

☆ Feature · 3rd Sep 2019
First Look: Inside Elicyon's £24m show apartment at Chelsea Barracks

Charu Gandhi's super-prime interior design studio unveils a military-inspired project at Qatari Diar's £3.5bn scheme in Belgravia...

Qatari Diar has unveiled the first show apartment at its flagship Chelsea Barracks scheme in Belgravia.

The first wave of residents are due to move into the £3.5bn development later this month, and the project team looks to be on track to deliver the uber-high level of spec we had been expecting.

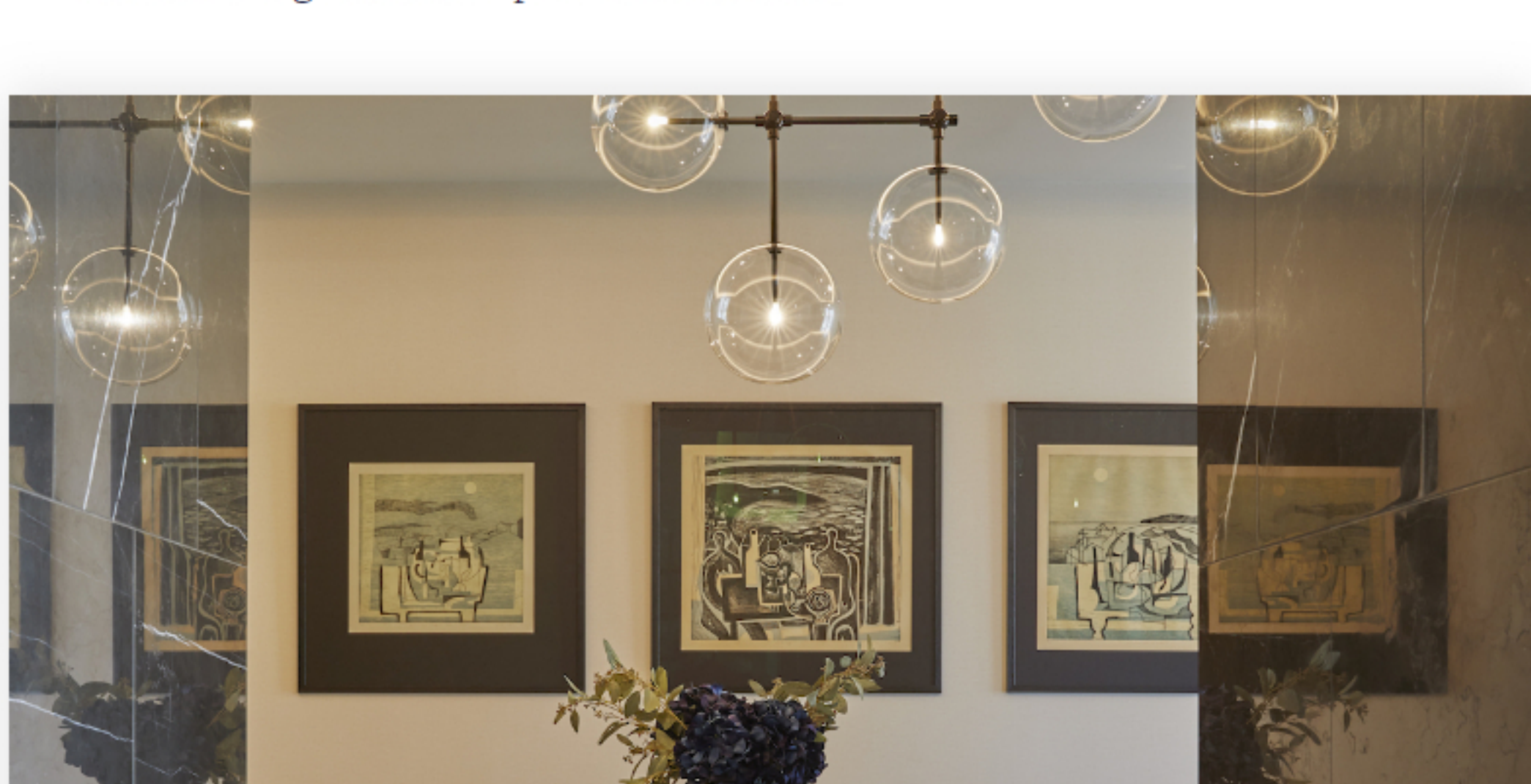
Charu Gandhi's Elicyon has been brought on to design the all-important first furnished residence – a £24m four-bed unit spanning 4,300 square feet on the fifth floor overlooking Whistler Square – drawing on the 12.8-acre site's military provenance and local landmarks to come up with a scheme billed as “relaxed but opulent”.



