

RISK FACTOR

Making bold design moves and taking chances with colour have resulted in an exceptional home.

Words CARLI PHILIPS Photography LISA COHEN Styling JASE SULLIVAN

This page The custom colour on the living-room ceiling is by Painted Earth Byron Bay and the walls are Murobond Cyprus. Servomuto 'Circus' chandelier from Moebel. IPE 'Corolla' chairs from Nicholas & Alistair. Sofa and cushion by Jase Sullivan. 'Torcello' wall light and Saporiti coffee table from Castorina. Blue table by Lex Williams. 'Overlap' rug from Beni Rugs. Artwork by Leah Thiessen from Flinders Lane Gallery. Opposite page In the study is Colefax and Fowler seagrass wallpaper in 'Sienna' from Domus Textiles. Lights from Nicholas & Alistair. Table and 'Monk' chair from Castorina. Rug from Beni Rugs. Artwork by Melissa Boughey from Flinders Lane Gallery.



This page The kitchen cabinetry is painted Murobond Sugarbag and Cyprus Banquette by Lex Williams in custom stain from Painted Earth, with fabrics from Elliott Clarke and Redelman. Tobias Scarpa '121' chairs in faux suede from Tigger Hall Design. Island in Porter's Paints Overcast. Bowl on island from Jordan. Accessories from Alex and Trahanas, Castorina and Found in France. **Opposite page** (clockwise from top left) View of Port Phillip Bay from the front terrace. // Philippe Model Maison stools from Studio ALM surround the island bench in Roman travertine from CDK Stone. Tiles on island base and splashback from Jatana. 'Cappa II' saddle pendant from L'Aviva Home. // The upstairs powder room is painted Murobond Dirty Wombat and has 'Uptown Fez' antique floor tiles from Jatana. 'Rockwell' basin and stand from The English Tapware Company. 'Industrica' taps from Candana. Vintage bamboo mirror from Angelucci 20th Century. // Kitchen details, as before.



The start of interior designer Jase Sullivan's journey with these clients began in Byron Bay, NSW, where he designed their award-winning beach house. They loved it so much that they enlisted him to work on their guest house in Melbourne's Middle Park – a standalone property adjacent to their main residence. "They originally bought the guest house so nobody else would build there and impose on their view," says Jase of the arrangement. "But when I showed them the mood boards, they decided to move next door and make it theirs rather than keep it for visitors."

Avid travellers, the homeowners liked the idiosyncratic design of Kit Kemp's Firmdale hotels and wanted colour, but when it came to the brief, Jase was given a fairly wide berth. "They said, 'We trust you,' which can be a bit daunting, but they loved our ideas so we ran with it."

Rather than just express colour decoratively or with loose furniture, Jase embraced it from a holistic perspective – dousing walls, ceilings and cabinetry in a 'dirty' palette of chalky pink, muted pistachio and watered-down mulberry. "We softened and pared back some of the colours by diluting them," explains Jase, a 'colour obsessive' who customises his own paints. To temper the brighter tones, he juxtaposed them with conservative accents of brown, tan and hazelnut.

Pattern abounds in the bedrooms and bathrooms, a combination of carefully sourced tiles and wallpapers. In the primary and guest bedrooms, Jase sourced Pictalab 'Fortino' wallpaper, »



« which he discovered at Salone del Mobile in Milan. “It’s bold for a bedroom, but the clients were obsessed and just had to have it. And because they also have homes overseas and aren’t in Melbourne all the time, they don’t experience it every day. So, we made it a little more fun and ‘out there’. We’ve made it feel like a hotel, especially for when the owner’s mum comes to stay.” In addition to the furnishings and accessories brought in from abroad, Jase collaborated with Australian furniture maker denHolm on the fireplace, bedside tables, bronze wall sconces and laundry hardware.

As the clients had commissioned their house plans five years earlier, Jase started afresh. With the assistance of a draftsman, everything behind the heritage facade was knocked down and rebuilt. In response to the narrow site and tight boundaries, they introduced light wells and created a high, timber-lined pitched roof punctured with skylights. The floor plan is long and skinny with a stairwell in the middle and a laundry tucked underneath. Its pocket space features cherry red ceramic and chrome sconces from 1stDibs, blue handmade Moroccan tiles and cabinetry stained in Murobond Mud. “The owners walk past the laundry every day and I didn’t want it to feel left out – it needed to be fun like the rest of the house,” says Jase.

