

SUPERYACHT DESIGN

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Q6

GRAND PRIX

The ipi 90 is a 90-metre motoryacht developed by New York-based design studio Impossible Productions Ink LLC, in collaboration with Vuyk Engineering Groningen B.V. As company directors Alistair Gill & Veronika Schmid explain, the overriding stylistic influence is the aerodynamic shapes of F1 racing cars.

Although the studio's first superyacht concept, the project displays a firm grasp of such issues as space management and circulation flow derived from their architectural training. The aerodynamic, racing car lines are visible in the profiling of hull and superstructure and enhanced through the iridescent paintwork, along with the spatial layout. They are also projected in the initial vertical single surface of the superstructure being cut, pulled and

twisted in order to create openings, giving way to a secondary glass skin and landscaped outdoor surfaces for lounging. The twisting of the surface is not just a stylistic measure, but allows for channeling of the air flow along the outer perimeter of the yacht, sweeping the air away from people on deck and forcing the draft downwards, as well as minimising air resistance and the effect of windage on the vessel while underway.

The reasoning behind the superstructure is also reflected in the layout of the interior and exterior spaces. Large open living spaces are juxtaposed and opened up via generous vertical connections and void spaces, creating a spatial organisation more akin to that of a live-in loft/gallery space. The continuity of the superstructure enhances the movement from open interior spaces to exterior landscapes.

The seven decks are not clearly visible or stacked, this is achieved mainly through the oblique cuts and

twists in the superstructure, as well as the diagonal connections from each aft deck to the forward deck above. This feature allows for more fluid circulation between decks and breaks away from the vertical stacking generally seen on more traditional designs. The layout of the exterior living areas are treated more as landscapes than horizontal floor spaces, with subtle slopes connecting decks and gently inclined walkways sandwiched between the opaque skin of the superstructure and the glass skin enveloping the interior spaces. Each of the sunbathing areas on the superstructure's aft decks offer an infinity pool that melts into the ocean backdrop.

With its 15-metre beam, the yacht has sufficient volume for innovative art and exhibition spaces, a glass-bottomed swimming pool suspended above the main salon, and double-height spaces for circulation and socialising.



Eastern Promise

Ruea Yachts in Bangkok, Thailand, has produced a new 75-metre concept designed with the Asian market in mind. The first design has been developed for a China-based owner in conjunction with BMT Nigel Gee and UK design studio Design Unlimited, who also provided naval architecture and interior design for the Ruea 60. Gareth Twist, Managing Director of Ruea Yachts and its parent company Yacht Solutions, is a former commercial captain and a founding member of the Asia Pacific Superyacht Association.

The year-round good weather in Asia has influenced the design, in that we have focused on the inclusion of shade decks instead of extensive sundecks, which are typically more popular with

European buyers. The main deck salon leads to a partially covered aft deck dining area for 12 people. Asian owners tend to use their yachts for the entertainment of business people and friends and this consideration has a major influence on the layout, which includes multiple entertainment areas, a karaoke room, a cinema and—with an owner's stateroom and five guest cabins—relatively few cabins because the design is not based on family use.

Key design elements include the light and airy interior spaces, which blend with exterior shaded areas, allowing the accommodation to flow between the two areas. Panoramic windows have been included to provide maximum visibility and maintain this connection with the exterior spaces and the sea, so guests can enjoy the luxury of being inside but not cut off from outside. We have also included a side-opening balcony as a private deck area for the owner.

A below-deck heli garage ensures that helicopter preparations are kept to a minimum and out of sight, allowing

the speed of response that owners expect. Asians typically take a lot of short breaks on their yachts, so flying in and out with ease and efficiency is very important. As it is below deck, the helideck is not just confined to having one function, but can also serve as a party space or gym, for instance. The interiors are Asian inspired with lots of silks and specially commissioned, hand-painted murals. By twinning European design with the flair of our team of Thai craftsmen, we believe shorter lead times and competitive pricing is an enticing proposition for Asian owners who want a superyacht that complements their lifestyle requirements.

A maximum speed in excess of 17 knots is envisaged with a cruising range of over 6,000 nm. The yacht will be Lloyd's certified and built to the MCA Large Yacht Code LY2 with a gross tonnage of 1830gt.