

MOOD BOOST

Words **JUDY PASCOE** Photography **PRUE RUSCOE**

A colourful palette and quirky custom designs put a playful vintage spin on this Byron Bay holiday house providing the Melbourne owners with a great escape.



These pages, from left The beachhouse enjoys a relaxed vibe with plenty of opportunity for outdoor living. Custom dining table by Jase Sullivan with top in Jatana Interiors tiles, from Eastern Forge. Tectona dining chairs from Classic with a Twist with upholstery by The Dusty Road in Peter Dunham 'Zanzibar' in Ocean from Ascraft. Vintage tiles in servery from Jatana Interiors. Terracotta pots from Fossil Vintage and The Vault Sydney. Candlesticks from Rudi Rocket. Gubi 'Bohemian 72' lounge setting from Cult with tiled coffee table from Angelucci 20th Century. Tectona sunlounger from Classic with a Twist with custom powdercoating and upholstery in Peter Dunham 'Amida' in Red on Natural from Ascraft. Jase added a stacked stone wall to the living area as a feature. Vintage 60s Carlo Nason for Mazzega lamp from Lumini Collections. On shelves, from left, brown vessel by Emma Gale, vintage vase from Rudi Rocket, yellow vase by Mari Masot. Aqua vase by Emma Gale, artwork by Kirsten Chambers from Pack Gallery Studio. Orange check vases by Amy Leeworthy.



Peripatetic interior designer Jase Sullivan puts his frequent travels to good use, finding inspiration everywhere he goes. When he was approached to redesign this Byron Bay house his thoughts immediately turned to his recent holiday in Porto Rafael in Sardinia where he was inspired by the 60s architecture of Michele Busiri Vici.

Referencing the central courtyards and arches as well as the white render of Vici's designs Jase set to work to recreate a Mediterranean-style villa at Clarkes Beach. For the Melbourne-based owners this was to be a glorious escape to a lifestyle revolving around the sun and sea. A recently wed couple their family includes adult offspring who would also be using the house.

With a very private location and a short distance to the Byron village, the four-bedroom house dates from the 70s and had undergone several renovations in a mid-century modern style that the owners did not favour. They had already begun a part renovation but were uncertain of a design direction. When Jase came on board he quickly devised a plan to knock down walls, reorganise the layout and create a central courtyard that would be the focal point of the house. "It was a much bigger renovation than the owners had imagined but they loved the ideas," he says.

The dated aluminium windows and doors were replaced with black-steel-framed versions and the existing concrete floors were topped with oak for a warmer feeling. Internal walls and ceilings were coated with tadelakt and the bedrooms enlivened with quirky wallpapers and textiles and detailed joinery. In the hallway he added a stacked stone feature wall that is reminiscent of similar designs from the 60s. »

These pages, above and opposite page The living room is vibrant with pattern and colour. Marco Zanuso 'Lady' chair from Colecta Rara upholstered in Pierre Frey Boussac 'Nestor'. Vintage 60s Carlo Nason for Mazzega lamp from Lumini Collections in front of an artwork by Diana Miller. Custom sofa by Jase Sullivan upholstered by The Dusty Road in fabrics from Tigger Hall Design. Custom coffee table by Jase Sullivan made by Arca Joinery. On table, chess set from Tigmi Trading, striped vase by Amy Leeworthy, ceramic plate from Newrybar Merchants. Vintage lucite side table and rug from Tigmi Trading. Cushions from Marr-kett. Piet Hein Eek dining table from Studio ALM with 'Les Oreilles' vase from Tigmi Trading. Custom chairs by Jase Sullivan made by Buywood Furniture with seats upholstered in Peter Dunham 'Malabar' in Indigo from Ascraft. Wrought-iron 14-arm light fitting from Tamsin Johnson. **Below** Kitchen stool from Rachel Donath with custom powdercoating and upholstery in Peter Dunham 'Masai' in Red from Ascraft. *Critical Mass* artwork by Damian Bisogni from Pack Gallery Studio. Handmade square Moroccan tiles with vintage border tiles from Jatana Interiors on benchtop and splashback. Terracotta bowl from The Vault Sydney. On island bench, vase from The Flower Bar Co and 'Les Oreilles' vase from Tigmi Trading. 'XL Funnel' pendant light from Natalie Page. Cabinetry handles from Lo&Co.



