

MAYFAIR LIFE

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CHESTERTONS

POLO IN THE PARK



CHELSEA
ART FAIR

MUSEUMS
AT NIGHT

THE VOGUE
FESTIVAL



LUXURY, STYLE, COMFORT

With the hint of a residential atmosphere for financial/property advisers' offices in the heart of Mayfair



One of London's most elegant districts since the 18th century. South African born Louis Bührmann established his own interior design practice in 2007. He has created dazzling apartments in London, the Cote d'Azur, Paris and Dubai. Everything from furniture to carpets, chandeliers to door handles is custom made to the highest standards, mostly to his own design, with furniture crafted by his brother Balthasar, a master cabinetmaker.

He had known the clients, directors of PGS (Principal Global Solutions) for some time, understood how they wished to provide maximum efficiency, while putting clients entirely at their ease. The company was founded in 2010 to advise some of the world's most affluent individuals, their companies and family offices. PGS expertise spans commercial consultancy, all aspects of the property market, travel and logistics.

Their offices, in a former grand town house, is seconds away from Mount Street and Park Lane (both names spell traditional chic and luxury). The building has classically proportioned interiors with Grade I (ie of officially recognised quality) marble and plaster work.

Clients' brief: spacious boardroom for members and guests with a specially designed boardroom table seating at least twelve people, equipped with the most up to date conference technology, an additional seating area leading effortlessly on to the heated terrace. Photographs and paintings selected by art curator, Sascha Bailey, were the work of Damien Hirst, one of the world's most successful contemporary artists.

Louis installed blackout blinds to ensure the lighting for video conferencing could be controlled. Grey striped pelmets balanced the visual weight of the classical mouldings. The ribbon and wreath plaster motif on the walls was hand finished in gold leaf. A bronze horse

sculpture served as a clever device to separate the more relaxed seating area from the boardroom table, in this way creating two spaces. The gold chain coffee table was a happy discovery at Maison et Objet, an annual trade fair in Paris, favourite hunting ground for interior designers.

The project had to be completed quickly to ensure nothing interrupted the clients' work programme. Louis coordinated his team to finish everything within five weeks. No structural changes were needed, and the walls had been painted snow white, a perfect backdrop, Louis considered, to realise his vision: professional efficiency but subtly suggesting the informality of a private residence. ■

Louis Henri Ltd. www.louishenri.com

Photography by Bruce Hemming.