At the entry, Jase designed a custom shoe cabinet for storage as it’s a shoe-free home. In this part of the house is the study and guest bedroom, both with bathrooms. At the rear is a generous main ensuite and walk-in wardrobe, which overlooks the plunge pool and garden. Given the slender floor space upstairs, there wasn’t an opportunity to include a dining table, so Jase designed an asymmetrical corner banquette (with a tabletop stained in Rubio Monocoat Utah Pink) that can comfortably fit 10. Add the five stools at the island bench and there’s ample opportunity for hosting and hanging out. Wrapping the banquette is a mellow mustard cabinet showcasing a perfectly mismatched collection of cookbooks, vintage fish plates from Found in France and tableware from Alex and Trahanas.

On the other side of the staircase is the living room, lined with panels. When his clients first saw Servomuto’s oversized blue ‘Circus’ chandeliers in the space, they were concerned the pair would be too dramatic and dominate the sea view but they’re now a much-loved feature, hanging high above the comparatively neutral soft furnishings. “My clients are really great, beautiful people, and I wanted to draw on their love of travelling to India,” says Jase of the electric colours. The room is anchored by a softly curved fireplace clad in small, sunshine-yellow tiles. “Initially, I was nervous about the yellow hearth, but trusted my intuition and it’s turned out to be one of my favourite elements in the home,” says Jase of the daring choice. “Before these clients, I was never this bold!” ■ jasesullivan.com.au; [@jasesullivan](https://www.instagram.com/jasesullivan)

This page Between the two ‘Corolla’ lounge chairs is a custom side table by Lex Williams. Oversized blue floor vase by denHolm. Artworks by Leah Thiessen from Flinders Lane Gallery. **Opposite page** In this space leading to the terrace, the walls are tadelakt. Blue stain on ceiling and Murobond Cyprus panelling paint from Painted Earth Byron Bay. ‘Hyde Plank’ flooring from Havwoods. Custom yellow limestone mosaic on ledge from denHolm. Sofa in ‘Moroccan Weave’ by Kathryn Ireland from Tigger Hall. ‘Yaruba’ cushion fabric from Nobilis, made by The Dusty Road. Vintage Saporiti coffee table from Castorina. Green vase on coffee table from Santo Stefano di Camastra, Sicily. Vintage Danish floor lamp from Smith Street Bazaar. Artwork by Leah Thiessen from Flinders Lane Gallery.





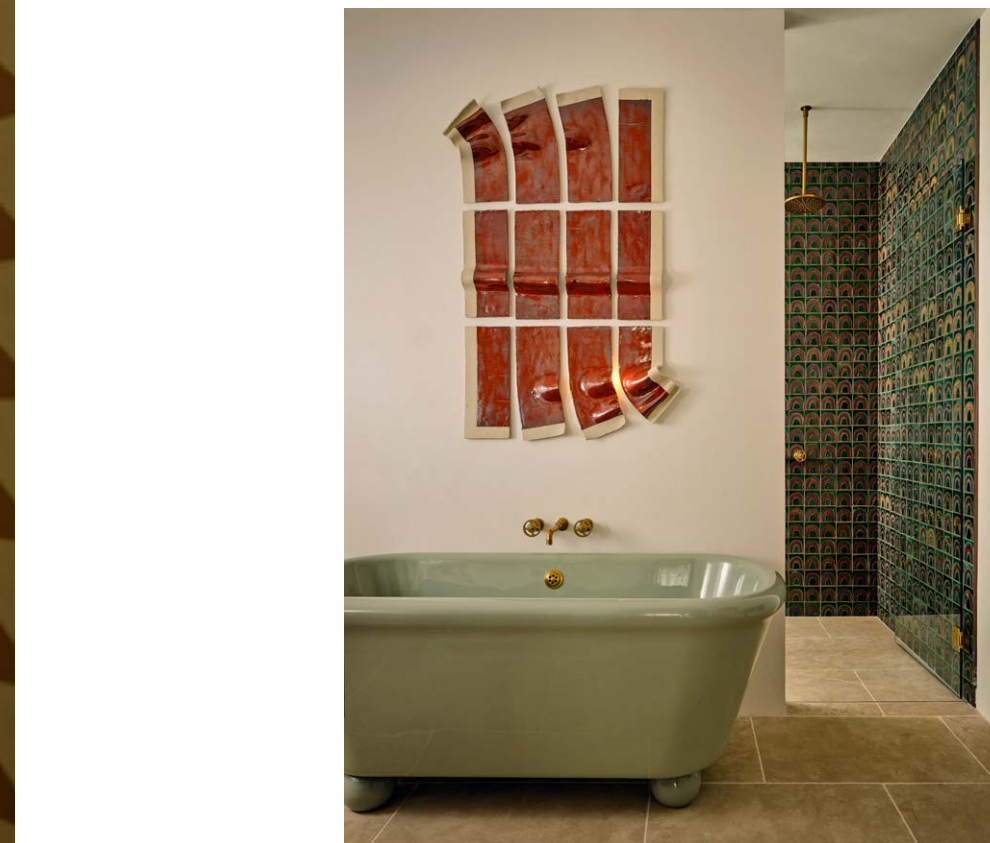
This page Murobond Cyprus extends to the door and skirtings of the primary bedroom, where it complements the 'Fortino' wallpaper in Red on Sand from Pictalab Milano. Watercolour by Margaret Ackland from Flinders Lane Gallery. Palefire x 8 Holland Street 'Parasol' table lamp from Palefire Studio. Murano glass bowl from Castorina. Italian chest of drawers, vintage. **Opposite page** The other side of the main bedroom, showing a timber ceiling fan from Lumera Living over the bed. Bedhead in Rose Tarlow 'Glacis' Sweet Ginger and bed base in 'Gigi' Canard, with Studio Atkinson wall sconces, all from Tigger Hall Design. 'AIDAA' blanket from Lrnce. Custom cushion by Jase Sullivan in Rose Tarlow 'Arles' Azure. Bedside tables by Jase Sullivan in Porter's Paints Oxblood. Elsi ceramic jug and blue vase from Angelucci 20th Century. Brass tray from The Hub General Store.



