

# SPACES

Dream

Be inspired by these amazing designer homes and spaces from around the world. TEXT Clare Ryan, Jessica Matthews



## PRIVATE WORLD

Encasing this decadent beachside home in Sydney, a system of dark folding blinds keeps the interior temperate while adding structural impact. The blinds form a sophisticated carapace when extended, folding back to reveal panoramic ocean views from within. Designed by Chenow Little Architects, this home is a winner of the coveted Robin Boyd Award for Residential Architecture. Visit [www.chenowlittle.com](http://www.chenowlittle.com).

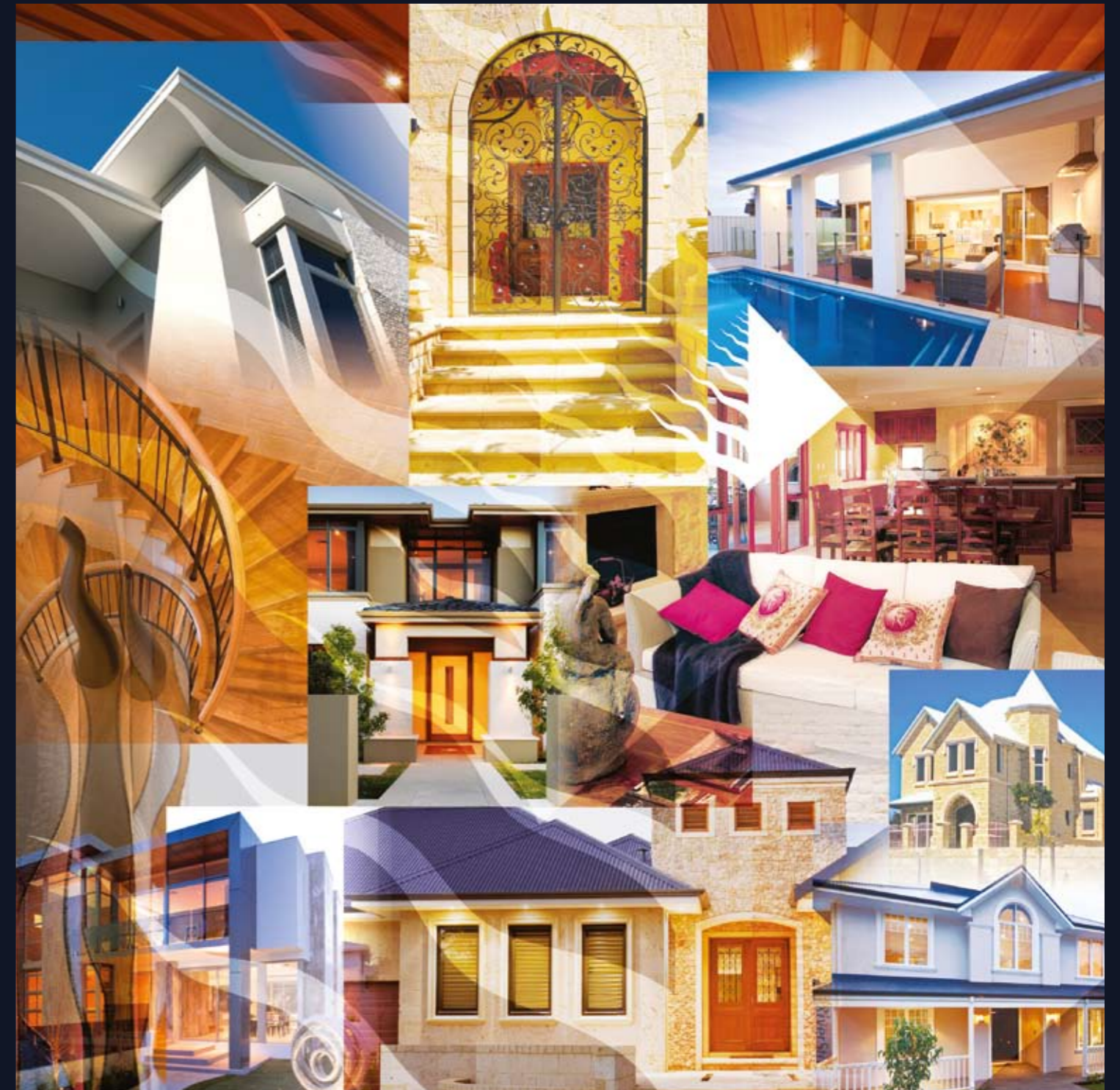


# A SPLASH OF COLOUR

The use of colour throughout the living areas of this Netherlands home is a standout design element. The abstract home is split into two levels with a working area on the lower level and a small, open apartment on the upper level. Downstairs, the transition between inside and outside is marked by an overall colouring of walls, ceiling and floor in a shade of warm yellow. A dash of the same colour is used to highlight various areas upstairs, creating a link between the levels. Visit [www.gaaga.nl](http://www.gaaga.nl).



Image Marcel van der Burg, [www.primabeeld.nl](http://www.primabeeld.nl)



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## TIMELESS ELEGANCE

In restoring this federation home, Hare + Klein Interior Design focused on embracing its original structure while adding contemporary elements. The result is subtle and eclectic, with features such as traditional arched doorways offset by on-trend, modern furniture. This home won the Residential Decoration Award at the 2011 Australian Interior Design Awards. Visit [www.hareklein.com.au](http://www.hareklein.com.au).



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## DARK STAR

It's rare to stumble across a home that features a completely black exterior and still complements the landscape. The use of rough black-stained timber boards on this New Zealand home creates a strong form on the rural landscape. The sculptural quality of the home and black exterior are complemented by the light palette of the interior. The home won an award at the 2011 New Zealand Architecture Awards in the Residential Category. Visit [www.stevenslawson.co.nz](http://www.stevenslawson.co.nz).





## BIG APPLE BITE

From the elevated glass-case bedrooms to the blown-glass pendant lights, this New York-style loft by Fearon Hay Architects in New Zealand is a highly crafted space. The raised surfaces are placed among the existing structural elements of columns and beams, and corbels combined with layers of fabric screens and sliding panels create the option of separate areas in an otherwise open loft space. The home won an award at the 2011 New Zealand Architecture Awards in the Residential Category. Visit [www.fearonhay.com](http://www.fearonhay.com).

