

POOLED RESOURCES

Hugging a centrally positioned swimming pool, the interiors of this Melbourne family home pick up on its wonderfully watery outlook.

STORY *Laura Barry* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Martina Gemmola*

KITCHEN “The kitchen has a great layout, with plenty of drawers and cupboards, and a butler’s pantry,” says homeowner Tiffany. Cabinetry is a blend of Eco Timber charred battens (island), two-pack polyurethane in Dulux Silkworth (lower right), Ventech veneer in Ebon (upper right) and Duropal in Cinnamon Oak (bar nook). Benchtops in Caesarstone Airy Concrete. Splashbacks in Sareen marble from Signorino. Stools, owners’ existing.

DINING A striking Xavier Lust 'Confluence' dining table is surrounded by Softline 'Karm' chairs, all from Collective. Hanging above the table is a Weplight 'Renata 80' pendant light from Enlightened Living. Hekke engineered-timber boards, Tongue N Groove Flooring. **KITCHEN** *Opposite, left* Hanging over the island is an Archier 'Highline' pendant light. The island's base features charred battens from Eco Timber while the black upper cabinets are Ventech veneer in Ebon. Sareen marble splashback, Signorino. Mixer tap, Brodware. **BAR NOOK** *Opposite, right* Marble from Signorino also stars in the built-in bar area. Glasses, Hay. Jug, Royal Doulton. *Booker* artwork by Katie Wyatt from Bluethumb.



“THE OWNERS WANTED AN IMPRESSIVELY ELEGANT AND BOLD DESIGN THAT WOULD INVITE RELAXATION AND SUIT THEIR BUSY FAMILY PERFECTLY.”

MIKAYLA ROSE, INTERIOR DESIGNER

Sometimes an internet search can deliver gold - and that was certainly the case for homeowners Tiffany and Jonathan, who in 2016 discovered this 1920s gem south-east of Melbourne's CBD. From the minute they clicked on the property to take a look, they were captivated by its beautiful facade, tree-lined street and enviable location.

The house is set back substantially from the street on its 687-square-metre block, allowing lots of space for a welcoming front garden. “We purchased the house knowing it required quite a lot of work,” says Tiffany. “Living in it for about a year prior to renovating helped us to confirm exactly what needed to happen to improve the utility and feel of the house.”

Once renovation plans had been drawn up and a builder was appointed, Tiffany and Jonathan contacted Mikayla Rose at interior design firm Heartly. Her job was to help them create a home perfectly tailored to them and their four children - James,

19, Zac, 17, Samuel, 13, and Heidi, 11 - plus their dog, Frankie, a ‘beaglier’ (a beagle and cavalier King Charles spaniel cross). “We worked with Jonathan and Tiffany to review the building design through an interiors lens,” says Mikayla. “We set out to ensure the structure and interiors would be harmonious. The interior design process took about three months and the renovation happened over a period of 10 months.”

The owners came to Heartly with “very good taste and a strong vision of what they love in a home”, she says, but they also knew they could use some assistance in successfully pulling all their favoured design details together. “They wanted an impressively elegant and bold design that would invite relaxation and suit their busy family perfectly,” says Mikayla.

Adds Tiffany: “It was important that we retain the facade and original features of the home, but we wanted the new areas to be light filled and large enough for the six of us.” Soaring ceilings were high on the wish list, as was making the most ►

LIVING A vibrant painting by Belynda Henry pops against the walls, which are painted Dulux Vivid White (throughout). Sareen marble from Signorino is used as a feature beneath the Jetmaster fire. Joinery by Creative Design Cabinets. Kelly armchair and Bandy side table from Jordan. Rug from Halcyon Lake Rugs & Carpets.

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TIFFANY, HOMEOWNER

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.

THE PALETTE

Dulux
Vivid White
(interior,
throughout)

Dulux Silkwort
(kitchen joinery)

Porter's Paints
English Rose

FESTIVE SPIRIT

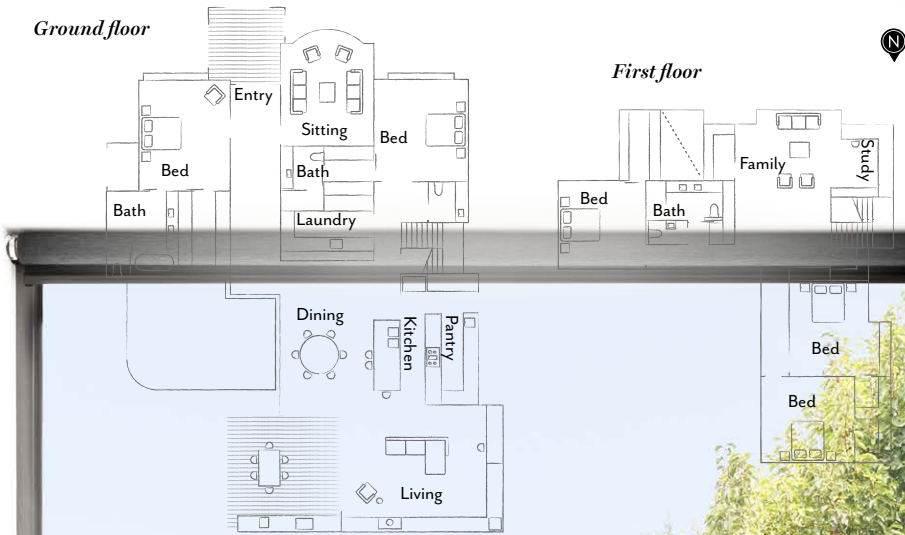
Jonathan and Tiffany kept their family and friends well apprised of the renovation as it was being carried out, so this festive season the couple is keen to share the fruits of their labour with those they couldn't see throughout the year. “We're looking forward to enjoying the festive season outdoors with the barbecue on and Champagne flowing,” says Tiffany. “Hopefully we'll have unlimited time together with friends and family. After all, that's what Christmas is about.” ▶



