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Onboard *Acqua Chiara*

Enrico Chhibber takes a look at the interior design of Columbus' latest delivery, the 47m *Acqua Chiara*, with insights from her owner and design team.

The 47-metre Columbus superyacht *Acqua Chiara* was delivered in 2025 to Italian entrepreneur Danilo Iervolino. She combines elegant exterior styling by Hot Lab with naval architecture by Columbus Yachts.

Originally based on a 43-metre platform, the design was lengthened under Iervolino's direction to achieve better balance and more refined proportions.

Giuseppe Palumbo, Sole Director of Palumbo Superyachts, characterises *Acqua Chiara* as an exclusive and highly customised yacht shaped around a deeply involved client. "This innovative line was born from my own vision, which Hot Lab was able to bring to life. The superyacht combines a distinctive exterior design characterised by sharp yet fluid lines that widen at midship and taper again towards the stern and bow. It's undeniably an innovative design that prioritises onboard liveability and a constant connection with the sea."

Reflecting on the longstanding collaboration behind the project, Antonio Romano, Co-founder and Business

Director at Hot Lab, comments: "Our partnership with Columbus Yachts has been a journey of innovation and excellence, from the first Columbus Sport Hybrid 40m in 2016 to many more prestigious projects such as *Anvilugi*, *Frette* and *Night Fury II*. Long-standing collaborations like ours prove that when expertise and passion unite, the results are truly extraordinary. We look forward to many more successful projects ahead."

For Hot Lab, the project also represents a significant evolution of its design language. Enrico Lumini, Co-founder and Design Director, describes *Acqua Chiara*, the third yacht in the Atlantique line developed with Columbus Yachts, as the first to mark a genuine technical and stylistic shift. "It perfectly embodies Hot Lab's philosophy of 'incremental innovation', which we have pursued for several years. This means constantly improving small elements of each project to optimise both the yacht's construction and the experience on board," he explains.



GIOVANNI MALGARINI



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Interior design: A balance of classic warmth and contemporary detail

Acqua Chiara's interiors are defined by a timeless style enriched with contemporary touches, including the use of Vetrite panels, Sicis mosaic and dark metal-effect finishes. The main saloon is furnished with large custom sofas in white sponge fabric with blue edging, creating a calm, inviting atmosphere reminiscent of an island retreat. Two Fendi Totu armchairs and a teak coffee table complete the arrangement, while white parquet floors combine with natural oak ceilings, partly lacquered in matt white, to create a bright, airy feel.

On both the starboard and port sides, lacquered wood wall coverings with a subtle metal effect frame the expansive floor-to-ceiling windows. Towards the stern, a large Stopsol glass panel integrates a 75-inch television seamlessly into the space.

The professional galley is situated on the port side, while crossing the lobby leads to the owner's suite, which features a generous wardrobe, two Fendi Totu armchairs, and a bathroom with both a tub and a shower. Glass walls in Galaxy blue shades, combined with dark brown leather accents on the bed frame and bedside tables, add depth to the space. Burnished metal finishings complement wall lamps and a table lamp by Bonaldo's Sofi collection, crafted in blown glass and burnished brass, lending a refined touch to the suite. The bathroom combines white marble with shower and wall coverings in silver mosaic, arranged in a geometric design by Galena Sicis, and includes a shower with a hammam system.

Behind the staircase, which is designed in burnished metal with dark brown treads and a hammered brown leather handrail, a Vetrite wall in varying shades creates an eye-catching backdrop. Cantalupi lamps, tubular in borosilicate glass twisted with black and white metal, add an elegant final detail.