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## CONTEMPORARY CLASSIC

Architect James Jones designed this award-winning Hobart home, which retains some of its original structure from the 1970s. A mix of old and new elements – such as the traditional pitched ceiling and modern, box-like retreat – evokes a timeless feel throughout. The spaces are connected by large glazed walls that open up the interior and assist with ventilation. Visit [www.architectus.com.au](http://www.architectus.com.au).



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## SLEEK MODERNISM

Instead of rebuilding, the architects behind this Perth home elected to revise the boxy, 1980s structure down to its modernist foundations. A sense of transparency is created through polished marble, glass and concealed sliding screen doors – making room for the owner's eclectic collection of art, furniture and homewares. Contact *Walter Hunter & Penny Watson Architects*, (08) 9386 5666.

# ROUGH DIAMOND

There's something artfully unfinished about the interior of this home, which offers grey bricks, polished cement floors and exposed beams. It all adds up to a raw, understated style, complemented by a spacious design with expansive windows. The look is finished with a collection of sleek, retro-styled furniture. Visit [www.neesonmurcutt.com](http://www.neesonmurcutt.com).



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## IN THE FRAME

Perched high in the Hollywood Hills, the design of this home takes full advantage of the dramatic 180-degree views. The living space is a mix of connecting interior and exterior spaces and the upward inflection of the roof plane also expands the view framed by the house facing south and west. Visit [www.assembledge.com](http://www.assembledge.com).

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## RUSTIC CHARM

The warm texture of this blackbutt timber home in country Victoria makes it one of a kind. The mix of steel, concrete and timber exudes fine craftsmanship. Standout features include dark polished concrete floors, high ceilings, large windows and a crafted wooden wall in the main living area. This home won numerous awards at the 2011 Australian Interior Design Awards including the Premier Award for Interior Design Excellence and Innovation. Visit [www.wolveridge.com.au](http://www.wolveridge.com.au).