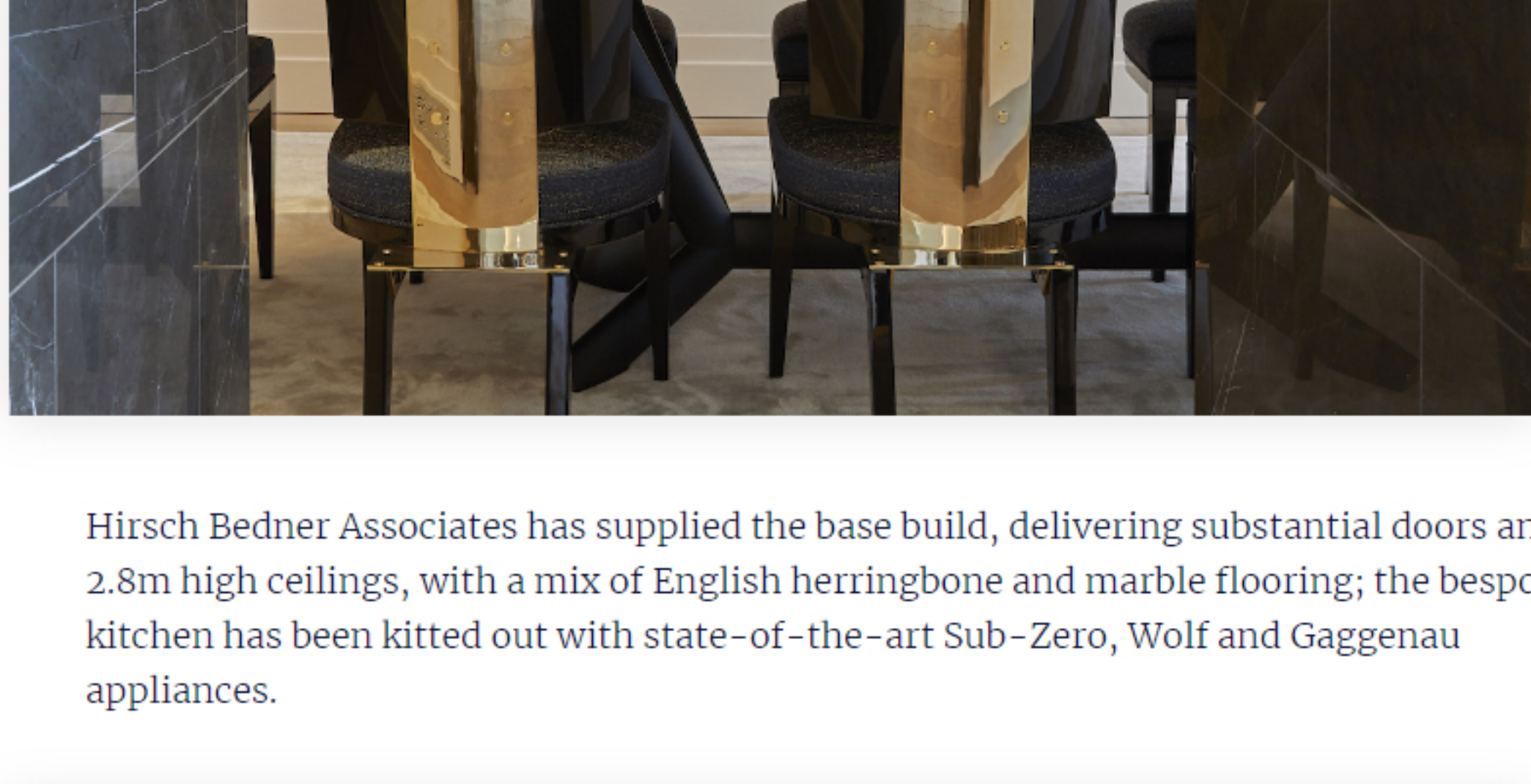
Along with the four ensembles, the layout includes two living rooms, a dining room, cinema room and a study; Elicyon has started with an ivory base, worked in various shades of blue (inspired by the Chelsea Pensioners' uniform), and set it all off with gold accents.