Acqua Chiara accommodates up to ten guests across five staterooms, supported by a dedicated crew of nine providing round-the-clock service. On the lower deck forward, the layout includes two staterooms with king-size beds and two with twin beds, each featuring a private marble bathroom finished with Sicis geometric mosaic. To soften the darker tones of the leather bed frames and Vetrite details, a white floor carpet has been selected throughout the sleeping area, creating a lighter, more inviting atmosphere. Decorative appliqué by Bonbori-Brokis recall the traditional paper lamps found in Japanese temples, while the bedside lamps in the double cabins are from Oluce's Superluna line in gold and black metal. All doors in the sleeping quarters are finished in charcoal-grey metal and glass, interlaid with Aquafil metallic fabric by Syntarqui, which contributes to the contemporary yet understated feel.

"*Acqua Chiara* is undoubtedly an expression of this philosophy and of the close relationship we had with the owner, who guided many of the stylistic choices on board. The result is a yacht that feels fresh, rich in contrasting colours and highly personal in its materials, quite different from the earlier *Atlantique* yachts," notes Lumini.



FRASER



FRASER

Length:
47-metres
Builder:
Columbus Yachts
Volume: 496 GT
Ext. and Int. Designer:
Hot Lab
Nav. Arch.:
Colombus Yachts



GIOVANNI MALGARINI



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Exterior spaces: Versatile areas for relaxation and entertainment

Reflecting on the outdoor areas, Iervolino says: "I had long considered building a yacht that combined aesthetic refinement with functional efficiency, reflecting my interest in the sea and in how onboard spaces are designed and experienced."

As with the entire Atlantique range, the stern lines are a defining feature of this superyacht, which draws its identity from a sailing-inspired design philosophy. Externally, the aft spaces are arranged across three closely connected levels. Moving from bow to stern, there is a covered dining area, a central lounge with a scenic pool and fold-out balconies, and finally a platform with transformer positioned just 50 centimetres above the waterline.

The forward section of the upper deck features a scenic swimming pool surrounded by sun loungers, a sofa and side tables. Towards the stern, a spacious lounge area is furnished with sofas and armchairs, along with an eight-seater teak table from the Talenti line that can be easily converted into

an open-air cinema space. Also on this deck, a second formal dining table in teak and marble, paired with Minotti chairs, comfortably seats up to twelve guests. The chandelier above is from the Linea collection by Viabizzuno.

Opening the floor-to-ceiling windows on both sides, together with the glass doors aft, creates an unparalleled sense of being on a terrace suspended above the sea. The bow wall is decorated with a striking custom mosaic installation by Sisis in shades of blue, light blue, black and white. Forward on the port side, there is a pantry and a dayhead, while the lobby leads to the bridge, adjacent to the captain's cabin.

The sundeck centres around a generous relaxation area with sofas and armchairs. A console at the stern and a large sunpad with a bar at the bow complete this versatile space, offering guests multiple options for enjoying life outdoors.

At this size, the yacht reaches the 500 GT limit, and its proportions are more slender than the previous models, which are four metres shorter. "This fully expresses the design of the line, which is very soft, elegant and modern," explains Lumini.



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A dedicated vision for charter hospitality

Reflecting on the project's purpose, Iervolino explains that *Acqua Chiara* was conceived entirely for charter, with the aim of developing a professional venture in luxury hospitality at sea. "I wanted to engage with the sector by offering a charter experience that prioritises both design and service at the highest level," he says.

The yacht, which is managed by Fraser Yachts, already has several bookings and will remain in the Mediterranean this season, primarily cruising between the Côte d'Azur, the Costa Smeralda and the Amalfi Coast. Iervolino adds that few yachts in this segment offered the same combination of aesthetic refinement and attention to detail that he sought to achieve.

"Great care has been taken with every aspect of the experience, from Hermès tableware and Loro Piana cashmere throws to a curated wine selection, scented candles and high-end bath products. The intention was to deliver a consistently elevated charter experience across all touchpoints onboard."

Although he plans to spend a few days on board as a guest, Iervolino is clear that *Acqua Chiara* is not for private use. "The project was never intended for my own use but rather for delivering a genuinely refined charter experience," he concludes. 🌊