

## AN ELEGANT TERRACE WITH ZEN STYLE



**Project Name:** Zen Italian Style  
**Location:** Milan, Italy  
**Size:** 42m2

**Design:** Cristina Mazzucchelli Green Design with  
Isacco Brioschi Architecs  
**Leading Designer:** Cristina Mazzucchelli and  
Isacco Brioschi  
**Photographer:** Cristina Mazzucchelli



**Design Concept**

A terrace with a strongly contemporary design, modern in materials, furnishings and colors, but with an oriental touch.

The outdoor elegant atmosphere is connected to the linear and sophisticated style of the interiors, enriched by objects of great refinement. The austerity of the terrace design is counterbalanced by a graphic and light vegetation, reminiscence of Japanese gardens, characterized by pure lines flanked by soft and evanescent plant masses. All plants were carefully selected: some for the bold appearance, some for the texture or the color foliage, some for the delicate blooms, in a finely tuned balance.

Isacco Brioschi Architects studio, responsible for projecting the house interiors, took care also of the architectural aspects of the terrace; the fruitful collaboration between the architects and the landscape designer Cristina Mazzucchelli, from the earliest stages, demonstrated that the synergic use of complementary skills gives rise to quality outdoor spaces.



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The planters were not simply filled with vegetation, but they were turned into precious tools for generating a picture full of harmony and serenity. An impending chimney, to be masked, was the pretext for creating a vertical structure, characterized by metallic gray tones, which stands out, merging with the colors of the Milanese sky. Sun reflection on its surface gives rise to always different light effects, attracting the eye and making the scenery changeable at the various hours of the day. Covered with gray Corian slabs, an extremely robust material resistant to external agents, the flue acquires a sculptural appearance, which dialogues with the different pieces of art, great passion of the homeowners, standing at its side.

One lies proudly on the floor: made of iron, this evocative sculpture is called 'Rosa dei Venti', a creation of the Italian artist Giuseppe Spagnolo.

The other piece of art mimics a big stone with an organic shape and a smooth material consistency, whose color perfectly matches with the surrounding objects. This work of art is from Kazuhito Nagasawa, a Japanese artist.

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A hand-made table in Corian hides a second chimney; useful for a rest outside, its unusual shape, with a strong geometry and unpredictable diagonals, also gives rhythm and embellishes the space.

To create a sense of continuity and visual coherence, gray WPC planks, that resemble old wood, were used to cover not only the floor, but also the large steel planters placed along the edges and the whole wall adjoining the chimney. Finally, furnishings with essential lines welcome and invite you to stay in this suspended space.

Since the terrace is visible from the large window delimiting the master bedroom, it provides a living picture that accompanies everyday life. In order to give a sense of brightness to the rigorous architectural elements, the vegetation is represented by light plants bearing small leaves, vibrating with the wind breeze, and minute and delicate flowers, generous and elegant.

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Plant list

- Phyllostachis aureosulcata
- Sarcococca ruscifolia
- Euphorbia x martinii Ascot Rainbow
- Gardenia radicans
- Anemone x hybrida Whirlwind
- Pachisandra terminalis
- Vinca minor Bowls Variety
- Spirea arguta
- Phormium tenax variegatum
- Lagestroemia Muskogee
- Abelia chinensis
- Calamagrostis brachitrica
- Loropetalum chinense Black Pearl
- Mahonia x media Charity
- Taxus fastigiata aurea
- Enkianthus perulatus
- Carex oshim. Evergold
- Dryopteris erythrosora
- Gardenia Kleim's Hardy
- Mahonia confusa Nari Hiri
- Acer Sumi Nagashi
- Osmanthus burkwoody
- Pinus mugo Mops



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To create patches of light, variegated foliage and pale blooms follow each other, especially in white and yellow shades: a big Enkianthus campanulatus clipped as a large bonsai, the mountain pine 'Mops' with long and thin needles, Mahonia 'Nahihira' with elegant and non-thorny fronds, edging yews sprinkled with golden yellow, ferns, anemones, sedges, all streaked with green, white and pale pink.

The variety and richness of plants of this terrace turn it in a constantly changing picture, a reliable pleasure which accompanies and cheers up daily life, from awakening to night rest.