

OPEN



VIEW

In the eastern suburb of Sydney of Darlinghurst, YSG Studio projected a penthouse with a colourful furnishing selections and a Rushcutters Bay view.

Photography by Prue Ruscoe





The design team of YSG Studio has gutted the entire penthouse, from flooring to overhead lighting, transforming it into an immersive haven for the owners. Oversized soft landings, deep piled custom rugs and stone surfaces with planetary swirls levitate within. Counterbalancing the sobriety of the box-like architectural frame shrouded in glass, they demarcate zones within the expansive living area.

The design team has decided to drop the ceiling to accommodate services in one corner of the rectangular living area, staining its timber surface black for cossetting appeal. Extending towards the lift lobby, a mechanical sliding main entrance connects the two zones, creating an intimate vestibule-like lounge/library.

Musk, lilac and plum are the trifecta hues within the open living area with citrus accents introduced via golden bands encircling the illuminated Murano glass totems and an amber porthole piercing the sliding entrance door.



The overall scheme is literally conveyed like a colour wheel key to the home via the dining table co-designed with Adam Goodrum. Its graphic wreath-like exposed mortise detailing (which flows down the legs) depicts the dominant shades of the home.

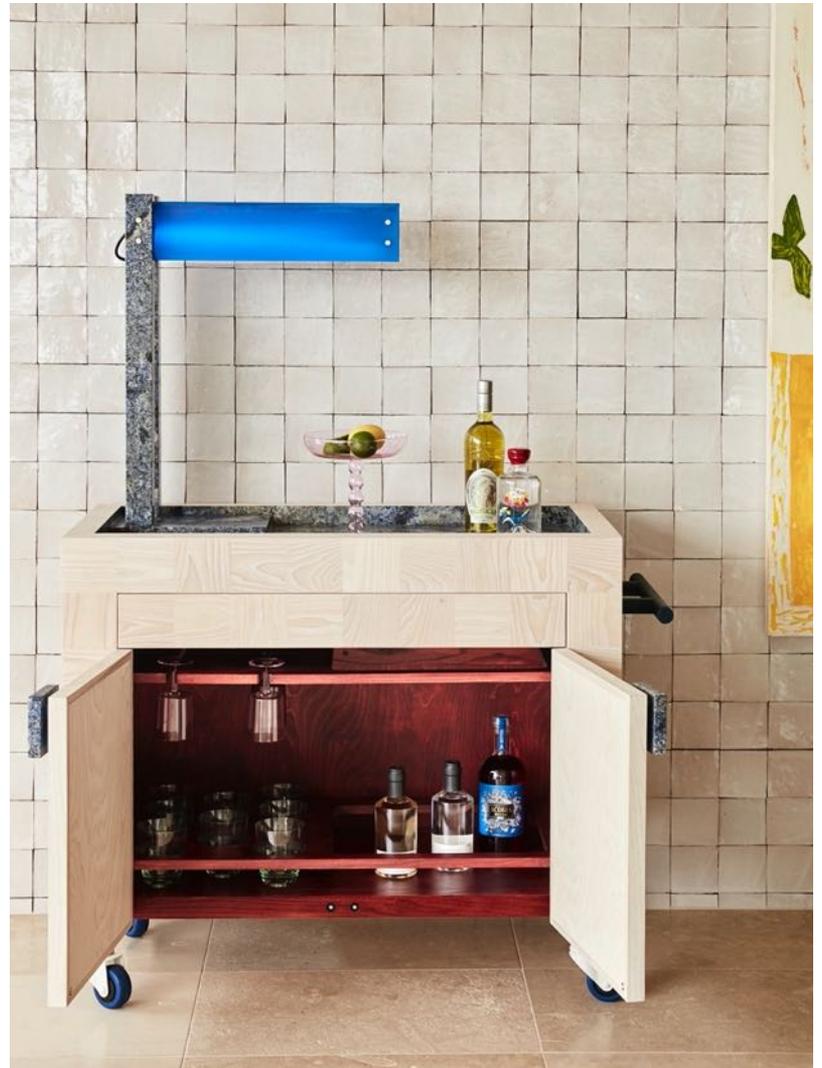
As consummate entertainers, the clients requested "conversational custom pieces". A ganache-rich 'wall' of joinery forms the backdrop to the kitchen's kinetic drama.

The watermarked taffeta-like veneer responds to the harbor's rippled surface, heightening the solid, swirling mass of the utilities bench before it. The designers clad it in mis-matched oversized Lapis blue granite tiles (plus the surface of the quirky mobile drinks trolley with its integrated lamp). Cut from slabs to resolve lift height restrictions preventing the transport of solid pieces, they set the theme for graphic walls animated by glossy Moroccan tiles.