## A SOFT GLOW

Shades of green and blue glass create a striking textured coloured wall that glows at dawn and dusk. The new design of the worker's cottage reinterprets the verandah and undercroft spaces by not focusing on the old building details. The small gallery and office space is at street level and opens to engage with the street, while the glazing provides privacy from neighbours. The textured and coloured glass walls filter light through the area and on to the light stone and concrete. This home was the winner in the category of Colour in Residential Design Award at the 2011 Australian Interior Design Awards. Visit [www.jamesrussellarchitect.com.au](http://www.jamesrussellarchitect.com.au).

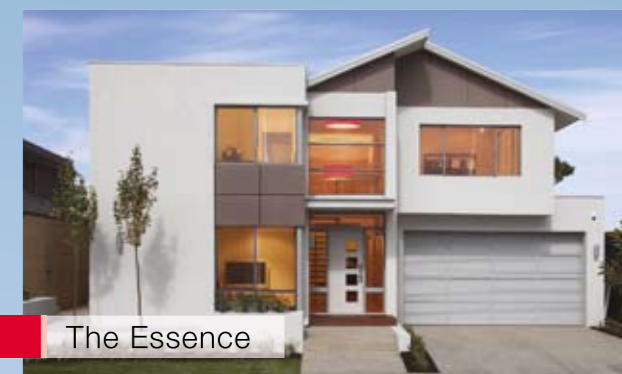
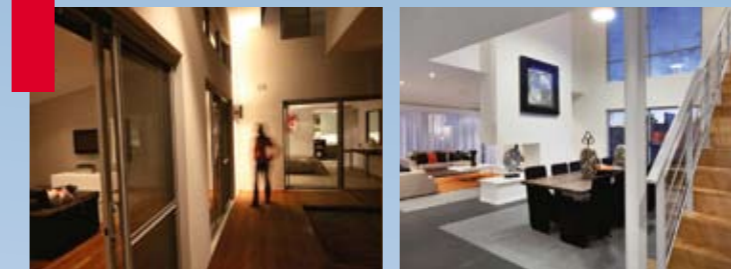


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# FLOATING ON AIR

You can't go past the creative use of wood in this Japanese traditional home. The project is a renovated home that still maintains the feeling of open space characteristic of the traditional Japanese home. The distinctive wooden staircase consists of wooden blocks that appear to float to the second level. The spiral staircase has added interest with each step designed with a hexagonal timber structure. The use of wood and the warm tones continue through the home with pinewood used for the floor. Visit [www.ysmr.com](http://www.ysmr.com).



Image Chieki Yasukawa



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## URBAN CHIC

A sense of the city defines this home, which is inspired by the European style of open-plan architecture. Rooms and hallways unfold efficiently, like an urban building, creating distinctly public and private spaces. The minimal design is given warmth through maple flooring and a cosy third-storey loft. Visit [www.studio27arch.com](http://www.studio27arch.com).



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## BACK TO NATURE

The popular trend of blending the boundaries between indoor and outdoor living is successful in this design by LOVE Architecture and Urbanism in Austria. The interior of the house is based around the one main living space that is surrounded by large sliding doors and large-scale vitrification, which opens the entire property on to the land and creates extended living spaces. Visit [www.love-home.com](http://www.love-home.com).





## COOL CHARM

White walls, natural light and glass play a vital role in creating a spacious two-storey home. The home consists of two rectangular buildings connected through the entry foyer. The main living areas are designed to have views of the river and the careful placement of feature windows opens the home from all angles. Visit [www.studio27arch.com](http://www.studio27arch.com).



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Photo courtesy Signature Custom Homes



## RESORT LIVING

Designed around a swimming pool, the layout of this 'beach house' seems logical given its location in the resort community of Fire Island, New York. The pool acts as a centre for social interaction, incorporating spaces for lounging, dining and entertaining. The holiday vibe extends to other key living areas, which are positioned to maximise sunlight at different times of day. Visit [www.studio27arch.com](http://www.studio27arch.com).



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## LESS IS MORE

The first design element you notice about this home is the V-shaped roof. Constructed of wood, the roof dips in the middle of the house allowing natural exposed beams to be a feature of the home. A sense of space is achieved by the positioning of windows, skylights, and openings between the bearing wall and the front. The simple use of natural materials such as wood and stone adds to the timeless style. Visit [www.gaaga.nl](http://www.gaaga.nl).



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