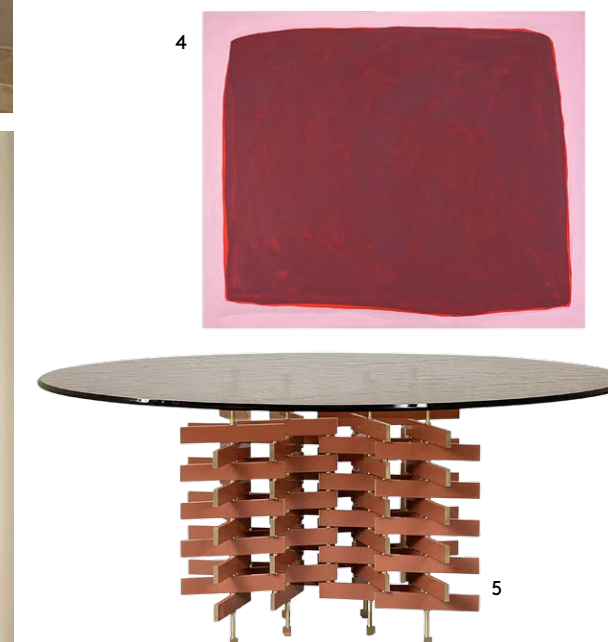
SPEED READ

» Everything behind the heritage facade of this Melbourne home was rebuilt. » The owners lived next door and bought the property with the intention of creating a guesthouse. » They love the work of interior designer Jase Sullivan so much that they decided to move in there instead. » As the owners don't experience the house every day (they are only in town for limited amounts of time), Jase wanted to make it fun and joyous. » He used 'dirty' colours on hard surfaces and included highly patterned tiles, some sourced from Spanish ruins. » The bedrooms are on the ground floor while the living, dining and kitchen are on the first, leading to a balcony overlooking the beach. » The living space is anchored by a daring sunshine-yellow tiled fireplace.

This page Guests also enjoy pattern in their quarters. 'Shark' wallpaper in Ivory on Mud from Pictalab Milano. Bedhead upholstered in 'Capretto' Thistle/Tobacco fabric and base in Rose Tarlow 'Gigi' Terre from Tigger Hall Design. 'Palmer' cushion in Calippo from Jordan. Bedcover from Lrnce. Bamboo sheets from Ecoy. Bedside tables by denHolm in custom colour. Brutalist table lamp with stone base from Tamsin Johnson. 'Pasture' rug from Beni Rugs. In the bathroom are 'Little Blue Diamond' tiles from Jatana. Opposite page The primary bathroom has a 'Rockwell' bath from The English Tapware Company. Above it is an artwork by Ben Mazey from Criteria. 'Industrica' taps from Candana throughout. Wall tiles from Jatana. Tadelakt wall finish by Raw Design Byron Bay. 'Arbon' limestone flooring from Eco Outdoor. Vanity designed by Jase Sullivan with a Roman travertine benchtop from CDK Stone. 'Iris' wall lights from Porta Romana. Brass-framed mirror, custom.



5 SIGNATURE STYLE KEY PIECES



1 Muuto 'Post' table lamp in Brown Green, \$955, Top3 by Design. 2 The Water Monopoly 'Rockwell' basin on stand, POA, The English Tapware Company. 3 The Salt Water Cure artwork by Humble Matter, \$4500, Curatorial+Co. 4 For The Women In My Family artwork by Tiarna Herczeg, \$4900, Curatorial+Co. 5 Baxter 'Loom' fused-glass table, POA, Space.