Bespoke joinery references the nearby Chelsea Bridge with some prominent rivet detailing, and an eclectic selection of art and accoutrements range from a framed Hermès scarf, to works sourced from Alfie's Antiques Market.

Pieces from locally-based design houses Andrew Martin, Arteriors and Colbourns feature alongside the bespoke commissions.



Hirsch Bedner Associates has supplied the base build, delivering substantial doors and 2.8m high ceilings, with a mix of English herringbone and marble flooring; the bespoke kitchen has been kitted out with state-of-the-art Sub-Zero, Wolf and Gaggenau appliances.

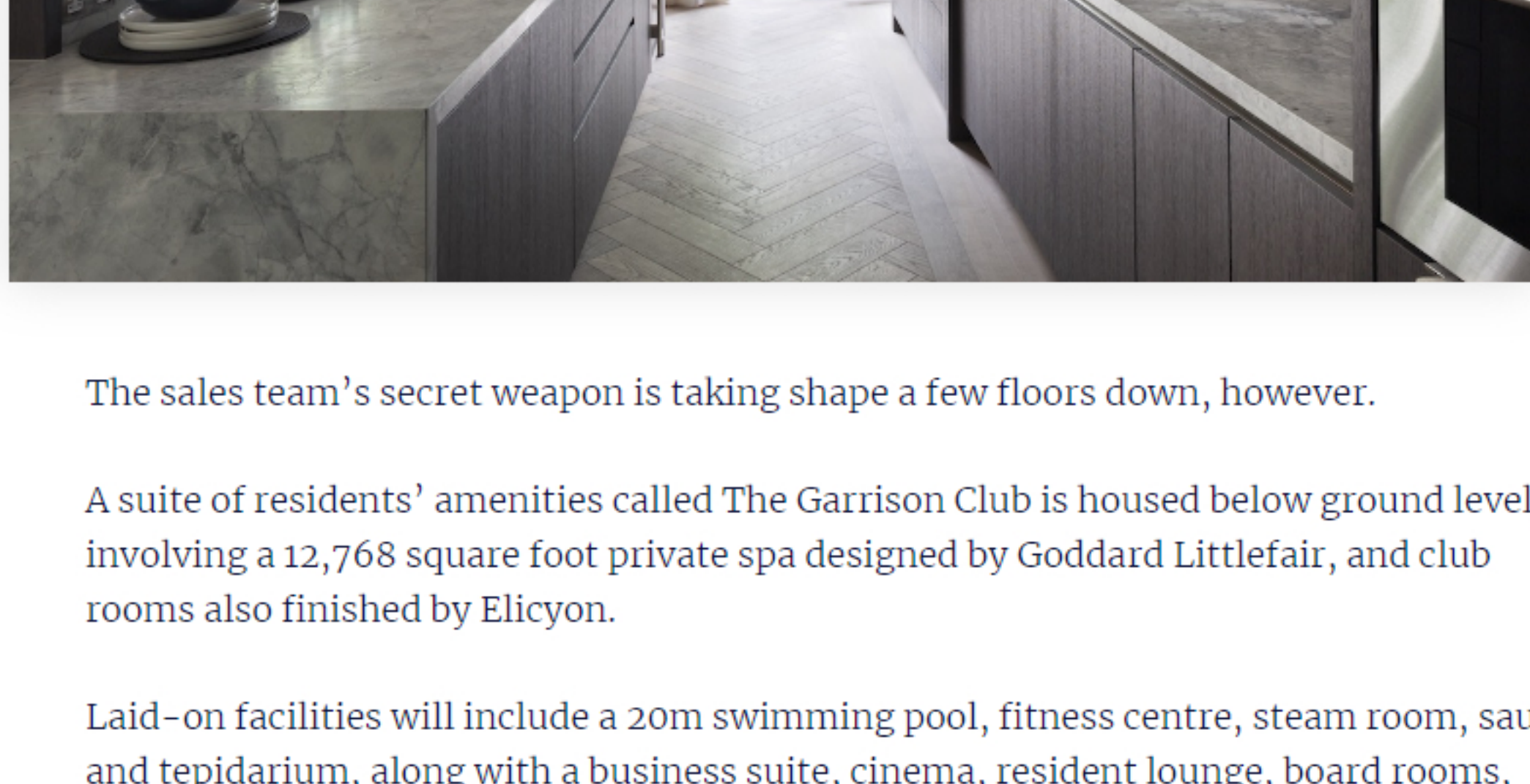


The sales team's secret weapon is taking shape a few floors down, however.

A suite of residents' amenities called The Garrison Club is housed below ground level, involving a 12,768 square foot private spa designed by Goddard Littlefair, and club rooms also finished by Elicyon.

Laid-on facilities will include a 20m swimming pool, fitness centre, steam room, sauna, and tepidarium, along with a business suite, cinema, resident lounge, board rooms, private function room and a games room. A 24-hour concierge is also on hand to provide “lifestyle services”.

Images are being kept under wraps for now, but expect five-star hotel-level stuff – and then some.



Apartments at the scheme start at £5.25m for a two-bed, with townhouses priced from £37m.

Two of the project's seven garden squares – Mulberry Square and Bourne Walk – were opened to the public for the first time in May, having been designed by landscape architect Neil Porter of Gustafson Porter & Bowman, working with four-time Chelsea gold medal winner Jo Thompson.