This page Custom stacked stone wall in the hallway with wall lights from Bloomingdales Lighting with shades in Peter Dunham custom fabric from Ascraft. Vintage chairs, Robert Stewart art print and Beni M'Rit rug, all from Tigmi Trading. **Opposite page, clockwise from top left** In the second sitting room is a 'Kosmos' chair and footstool by Augusto Bozzi for Saporiti from Vampt Vintage Design on a rug from Halcyon Lake. Vintage low teak sideboard from CCS. Brass candleholder from Tigmi Trading. Ceramic lamp from Jai. Artwork by Diana Miller. Curtains by Creative Blinds in Fermoie 'Drift' from Tigger Hall Design. The 'breathing room' is furnished with a modular five-piece sofa from Colecta Rara reupholstered in Domus Textiles fabric. Floor rug, vintage Pierre Guariche floor lamp, vintage rattan coffee table, 1940s oak side table and glass vase, all from Tigmi Trading. Turquoise vessel by Bianca Pintan. Wall lights and 'Aspen' large conical pendant light in Black Rust from Bloomingdales Lighting. Curtains by Creative Blinds in 'Noomi' in Clay from Unique Fabrics. The study has a desk from Vampt Vintage Design. Artifort 'F500' lounge chairs by Pierre Paulin and a desk chair from Colecta Rara. 'Pipistrello Medio' lamp on desk and rug from Tigmi Trading. Artwork by Diana Miller. Vintage glass vessels on desk from Lumini Collections. Wallpaper from Domus Textiles. Roman blinds in 'Portland' in Quarry from Unique Fabrics.



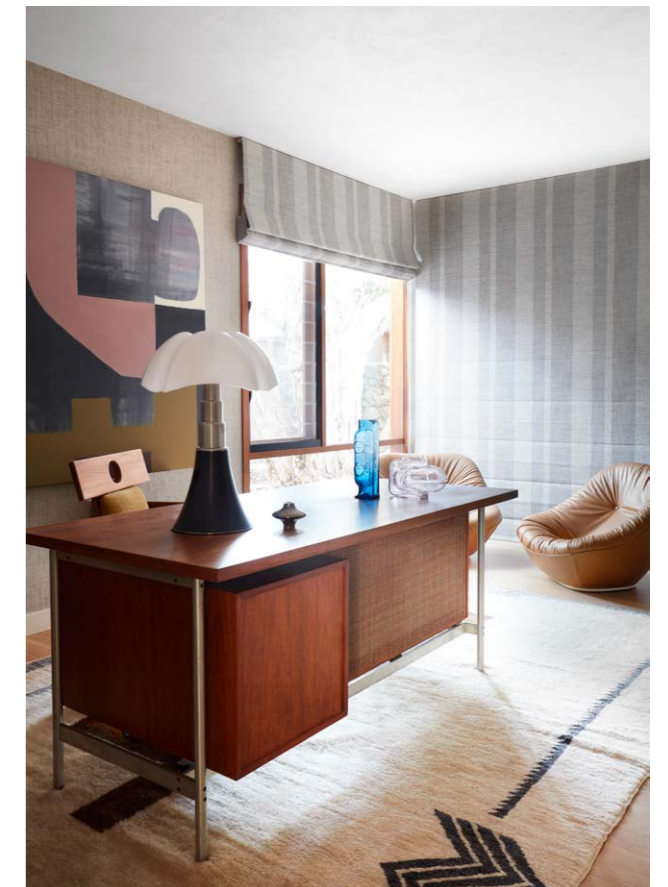
« Elsewhere Jase again turned to his travels for inspiration. For the custom wardrobe doors he referenced external blue shutters seen on a farmhouse in the south of France. For the master bathroom the floor tiles were sourced from a centuries-old ruin in Naples, while the other bathrooms are similar in style with a combination of vintage and handmade Jatana Interiors tiles. Bespoke elements are dotted throughout, such as the handles on the linen cupboards for which he designed a rectangle within a rectangle that doubles as a handle and a design feature.

When it came to the furniture Jase wanted to use a combination of rare vintage items and pieces that he designed specifically for the project, so the eclectic mix ranges from a custom Barbiecore-pink-tiled outdoor table, a 60s Carlo Nason for Mazzega lamp and Moroccan floor rugs to a dining table by Piet Hein Eek, African Senufo stools and a vintage Pierre Guariche floor lamp.

Emboldened by his clients not wanting to have a 'Byron beige' house Jase fully explored the colour spectrum. "They said they weren't afraid of colour and definitely wanted me to have free rein. I was really excited about having some fun with colour especially for the custom-designed sofas and bedheads."

Taking it to the max for the sofa in the main living room Jase selected three different fabrics in a check, stripe and plain from Tigger Hall Design. "I really wasn't sure if the clients would warm to it but they loved it!"

To further spice up the blend Jase sourced some beautiful ceramics including vintage pieces from Bitossi as well as colourful designs by Deanna Belluzzo, Mari Masot and Amy Leeworthy, »





