

Kitchen & Bath

PORTFOLIO

The following kitchen and bath projects are not merely spaces designed to feed and cleanse; many serve as portals to the outside world through their application of generous openings and natural materials. Whether part of a family-compound addition in Aspen or the core of a modestly sized home in central Mexico, all of these projects help transform normally utilitarian tasks into something more refined. *Rita Catinella Orrell*



White-washed kitchen and color-soaked bathrooms

Set on the shore of Lake Okoboji in rural Iowa, this residence was conceived as a series of spatial sequences that flow into the lake beyond. This design motif is most apparent in the joined kitchen-and-living-room space, where floor-to-ceiling windows and glass doors frame views of the lake and surrounding oaks.

In the kitchen, white plastic-laminated baltic-birch cabinets and stainless-steel countertops are complemented by colored concrete floors and a horizontally laminated plywood island that floats above the ground on stainless-steel legs. A 10-by-10-foot skylight lined with translucent polycarbonate panels pierces through the space above to provide natural lighting during the day; strip lights behind the panels illuminate the kitchen at night.

While the kitchen is washed in white, all of the bathrooms are saturated in colors ranging from lime-green to orange to aqua. "The bathrooms are the most intimate spaces, with almost no views to the outside, so we decided to create vivid interiors instead," explains Min | Day principal Jeff Day. The architects created this seamless effect using ¼-inch sheets of solid surfacing in custom colors for the countertops and shower walls, and plastic laminates for the cabinetry. *Mae Ryan*

Clockwise from top left: The kitchen island; a bathroom for the clients' sons; the polycarbonate-lined skylight; the joined kitchen and living room area.

Architect: Min | Day
General contractor: Mike Høien Construction
Millwork: Aaron Carlson Corporation

SOURCES

Baltic birch plywood/ Abet Laminati laminate (kitchen cabinets); Elkay (island sink); RSA Lighting (recessed kitchen lights); 3form (shower walls, bath countertops); Dornbracht (bathroom faucets); Boyd (recessed mirror strip)