LIVING A generous King ‘Zaza’ sofa offers maximum family comfort, with the Sareen marble joinery by Creative Design Cabinets extending around the room to provide overflow seating. A Softline ‘Maya Sled’ chair from Collective is positioned by the custom-built study nook. Both artworks are by Belynda Henry. **BATHROOM** The vanity and mirror are custom designs by Heartly, made by Creative Design Cabinets using Duropal laminate in Cinnamon Oak. Sareen marble and Shanghai Iron floor tiles, all Signorino. Aveo RS12 bath, Kaskade Stone Baths & Basins. Tapware, Phoenix Tapware. Wall lights, Lighting Collective. Square mosaic wall tiles in Blush, Academy Tiles+Surfaces. ►



THE LAYOUT



of the north-facing living areas and backyard. The renovation retained the broad original hallway, main bedroom suite and formal living room, and saw the house sited to maximise views of the pool throughout – it now serves as a backdrop to the entry, ground-floor bathroom and the open-plan living space. The entry hall wraps around the generous kitchen, living and dining zone, then leads to a laundry, powder room, parents’ retreat, and Heidi’s bedroom and ensuite. Upstairs is the family room, a bedroom for each of the three sons, a bathroom and study.

“The building designer very cleverly focused on the centrally located pool,” says Mikayla. “So we drew upon this element when we were planning the interior design – layering materials and shapes, and designing interior details with the water views informing the palette.” Tiffany and Jonathan also had a clear idea of the finishing touches they wanted: “A little gold here and there, some marble, wood, dark cabinetry and blush-pink tiles thrown in for good measure – we think it works!”

The neutral yet playful palette is very much based on hues found in the pool and garden, with the soft tones and natural surfaces punctuated by bright artworks and accessories bursting with energy. Charred timber, venetian plaster, aged brass, natural stone, timber veneer, leather and glass all play an important role in the structure of the interiors, with one layered upon another to create depth and personality.

“Subtle curves are repeated throughout the interior, including in the floor with the oversized marble hearth inset flush to the contrasting timber, and punctuated by an aged-brass strip that flows under the joinery,” says Mikayla.

Ultimately, despite permit delays and long lead times for materials, the entire renovation took place between June 2018 and October 2019. “It’s a pleasure to come home to this house, with its views of the pool,” says Tiffany. “We’ve achieved what we set out to do: have a beautiful family home with space for all.” **H&G**
Heartly, Abbotsford, Victoria; 0447 006 449 or heartly.com.au.

MAIN BEDROOM The artwork, *Foggy Morning II*, by Michelle Keighley, sets a moody tone in the bedroom. Elmview carpet in Northern Sky, Victoria Carpets. Curtains in Kyoto Mist fabric from James Dunlop Textiles. Fritz Hansen ‘PI’ pendant light, Cult Design. Bedlinen, Jordan.



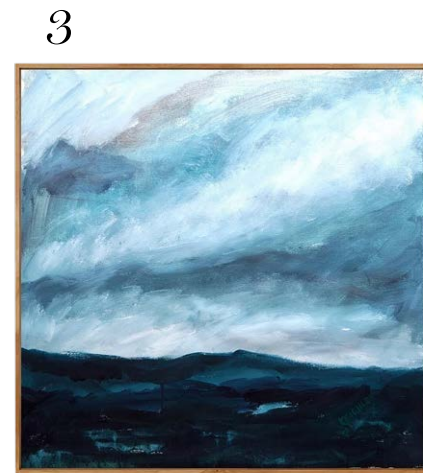
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THE SOURCE

Bring in a little zing: bursts of colour and punchy pattern will introduce new energy.



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12

Produced by Saffron Sylvester.

1 La DoubleJ x Salviatti Murano glass **wineglasses**, \$1200/set of 4, MatchesFashion. 2 Glitter Pomegranate **garland** (163cm), \$109, Amara. 3 *Passing Rain No.3* **artwork** by Michelle Keighley, \$850 (unframed), Bluethumb. 4 Phoenix ‘Nostalgia’ **pull-out sink mixer** in Antique Black, \$899, Harvey Norman. 5 Camila 67 **pendant light**, from \$2079, Enlightened Living. 6 Eileen **outdoor dining table** by Tom Fereday for SP01, \$5070, Space. 7 Superfresco Easy **wallpaper** in Calico Stone, \$82/10m roll, Bunnings. 8 Renaissance Gold **serving bowl**, \$269, Wedgwood. 9 MissoniHome ‘Rufus’ **hand and bath towels**, \$415/5-piece set, MatchesFashion. 10 Renaissance Gold **dinner set**, \$349/5-piece place setting, Wedgwood. 11 Flexform ‘Adagio’ **modular sofa**, from \$14,990, Fanuli. 12 Zampa **bar stool** by Jasper Morrison for Mattiazzi, from \$605, District. *For Where to Buy, see page 190.*