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EXCLUSIVE INTERIORS FROM AUSTRALIAN DESIGN ACES

SMART

SPACES

Diverse in form and function, these five svelte re-imagined dwellings each demonstrate the creative magic of constraints.



This page In the hallway, a Pretziada 'Nannai' chair by Chiara Andreatti and 'Bogdan' side table by Studiointervallo, both from Origine, with large ceramic sculpture by Ella Bendrups from Pepite. On the wall is *Coral Moon*, a tapestry sculpture by Vanessa Barragao and Marta Figueiredo from Figgoscope Curates. In the foreground is a Pretziada 'Accanta' collection table in cork by Maddalena Casadei and Falegnameria Pisu.



These pages In the kitchen, the architecture and interiors are by Rob Mills Architecture & Interiors. Space Copenhagen 'Mater' stools from Cult. Gaggenau oven from Winning Appliances. Bloc Studios 'Eduard' vase in White and 'Ottilie' vase in Portugal Pink from Bachli Furniture. Barbera 'Zig Zag' custom console with ceramic egg sculpture by Joseph Turrin from Pepite. Artwork by Mali Carew from Queenscliff Gallery. Custom American oak dining table by Swee Design made by Arranmore Furniture. Gubi 'Gent' chairs from In Good Company. 'Lavo' rug from Kvadrat. 'Leeroy' sofa in Kvadrat 'Vidar' fabric from Jardan. Custom cushion in Catherine Martin 'Jungle Room Antique' fabric from Mokum Textiles.

Architect & Interior designer
Rob Mills Architecture & Interiors
Interior designer & Art consultant
Swee Lim

VOLUME CONTROL

[South Yarra]

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FROM THE COSY, INTIMATE library in warm, smoky ‘linseed’ tones to the lush botanical-themed interiors, all the elements in this home tell a magical story, says interior designer and art consultant Swee Lim of Swee Design. *How did you become involved with this project?* A pair of empty nesters, my clients purchased a Rob Mills-designed apartment wanting to imbue it with a European sensibility. They left behind their traditional aesthetic in favour of a fresh, contemporary and vibrant look. *What was the starting point for the interiors?* The couple had a deep love of books and wanted their home to centre around a European-style library. I did this by adding wall-to-wall bookcases to cater for their thousands of treasured tomes and created floor-to-ceiling joinery with a rolling ladder to complete the look. *What were the challenges of the space and how did you resolve them?* It was important to delineate the living, dining and kitchen zone while still ensuring the room

looked cohesive overall. We achieved this with a large feature light over the custom dining table to anchor the space and by layering artworks, bold colours, texture and sculptural forms. *How would you describe the completed interior?* Unique and artisanal with a personality that reflects their artistic interests and *joie de vivre*. We adopted a cosmopolitan approach to furniture, choosing an eclectic mix of unusual classic and modern pieces. Statement, limited-edition items from overseas sourced via Origine sit seamlessly alongside Australian designs. *What are some of your favourite elements?* As an art consultant I enjoyed the interplay of indigenous works by Christine Nakamarra Curtis and contemporary pieces by Sue Lovegrove, Dena Kahan and performative artist Gosia Wlodarczak. I especially loved working with Sam Michelle to commission her largest ever piece — a botanical still life which references floras meaningful to my clients. Designing custom pieces such as the



These pages, clockwise from left Swee designed the American oak dining table made by Arranmore Furniture. Gubi ‘Gent’ chairs from In Good Company. On table, Guaxs bowl from Mondopiero. Ralph Lauren ‘Cara’ pendant light from Montauk Lighting. ‘Lavo’ rug from Kvadrat. On island, Bloc Studios vessel by Studiopepe from Bachli Furniture. Artwork by Sam Michelle from Gallerysmith. ‘Puku’ ottoman from Coco Flip. ‘Oasis’ coffee and side tables from Domo with (from left) stylist’s own plates and sculpture by Scott McNeil from Fletcher Art with ceramic vase by Rina Bernabei from Pepite. Bench seat by Swee Design made by Arranmore Furniture with ceramic vase from Emily Gillis and ‘Orbit’ and ‘Bloom’ vases by Mali Taylor, all from Pepite. Next to the ‘Leeroy’ sofa from Jordan, small ‘Giro’ side table by Pedro Paulo-Venzon for Viccarbe from Ajar. Gubi ‘Stay’ chair from In Good Company. Viccarbe ‘Trino’ side table by Elisa Ossino from Ajar. Artwork by Gosia Wlodarczak. Azure sideboard from Jetclass. On sideboard, from left: small Pierre Jaune ceramic cup and ‘Tunda’ vase by Valentina Cameranesi and Walter Usai both from Origine, white vase from Cromwell and owners’ cakestand. Vintage French antique floor lamp from Rachel Donath. Two artworks by Christine Nakamarra Curtis from Flinders Lane Gallery. Barbera bronze coatstand from Fletcher Art.



SMART SPACES



This page, clockwise from top left Above the bed, artwork by Sue Lovegrove from Gallerysmith. 'Astrid' throw and bedlinen from Abode. Client's own bedside table. Tooy 'Gordon' table lamp by Corrado Dotti and small black 'Limpia' bowl by Maria Paola for Pretziada both from Origine. 3D-printed pinched ceramic vase by Alterfact from Pepite. On the terrace, Manutti 'Minus' dining table from Cosh Living. Varaschin Prodotti 'Emma' cross chairs from Pad Furniture. On table, from left: David Ray spoons. Platter and chalice by Barbera from Fletcher Art. 'Settiu' vessel by Maria Paola for Pretziada from Origine. In the library, rug from Halcyon Lake. Kooij 'Stopstool', next to La Manufacture 'Moro' armchair and La Manufacture 'Intersection' chair, all from Origine. Green Mario Bellini vintage armchair. In the centre of the room is a Moroso 'Net' coffee table from Mobilia. Beside the Gubi '9602' floor lamp is a 'Nuna' side table by Sebastian Herkner for Ames from Origine. Sculpture by Kirsten Perry from Pepite. Custom joinery painted in Dulux 'Linseed' with custom ladder by Fineform Joinery. On bottom shelf from left: Kirsten Perry Petal ceramic sculpture from Pepite; 'Oil Slick' vessel by Tessy King from Pepite. First shelf: Sculpture by Ebony Russell from Fletcher Arts. Second shelf: Ceramic vase by Dawn Vachon from Pepite.



dining table with its cut-out leg detail creates points of interest. *What informed the selection of furniture, art, fittings and finishes?* An accomplished botanical artist, my client's own works became the inspiration for the deep, forest-green palette and rich jewel tones. This can be seen in the verdant, green sofa and rug with accents of plum and caramel. We intended to evoke a lush botanical landscape with the interior furnishings connecting seamlessly to the greenery seen through the balcony. *Were there any devices employed to maximise the sense of space?* I transformed the space with sophisticated colour and a richly layered materials palette – dark timber, leather, bouclé and woven textiles. The handmade weaving of the balcony setting integrates and expands the indoor-outdoor space. We achieved the library's cosy, old-world intimacy with warm, smoky 'linseed' tones. *What do you enjoy about being in the space?* I love the celebration of craftsmanship and the dynamic mix of classic furniture alongside ultra-contemporary pieces. All the elements tell a story right down to the objects, accessories and one-off Pretziada vases, a handcrafted ceramic style unique to Sardinia. sweedesign.com.au; robmills.com.au

