

# HIGHER PURPOSE

Splashes of fearless colour, materials full of depth and furniture talking points combine in this entertaining-ready Sydney penthouse apartment.

BY AMY CAMPBELL PHOTOGRAPHED BY PRUE RUSCOE  
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THIS PAGE in the dining and kitchen area of this Sydney home, custom Adam Goodrum Birdsmouth dining table from Broached Commissions; Molloy chairs by Adam Goodrum for Nau from Cult; studio pottery sculpture and vintage platters, all from Rudi Rocket; Apollo 6 chandelier from McKenzie & Keim; Viabizzuno lighting from VBO Australia; *Pink Bull* (2020) artwork by Cannon Dill from Piermarq.

“It’s ultimately  
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YASMINE GHONIEM

**THESE PAGES** in the kitchen, island in blue granite from Nefiko, produced by Mediterranean Marble; custom black-stained oak veneer joinery designed by YSG, produced by Winchester Interiors; custom Dita stools from Grazia&co; Men Sole shelving system from VBO Australia; mugs and bowls from Mud Australia; sculpture by Natalie Rosin from Saint Cloche; vintage vase from Rudi Rocket; glasses from Ikea; jug (on benchtop) and vase from Dinosaur Designs; *Ancestor Amber* sculpture (2020) by William Versace from Curatorial+Co.



“I LOVE TO CREATE MOMENTS THAT FEEL a bit... James Bond,” says Yasmine Ghoniem, principal of her eponymous design studio, YSG. “I call them ‘conversation starters’. They are these wacky moments that make for entertaining stories to tell your guests.”

SITTING PRETTY ON the 16th floor of a Sydney apartment building is one of Ghoniem’s latest conversation starters. Seeking to downsize on space while dialling up on artistic expression, the empty-nester owners gave the in-demand designer a call. “It’s ultimately a playhouse for the folks,” says Ghoniem.

Before Ghoniem got her hands on it, the interior was ultra sleek and minimalist. It was a version of ‘modern’, but the designer was interested in playing with that dominant notion of modernity and putting her own spin on the space through custom furnishings, intelligent pops of colour and otherworldly stone.

Colour and texture play starring roles in every YSG project, and here, these elements were realised in features such as an armchair and ottoman from Alm. The chair is upholstered in vintage surplus army material that’s been hand-dyed in plum, aubergine and olive tones. Each square has been stitched like patchwork, which intuitively sparked another theme that reveals itself in vignettes throughout the apartment. In the kitchen, this tapestry effect is captured in the stone island benchtop. This wasn’t entirely intentional, though. The original slab of blue granite was too large to be carried into the apartment, so Ghoniem and her team got creative — they chopped it up into squares.

“We spun each tile around to transform its grain into different directions, so it became an artwork itself, almost like a quilt. It also allowed us to bring it up in the lift,” adds the designer with a chuckle. “What was really great about breaking up that slab was that I could pick and choose which areas of the stone I really loved, and then we brought them all together for a much punchier outcome.”

The directional kitchen is the multifaceted jewel in this penthouse’s crown. Hovering on a pylon beside the island is a petal-shaped cheeseboard, also in blue granite, that rotates 360 degrees. “You can put cheese on there, cut it up, prepare it and serve it just by swinging that disc around,” says Ghoniem. Nearby, the custom YSG bar trolley begs the question: ‘Where did you get that from?’ “I’ve always wanted to do a drinks trolley, but it’s actually quite hard, there are so many different things it needs to do,” she says.

With panoramic views that stretch right across Sydney Harbour, it’s safe to assume this apartment will see its fair share of parties. But for Ghoniem and her team, it’s the fun, interactive quirks — like that rotating cheeseboard — that lend this penthouse its intrigue, and inspired the project’s name: Dream Weaver. “I’m obsessed with anything magical,” the designer says. “And the fact the property is located in the penthouse, in the sky — that’s where dreams are created.” [ysg.studio](http://ysg.studio)

*As featured in the January/February 2022 edition of Vogue Living.*



**THIS PAGE** in the living area, Grande Sofice sofa by Francesco Binfare for Edra from Space Furniture; coffee table designed by YSG in Sunset onyx from Euro Marble; Missoni Home Thea Kuta suspension lamp from Spence & Lyda.



**THIS PAGE** in another view of the living area, Cipria armchair by Fernando and Humberto Campana for Edra from Space Furniture; Stacking floor lamps from Leucos; custom Tibetan wool and art silk rug from Tappeti. **OPPOSITE PAGE** in another view of the dining area, custom drinks trolley designed by YSG in American white ash and blue granite, produced by Maiden; Casa glazed handmade tiles in White from Onsite Supply and Design; glass stand from Maison Balzac.



**THIS PAGE** in the main ensuite, custom vanity designed by YSG in red onyx from Nefiko and produced by Euro Marble; Mutina Phenomenon in Bianco Rock mosaic wall tiles from Di Lorenzo Tiles; wall mixer tap from Vola. **OPPOSITE PAGE** in the powder room, vanity designed by YSG in Viola marble from Euro Marble; perforated privacy screen designed by YSG; walls in Purple Iris Zellige tiles from Zia Tile; basin mixer set from Vola; N55 Sospensione pendant light from VBO Australia; Tim Webber Press mirror from Cult.

**STYLE AGENDA**  
**The VL edit**  
 A curated hit list inspired by the practical yet polished hubs of this home.



**FROM LEFT** Mug in Blossom, \$59, from Mud Australia; [mudaustralia.com](http://mudaustralia.com) Zellige Purple Iris tiles, \$191 a box, from Zia Tile; [ziatile.com](http://ziatile.com) HV1 mixer in Color 02 Grey, POA, from Vola; [en.vola.com](http://en.vola.com) Phenomenon tiles, POA, from Di Lorenzo Tiles; [dilorenzo.com.au](http://dilorenzo.com.au) Retro style variable temperature kettle in Stainless Steel, \$299, from Smeg; [smeg.com.au](http://smeg.com.au) Paola Paronetto Clay vases, from \$650 each, from Fanuli; [fanuli.com.au](http://fanuli.com.au)

COMPILED BY SANDY DAO