



This floating island is a signature style for Simon Taylor Furniture's designers. The Vine Tree veneer plinth almost disappears into the concrete-style floor tiles, while also adding a softer, textural touch to the modern glossy doors



'EVERY SECTION OF CABINETRY IS PUT TOGETHER AND HAND-FINISHED BY OUR SKILLED CRAFTS-PEOPLE'

Graham Martin Photography



SIMON TAYLOR FURNITURE

PHOTOS DARREN CHUNG FEATURE HUGH METCALF

When Simon Taylor set up his eponymous furniture company in 1985, he did so sharing a small artisan workshop in Buckinghamshire, creating fine freestanding pieces for discerning clients. However, after making his first kitchen for his own mother and father, he soon discovered a valuable gap in the market for bespoke designs that would see the business transcend these humble beginnings. 'It became immediately successful because very few kitchen companies were offering true bespoke then, and I don't mean just cabinets in different sizes,' recalls Simon.

Even after 30 years in the business, the brand continues to diversify, not only into producing

furniture for bathrooms and bedrooms, but also adapting the styles it offers – everything from traditional timber and English Shaker-style to, more recently, contemporary finishes using materials such as glass and concrete.

Every piece is made in the dedicated workshop in Bierton, Buckinghamshire, using state-of-the-art machinery, yet hand-finished by master craftspeople. 'What makes us different is the amount of time and care we take with our clients,' says Simon. 'We actively invite them to the workshop to see their kitchen come to life.'

SIMON TAYLOR FURNITURE CANE END WORKS, BIERTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, HP22 5BH
Tel: 01296 488207 simon-taylor.co.uk

'NO TWO DESIGNS ARE EVER THE SAME, BUT THIS 'FLOATING' ISLAND IS AN ICONIC STYLE FOR SIMON TAYLOR FURNITURE'



The view from the kitchen takes in the expansive garden. In the summer months, the large glass panel doors open up to create an indoor/outdoor kitchen space

DESIGN BRIEF

The owners of this property tasked designer Tony Lister to create a space with great flow, after living with a 'non-functional' kitchen previously. While desiring a clean, modern look, the couple also wanted it to have something special and unusual about it – a material that would reflect the bountiful natural light from their re-worked space. Adamant this shouldn't be a gloss lacquer, Tony turned to stylish glass-fronted cabinetry.

LAYOUT

With such a large, square space to play with, the designer could get creative in filling the space to meet the brief for kitchen flow. A floating L-shape island and floating peninsula provide a home for all the kitchen's storage as well as work surface space, while all appliances are built into a tall wall run. A hideaway, bi-fold door breakfast station ensures the kitchen retains its sleek look in spite of being a space dedicated to busy family life.

CABINETRY

Truly bespoke, handleless cabinetry has been finished with glass panels, mitred in the Simon Taylor Furniture workshop to create a seamless effect. Pale Sterling Silver Eucalyptus and Vine Tree veneers add a textured element that complements the monochromatic scheme.

FINISHES

As keen cooks, the homeowners opted for top-of-the-range appliances from Miele, and two Dishdrawer dishwashers from Fisher & Paykel. A flush-fitted hob adds to the sleek finish to the kitchen, while large format concrete-look floor tiles and a white quartz worktop add the simple elegance of modern Scandinavian style.



'The pale wood veneers were used for the tall cabinetry, as well as for accents around the glass door fronts,' says Tony



Project details

CABINETRY
Simon Taylor Furniture bespoke cabinetry in **white NCD S3000N gloss glass**, **Sterling Silver Eucalyptus veneer** and **Vine Tree veneer**. Contemporary kitchen prices start from £35,000.

APPLIANCES
KF 1901 Vi Mastercool **fridge freezer**, £9,499; KWT 1612 Vi Mastercool Refrigeration three-zone **wine conditioner**, £9,499; H 6860 BPX Pureline 60cm pyrolytic **oven** in Graphite Grey, £3,499; H 6800 BMX Pureline combination **microwave oven** in Graphite Grey, £3,425; DGC 6800X Pureline Combination **steam oven** in Graphite Grey, £4,399; ESW 6229X Pureline 29cm **warming drawer** in Graphite Grey, £1,325; KM 6329 Power Flex 60cm four-zone **induction hob**, £1,629; CS 7632 FL 36cm modular **teppan yaki hob**, £2,375; CSDA 7000 FL counter top **extractors**, £1,475, all Miele. DD60SHI7 60cm integrated single Dishdrawer **dishwashers**, from £899, Fisher & Paykel.

SINKS AND TAPS
Icerock **trough** undermount sink, £322; Strive undermount **double bowl**, £845, both Kohler. Celsius Cube boiling water **tap**, from £1,499, Zip.

SURFACES
20mm quartz worksurface in Twinkle, £POA, Quartzform.

The Quartzform worksurfaces included cut outs for the hob, sink and a Kohler Icerock ice trough which sits behind the sink in the kitchen



‘WE ALWAYS INVITE OUR CLIENTS TO VISIT OUR WORKSHOPS TO SEE THEIR KITCHEN COME TO LIFE’

The glass panels have been mitred in the Simon Taylor Furniture workshop to ensure that the look is seamless, without any unsightly edges showing where the material meets on the cabinetry corners