

## Organic style: Dreamy interiors in Frida Escobedo's new building

With an organic interior design, this apartment interacts with the architecture of Frida Escobedo's building.



**An organic-style apartment designed as a sensory retreat by Workstead in Frida Escobedo's new building.**

In Brooklyn, in the heart of Boerum Hill, Bergen Brooklyn is the first residential building in the United States by Frida Escobedo, a Mexican architect known for designing with light, shadows, and authentic materials. The residential project was developed by Avdoo with a multidisciplinary team: Workstead for the interiors, DXA for the supporting architecture, and Patrick Cullina for the landscape. The result is an architecture that softens the boundaries of urban life through a rhythmic, layered façade and abundant green spaces that dialogue with the surrounding brownstones. “It has been an incredibly collaborative process and a genuine pleasure to work with Avdoo, DXA, and Workstead on this project,” says Escobedo, who is now also working on the new pavilion for the Metropolitan Museum in New York. “From the conception of the design to the last detail, we feel a responsibility to respect the character of the neighborhood and its surroundings, while creating something new that will stand the test of time.”



The sand-colored velvet sofa and the geometric oak console table create a cozy and harmonious corner in the living room. Jonathon Hokklo

## Dialogue with architecture



A rust-orange boucle sofa, a sculptural oak coffee table, and a Kelly Wearstler armchair define the cozy atmosphere of the studio, surrounded by chocolate-colored walls. Works by Karen Covey and Brooke Noel interact with the furniture, amplifying the space's character. Jonathon Hokklo

Inside, New York-based studio Workstead designed the organic Brooklyn apartment as a haven of calm and light. As Ryan Mahoney, principal of Workstead, explains, “Each project is born from a deep sensitivity to its context.” In the new Bergen, the interiors amplify Escobedo’s architectural vision and material palette. From the rhythmic patterns of the tiles to the use of shadows, every detail is designed to dialogue with the building’s architectural scale. The architect also highlights the role of the façade, “which invited us to work with light as a collaborator. Shadows and reflections enliven the interior, highlighting the sculptural profiles of the handles and countertops. We kept the palette neutral precisely to let light and shadow take center stage.”

## Kitchen and bathrooms



In the dining room, dark walnut is combined with sculptural chairs, linen pendant lights, Olive Atelier accessories, and a woven wood console table, in dialogue with the existing refined woodwork. Jonathon Hokklo

The heart of the organically styled apartment is the kitchen, organized around white oak cabinets with handles carved directly from the wood and complemented by a polished Taj Mahal quartzite countertop and wall paneling. Above the island is a pendant light designed by Workstead, while to one side sits a custom-made light lacquer bar cabinet with bronze accents and a Kalahari stone countertop. The whole unit combines functionality and warmth, conceived as a natural extension of the living area. “Kitchens and bathrooms are the most tactile spaces in the home, and functionality always comes first, but it’s softened by wood, handcrafted details, and a warm yet restrained palette. Timelessness comes from proportion and rhythm,” Mahoney continues.



In the master bathroom, the Workstead-designed sink is complemented by small accessories, bath linens, and a sculptural stool by Treehuase, creating a sleek and luminous ensemble. Jonathon Hokklo

The master bathroom is clad entirely in Crema Vanilla marble, with custom-made white oak cabinetry, a freestanding bathtub, and heated floors that enhance the sense of comfort. The secondary bathrooms feature light-colored tiles and terrazzo floors, creating a balanced interplay of smooth and textured surfaces. As the Workstead director notes, “We focused on meticulous solutions that foster calm and order: rhythmic wood frames in the kitchen, continuous lines in the bathroom tiles. These details create harmony and restore balance.”



In the bedroom, the camel-colored velvet bench creates an intimate and relaxing retreat. Jonathon Hokklo

In every space, light is a design issue. “Our multidisciplinary practice integrates design at all scales, including lighting,” notes Mahoney. “In this Bergen apartment, the custom-designed entry chandelier not only illuminates the space, but also helps define its identity and set the tone upon arrival.”

## Interior and exterior



Flooded with natural light, the space highlights the dark walnut table, sculptural chairs, and linen pendant light, in dialogue with the handcrafted woodwork and furniture designed by Olive Atelier. Jonathon Hokklo



The apartment is in constant dialogue with the outdoors: a large terrace with an outdoor kitchen and barbecue opens onto the living room, while the private rooftop terrace houses a heated pool and dining area. "The goal was to conceive the outdoor spaces as a natural extension of the interiors, allowing both worlds to interact directly to achieve a perfect fusion."

## Common spaces and private intimacy



The master bedroom, illuminated by exterior light, features travertine lamps and a camel-colored velvet bench, creating a tranquil atmosphere. Jonathon Hokklo

The Bergen Building is not just a residential building, but a true urban microcosm. Common spaces dedicated to well-being, sociability, and culture are intertwined with shared gardens and terraces, creating a continuum between interior and exterior. A cylindrical staircase pierced by natural light connects the different levels, becoming a kind of architectural totem that punctuates daily life. In this context, explains Ryan Mahoney, "the richness of the communal spaces made it necessary to think of the **organic-style apartment as a true sanctuary** . We focused on intimacy and calm, with bespoke details and a calibrated palette. The private spaces are designed to regenerate, balancing the vitality of the shared spaces."

## A new paradigm of life



A living room that plays with shapes and textures: a Serge Mouille-style pendant light, a Sundays Furniture linen daybed, a geometric oak console table, and a sand-colored velvet sofa create a harmonious ensemble that becomes the domestic hub of a young family. Jonathon Hokklo

The **organic-style apartment** reflects a new way of urban living: Frida Escobedo's rhythmic, material architecture intertwines with Workstead's precision craftsmanship. The result is a home that goes beyond the idea of luxury to reclaim silence, light, and intimacy in constant dialogue with the city.