

# COLOR

YSG STUDIO  
TRANSFORMED A  
DYSFUNCTIONAL  
TWO-STOREY HOUSE  
IN A STYLISH  
RESIDENCE FULL OF  
COLOURS IN A  
COASTAL SUBURB OF  
CRONULLA, SYDNEY.

Photography by Prue Ruscoe

# SPLASH







**T**his 200m<sup>2</sup> house was designed in the 1960's by Payne & Hunt Architects and retained its original condition: exposed brick and ample mission brown painted timber. The original floorplan was a bit outdated and needed a modification to fit the client's needs: the kitchen was moved from

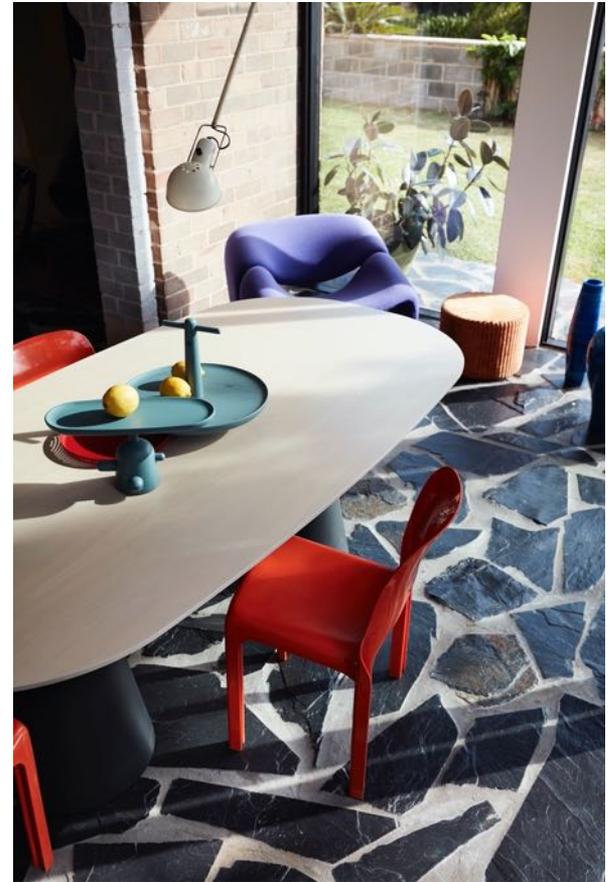
upstairs to the ground floor where a third guest bedroom, loft with study and ensuite replaces it.

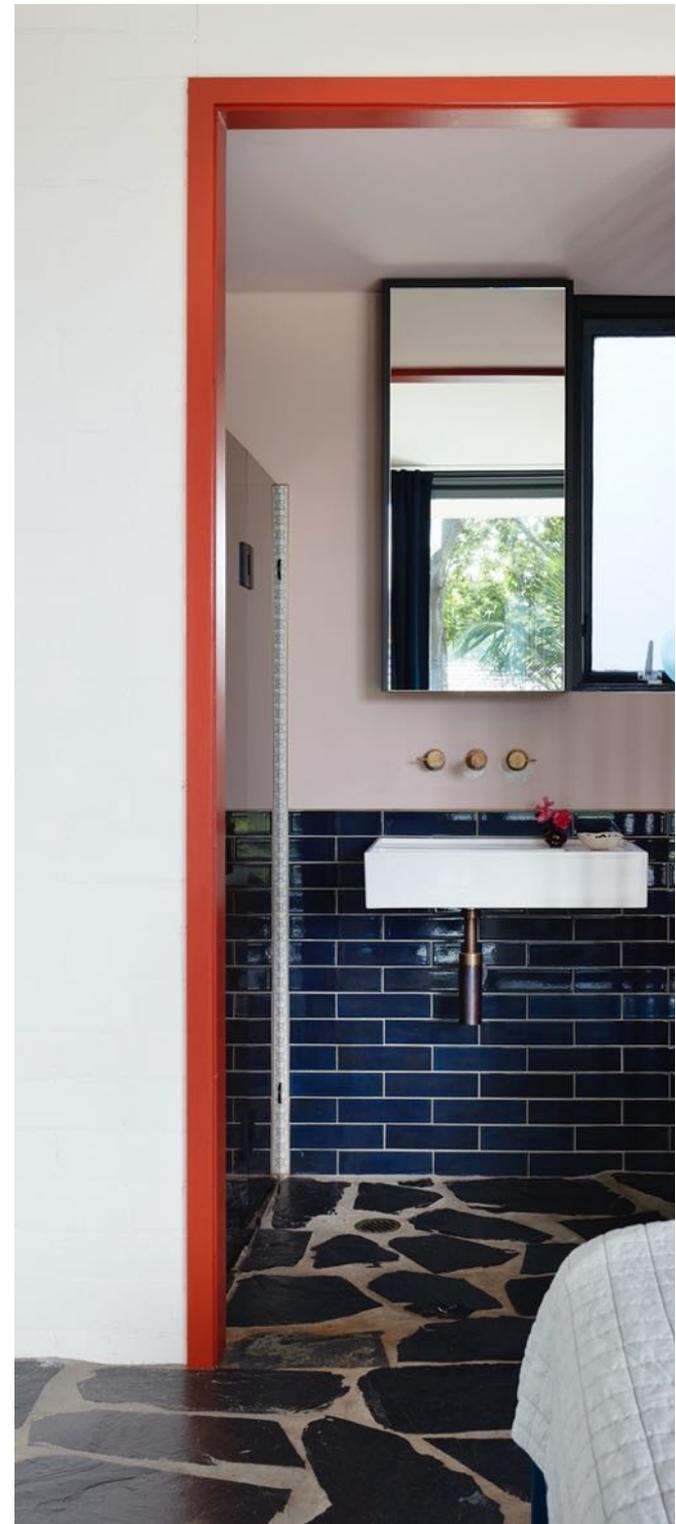
The brickwork remains a celebrated textural feature, the house blossoms into an energetic design playground bursting with colour as a reflection of the owners' commitment to 'joyful living.' Warm shades of white, mushroom pinks - and black are the base neutral shades holding everything together to create harmony, including flat bars of the staircase leading to the first floor have been replaced by enclosing wooden balustrades. Whilst the brighter and deeper shades draw attention to the living areas and modular hero décor items.

At the entrance, a mustard yellow wall (which can then be found in the kitchen cupboard) leads us into the living area. