



Inspired by Japanese wooden houses, the main structure of the pool house is bark stripped oregon pine. The clever lighting design makes the building sparkle

A sparkling splash of entertainment

Rebecca Weir and **Johnny Grey** put a contemporary twist on an indoor swimming pool



Rebecca Weir

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How surprising it is when an unusual request turns into a challenging and exciting concept. Johnny Grey had one such request when he was approached by a client with a pool project.

Johnny dislikes indoor swimming pool's slabs of ceramic tiles and often monochrome paint work, but the architectural aspect of this project was unusual – it needed to match a collection of Japanese inspired wooden houses imported from California.

Constructed in Oregon pine, mostly rough hewn, with bark stripped tree trunks, it had a positively graspable aesthetic, with its imperfect finishes evoking a 'back to nature' response.

He has created a sumptuous space that is dramatic and beautiful by both day and night.

Mixing traditional stone and huge wooden beams with contemporary glass and lighting, this swimming pool area includes a spa, relaxed seating and bespoke changing areas and all with a view into the gardens outside.

Bold and unique features add a splash of colour to the changing areas, including a fuschia themed room and wooden dividers with colourful glass sections. The piece de resistance is a bespoke bench and shelf, made from a combination of dark wood and crisp, white Corian.

He worked closely with Rebecca Weir, Design Director of Light IQ to create a lighting scheme to compliment and enhance the space. The exterior lighting had to be subtle enough to sit quietly within the forest setting.

The sculptural qualities of the build are accentuated with tiny up-lights whilst linear under-lighting of the exterior ►



ABOVE: Lighting under the steps makes it seem that the building is floating
LEFT: A bar area ensures a full entertaining experience

as steps create the sensation that the pavilion 'floats' on the man-made pond. Discrete light fittings were tucked in to the eaves to light the balconies and prevent the 'black mirror' effect at night.

The creation of the pond to reflect our dramatic 'lantern' at night reinforces the sculptural silhouette and the drama of the lighting scheme.

Low hanging fibre optics over the pool were purposefully left long for greater visual impact. The additional sparkle wheel and colour ensures a subtle movement, which is reflected across the dark surfaces at night.

LEDs were used throughout the pool pavilion to ensure the lighting scheme was driven by energy efficiency, drama and low maintenance. A pre-set control system ensures each member of the family has their own preferred light setting, this can be controlled both internally within the building as well as from the main house through the use of their iPads.

Light IQ have been shortlisted for this innovative lighting scheme in the International Product Design Awards 2014. [B](#)