



Lebanese-American Designer Linda Zarifi Has Created A Chic New Blueprint For City Living

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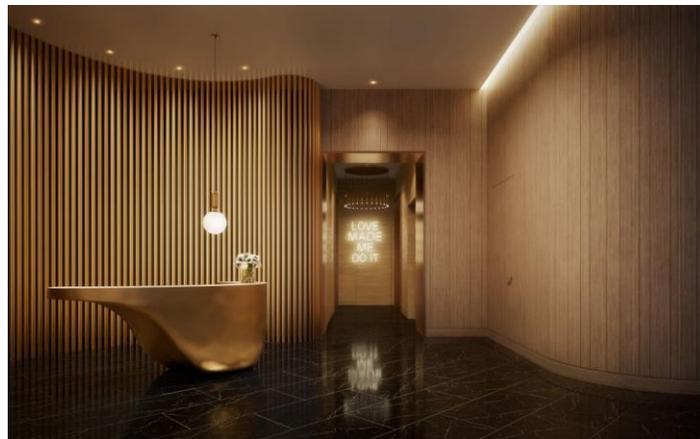


"Elevators are often missed opportunities," says Linda Zarifi. "Like a powder room, an elevator is the perfect place to provide a small moment of great impact." She has certainly packed a bold visual punch at The Parker, an agenda-setting luxury residential tower in Boston, for which the founder of Zarifi Design, was charged with dreaming up the interiors, taking cues from the neighbourhood. "The building unfolds like a stage with the resident as the star," she adds.



Located at 55 Lagrange St. in Boston's theatre district, the 22-storey softly rounded-glass tower, designed by Stantec, offers 168 studio, one bedroom, and two-bedroom residences with price tags ranging from \$600,000 to just over \$3 million.

Inside, the atmosphere is subdued and sultry; matte black tile floors are off-set by bleached ash-panelled walls. The sculpted, molten metal-clad reception desk meanwhile nestles into a niche with a backdrop of backlit brass poles. Just beyond, a light projection proclaiming 'Love Made Me Do It' channels the theatre district's neon signs.



The lobby lounge extends along the street. Gallery-like furnishings include a sweeping sofa, tree trunk tables crafted by Vermont-based maker [Eric Slayton](#), and vintage [Milo Baughman](#) chairs. "It's inviting and tactile, reminding everyone that this is a living room," says Zarifi of the space which residents are free to use.

A free-floating stair hugs the architecture's curved corner; its visibility from the street adds to the building's allure. The stair leads to the lower lobby, where a brass bar shimmers beneath a brass rod and crystal chandelier, and a billiards lounge with cosy banquettes transmits speakeasy vibes.



The space will function as a coffee bar by day and as a lounge by night. It will be available for residents to rent; same goes for the club-style, sound-proofed screening room with oversized Chesterfield chairs.



The designer took care to distinguish the door to each residence. Rather than leave the corridors as anonymous stretches of drywall and humdrum doors, Zarifi created portals lined in smoky wood adorned with brass sconces. "It's a more hospitality-oriented approach," she explains. "These small differentiating features help the building stand out."



Inside, floor-to-ceiling window panels flood the 9-foot-high spaces with sunlight. White oak floors help to keep the interiors feeling airy, while kitchens with seamless matte lacquered cabinetry and high-end appliances make elevated design statements.



Linda Zarifi

The bathrooms also boast distinctive details. There are mink-hued herringbone wall tiles; cantilevered, charcoal-stained wood vanities with matte black plumbing fixtures; and brass rod pendant lights that tie back to the public spaces. "We come up with the big idea and sprinkle it throughout the building," says Zarifi.



Finally, no high-rise in Boston is complete without a rooftop terrace. Residents can take in panoramic views of the city skyline, along with the Boston Common and the Charles River, on large sectionals in front of fire tables or under teak canopies with white drapes. It's quite literally a high point of Zarifi's elevated design scheme. theparkerboston.com; zarifidesign.com