



Jason's homeMADE: THE BEST & WORST MOMENTS

Week 3: 'I'm a beach boy and I loved the chance to create a beach house. I was inspired by the Caribbean and the Hamptons places I'd visited when I was modelling.'

Week 5: 'This was my first bathroom and it was quite a challenge. I loved the bi-fold windows and the ornate mirror – and the fact that we completely relocated the bathroom!'

Week 8: 'I was proud of the final house – I felt it said something about me, what I'm about. I loved the fact that I got to use the wicker chairs in the dining room. I loved my last bathroom too even though the judges thought it was a bit dark!'

The worst part of the competition was knocking on the door each week and meeting the clients for the first time. For the next five weeks all you could think about was design. You'd dream about it while you were asleep and you'd wake up thinking about it. It was intense. The first week was the toughest. That was harder than putting a whole house together at the end of the competition.'

MEET THE WINNER!

Congratulations to Sydney interior designer Jason Sullivan, winner of Nine's homeMADE, the biggest home renovation competition ever seen on television.

Born in Newcastle and now living on Sydney's northern beaches, winning designer Jason Sullivan was the only one of the ten homeMADE designers with no formal training in interior design. But with nearly 20 years' experience as an international model and having lived all over the world, he'd absorbed and enjoyed design culture from London to Los Angeles, Miami to Milan. Over the years his passion for the runway was supplanted by a passion for interior design and while living in LA he started advising friends and colleagues on their decorating dilemmas. 'Besides which,' he laughs, 'I knew I needed a career change when I started turning up for modelling jobs and I'd be asked if I was the photographer'. In 2006 Jason moved back to Australia and started an apprenticeship with established Sydney interior designer Thomas Hamel. 'I was starting at the bottom' he admits, 'but it was a great beginning and a fantastic opportunity to re-orientate myself in Sydney.'

'When I heard about homeMADE I had to apply. I thought it would be a great way to show my creativity – or lack of it – either jump-starting or miserably ending my short career in interior design. I knew I would do whatever it takes to win and at 37, I wanted to get it happening quickly. I had this really strong faith that I could do it and managed to convince myself and the producers that I was right for the show.'

Jason describes his style as traditional, earthy and a little bit spiritual. 'I guess traditional is the opposite of modern,' he explains. 'I believe a home should be a sanctuary. Ideally I like to mix old pieces like antique sofas and French period paintings with more contemporary, industrial salvage pieces. I like a dark edge too, a touch of Blade Runner.'

His work on homeMADE's sixteen houses showed what the judges saw as a sophistication and sensitivity that set him apart from his fellow competitors. Jason Sullivan is a name to watch.



homeMADE as seen on **9**



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