This page The main bedroom has a custom cover and bedhead by Jase Sullivan and made by The Dusty Road in a Rose Tarlow fabric from Tigger Hall Design. Bed cushion made by The Dusty Road in Rose Tarlow 'Paloma' from Tigger Hall Design. Pillowcases from Hale Mercantile Co. Custom bedside tables by Jase Sullivan made by Arca Joinery. Il Fanale 'Madame' wall lights from LightCo. Rug from Halcyon Lake. Ceramics from Tigmi Trading. **Opposite page, clockwise from top left** Custom handles by Jase Sullivan for the linen cupboard. Moroccan hall runner from Marr-kett. Robert Stewart art print from Tigmi Trading. Guest bathroom has handmade wall tiles from Jatana Interiors. Mizu 'Drift' tapware from Reece. Vanity handles from The Society Inc. Wall light from Volker Haug. Ceramic vase from Newrybar Merchants. A guest bedroom has a custom bedhead designed by Jase Sullivan and made by The Dusty Road in a Nina Campbell fabric from Domus Textiles. Bed linen from Hale Mercantile Co. Vintage bedside tables from Vampt Vintage Design with lamp from Lumini Collections and custom shade in fabric from South Pacific Fabrics. Rug from Tigmi Trading. Peter Dunham wallpaper from Ascraft. Another guest bathroom has handmade ceramic wall tiles and terracotta tiles from Jatana Interiors. Mizu 'Drift' tapware from Reece. African stools from Orient House. 'Keira' wall sconce from Bloomingdales Lighting. Hale Mercantile Co 'Flocca' linen towel from Island Luxe.



« and punchy art by Leah Thiessen, Diana Miller, Bec Davies, Kirsten Chambers and Damian Bisogni. Fabulous textiles from Rose Tarlow, Nina Campbell and Peter Dunham hold their own in the scheme.

One of the more unusual features of the home is the breathing room – a space where the clients can completely relax and bring some calm into their busy lives. “This is the first time I have designed one of these and I didn’t want it to feel like a typical yoga space so I specified seating that made it feel like a beautiful living room but was comfortable to sit cross-legged for long periods of time,” says Jase.

For both the designer and the owners the most spectacular part of the transformation is the central

arched courtyard that can be seen from most of the rooms. “I added the extra stone arch at the rear of the courtyard to make it appear four-sided. It really is the most striking element.” Jase says he had fun with the design and the colour and furnishings are reminiscent of Saint Tropez beach houses from the 1960s and 70s. “The house probably turned out looking a little more like Barbie and Ken’s Mediterranean beach house – but I’m fine with that! You start with an idea and that evolves into another.”

The clients couldn’t be happier. “I love Jase’s use of colour, textures and fabrics. The level of detail and the custom and vintage furniture is beyond what I could have imagined!” **15**

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This page, from top The pool area has a St Tropez vibe with Tectona sunloungers from Classic with a Twist with custom powdercoating and upholstery in Peter Dunham 'Amida' in Red on Natural from Ascraft. Built-in daybed has cushions in Peter Dunham 'Carmania' in Red on Natural from Ascraft. Pink 'Visconti' pool umbrellas from Issimo. **Opposite page, top and bottom left** The main ensuite has wall and Neapolitan floor tiles from Jatana Interiors. Vintage sconce from Nicholas & Alistair. Curtains by Creative Blinds in 'Noomi' in Clay from Unique Fabrics. In the main bedroom, 'Soriana' chairs from Castorina & Co. Side table and floor lamp from Tigmi Trading. Curtains in Rose Tarlow 'Paloma' from Tigger Hall Design. Tiles from Jatana Interiors. **Bottom right** The second living area opens to the courtyard and has an 'Anfibio' sofa and vintage cane and tile coffee table, both from Tigmi Trading under an artwork by Leah Thiessen from Pack Gallery Studio. Ceramic vessel from Nikau. Vintage Brazilian side table from Colecta Rara. Ceramic lamp from Jai. 'Kosmos' chair and footstool by Augusto Bozzi for Saporiti from Vampit Vintage Design. Rug from Halcyon Lake. 'Rhyon Ivory' planters from Island Luxe.



SPEED READ

» Interior designer Jase Sullivan was tasked with reinventing a drab 70s beachhouse at Byron Bay for Melbourne owners. » Encouraged by the clients to have fun and experiment with colour Jase envisaged a Mediterranean-style villa complete with custom-designed furniture and quirky vintage pieces. » Inspired by vignettes from his travels, he created a central arched courtyard that is the focus of the home and added shutters, antique tiles, and a stacked stone feature wall. » Furniture wears an eclectic mix of fabrics including those by Rose Tarlow, Nina Campbell and Peter Dunham, tables are topped with Barbiecore-pink tiles and scalloped resort umbrellas flutter in the breeze. » Vibrant artworks and local ceramics are the cherry on top of this captivating home.



**SIGNATURE STYLE
KEY PIECES**

- 1 Fornace Brioni 'Gonzaga' traditional handmade terracotta tiles designed by Cristina Celestino, POA, from Academy Tiles.
- 2 Contemporary 'Devoe' ceramic lamp handmade by Calyer Ceramics, \$1817.50, from 1stDibs.
- 3 Arched doors in Australian steel, made to order, from Steel Window Design.
- 4 'Visconti' umbrella in Ecru, made to order, from Issimo.
- 5 Cassina 'Lady' armchair by Marco Zanuso, \$7573, from Mobilia.

CREDITS FOR NO.3 STEEL WINDOW DESIGN: IMAGE: PHOTOGRAPHY @ARMELLEHABIB; BUILDER @THEMELBOURNEBUILDER; INTERIOR DESIGN @BIASOLDESIGN