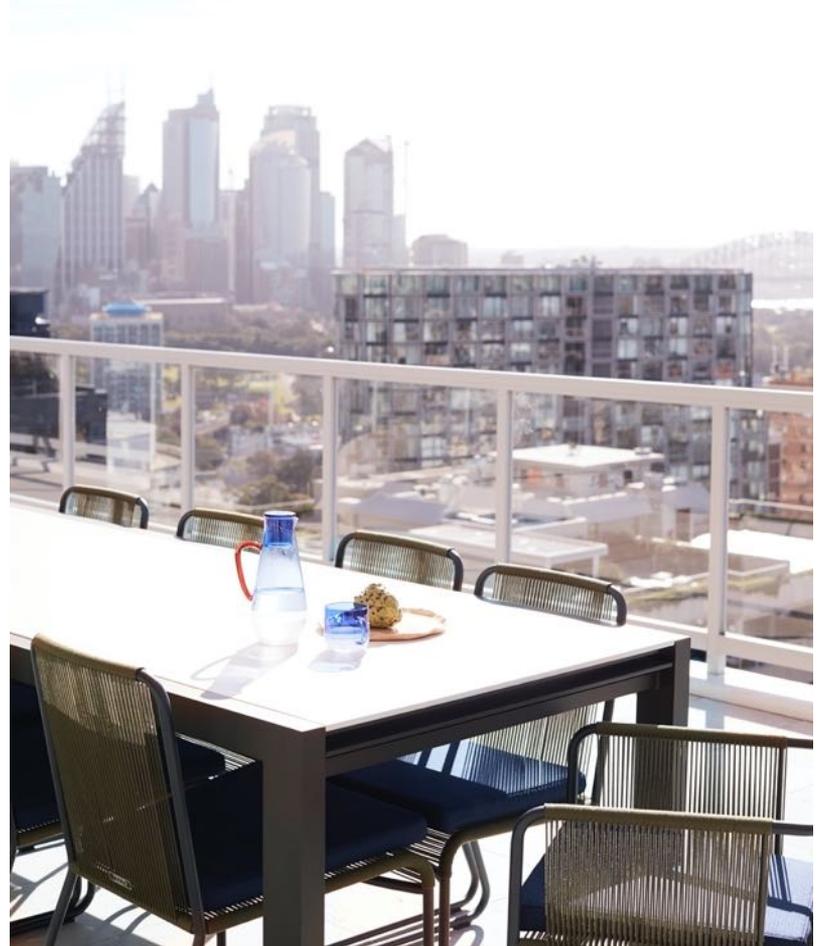


Adding sculptural appeal, an offset floating plinth with a curved return sits upon drum legs beside the kitchen counter. A plum-toned fulcrum supporting a 360-degree rotating granite 'platter' (an entertaining device for canapés or cheese) connects the two structures.

Mounted in lithe steel frames, glass shelving was attached to the joinery wall to avoid a heavy, blunt kitchen return. Integrated downlights pool a warm glow upon domestic vignettes with museum-like finesse, matching the book display unit in the vestibule. The deep L-shaped balcony resonates with graphic shades of blue tethering the eye to both the kitchen and the harbor's depth beyond.



“The mood is revelatory and futuristic, with an upbeat dose of Pedro Almodóvar’s cinematic eccentricity. Contemporary Spanish tapas bars and their liberal use of tiling, surrealism, and rich colour gradations evoking a material take on the northern lights were our inspiration.”







Initiating more storage was tricky with so many glass walls, so all the custom beds feature cavities beneath them to maintain the streamlined appeal of the walls. Within the master bedroom, the upholstered bedhead with integrated side tables features stained zebra veneers crowned with Calacatta Viola marble. A solar system of blown glass lighting in berry

shades orbits above. Always in the same tones, the bed lines together with the white cream rug complete the décor. This room has also been extended upon the balcony to accommodate a study nook and generous walk-in-wardrobe and created a verdant entertaining oasis outdoors that blocks prying eyes from neighbouring towers.

“Light, crisp layers of marble articulate the vanities in the bathrooms, wrapping around shower walls with a futuristic 2001 Space Odyssey meets Mies van der Rohe’s Barcelona pavilion vibe.”





The penthouse's material advantage comes via the use of luxe elements including marble. Applied in light, crisp layers within the bathrooms and powder room and atop coffee plus bedside tables, its gestural patterns impart a sense of playfulness. So streamlined is the vanity ledge in the master en-suite with its integrated shallow sinks that its swirling veins grant the illusion of levitation. A splash back wraps around the shower recesses providing a practical ledge for accessories, ending mid gait to avoid enclosing the expansive nature of the white-tiles. Flipping the materials, the guest bathroom reveals a similar layout, only Moroccan tiles replace the onyx splash back stretching across the shower wall.