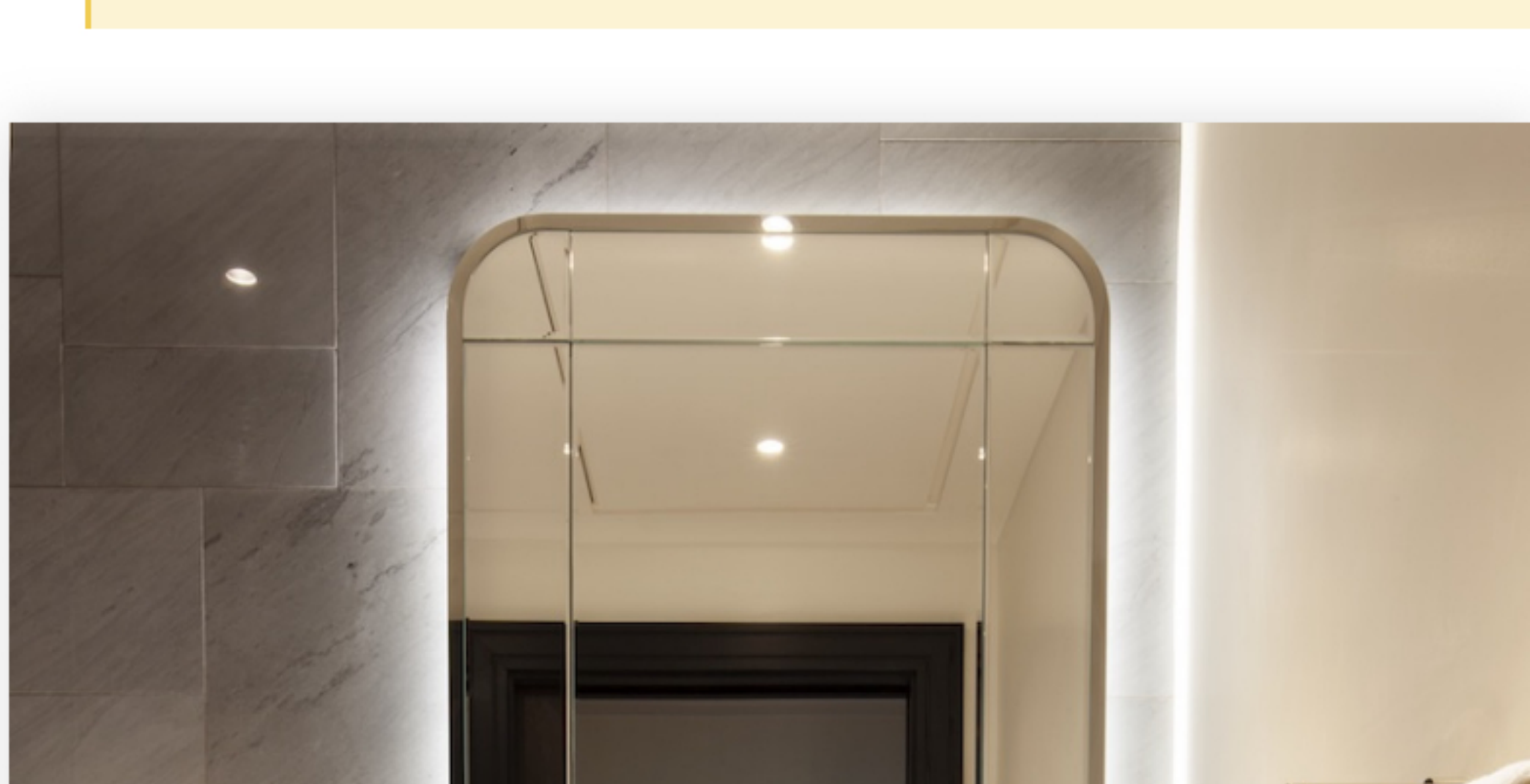


Richard Oakes, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer at Qatari Diar: “The unveiling of our first show residence and The Garrison Club at Chelsea Barracks is a significant moment for us. We are proud to be able to share this experience with our residents, who are set to move in later this September, and showcase the level of attention to detail we, and our partners, have gone to in order to create an exquisite home and lifestyle offering.

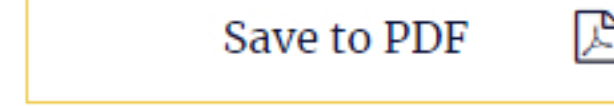
“The residence has been brought to life with a design that will resonate with the tastes of our clientele; this is teamed with a distinct level of quality and conscientiousness that we have consistently sought to deliver across the development. Furthermore, Elicyon has worked closely with us, and our team of collaborators, to design some very special spaces within our first reveal of The Garrison Club. Matching exceptional design with a very unique way of living, our residents will have access to amenities that rival those of a high-end members club.”

Charu Gandhi, the Founder and Director of Elicyon: “We feel hugely privileged to be involved in this truly unique development; it's unusual to be part of a project that allows us so much creative freedom with the materiality.

“Looking into the history of the site, and the local area was a journey of discovery and personally one of my favourite parts of the design process. I am very proud of the final design, our experimentation with colour and the way in which we blended very sleek contemporary aesthetics with vintage pieces to create a rich interior with interesting textures.”



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