushed the boat out as it was our last splurge.'

It's not just the fridge freezer that makes a statement – the whole room creates impact as the honey-toned beech and pale painted furniture provide a backdrop for the American Black walnut island. 'I was worried that having such a mixture of materials might not work,' says Eva. 'But it has, brilliantly! It's made a huge difference – even the children like to clean up now.'

FEATURE TRACEY WILLIAMS PHOTOGRAPHY BARBARA EGAN



DRUM UNIT
Topped with **end-grain beech**, the curved end of the island provides a working area and plenty of storage

'MY TIP – MAKE SURE YOU BUY WHAT YOU LIKE. IF YOU LOVE IT, IT WILL WORK!'



DINING

What was the previous kitchen is now a dining area. The tables and Torino chairs in Café velvet are both from Meadows & Byrne

DISPLAY CABINET

Cleverly built around a ceiling beam, this floor-to-ceiling dresser-style cabinet is used for displaying glassware

PRICE GUIDE
Starting price
£13,450
for an Andrew Ryan kitchen

THE KITCHEN AT A GLANCE

DESIGN & CABINETRY

- Aiden Ryan at **Andrew Ryan Traditional & Modern Furniture**, Gorey, County Wexford, Ireland (00 353 5394 21585) www.andrewryan.ie
- Bespoke American Black walnut furniture with painted Shaker-style tulipwood cabinetry with glass doors



WORKTOPS

- Oyster Corian. Price per sq m **£272**
- End-grain beech. Price per sq m **£1,088**

FLOORING

- Stone tiles, for similar try Artesh travertine, Fired Earth. Price per sq m, from **£49.74**

SINK & TAPS

- Mixa 778 one-and-a-half-bowl Corian sink, as integral part of worksurface **£861**
- Eiger C-spout monobloc mixer tap in chrome, Franke **£117**
- Basic hot water tap in polished chrome, Quooker **£775**
- Evolution 100 waste disposal unit, In-Sink-Erator **£266**



APPLIANCES (shown)

- HB43MB520B built-in double oven, Siemens **£805**
- HF24M562B built-in microwave, Siemens **£380**
- EH975ME11E four-zone induction hob, Siemens **£965**
- AT400 downdraft extractor, Gaggenau **£4,405**
- Built-in coffee machine, for similar try TK76K572GB, Siemens **£1,283**
- HWI40562B built-in warming drawer, Siemens **£350**
- Integrated fridge freezer, for similar try BI-48SD, Sub-Zero **£11,163**

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated dishwasher, Siemens **£560**

For stockists, see page 150

PLAN SCALE 1cm:1m



BK loves

...the floor-to-ceiling, Shaker-style cabinetry

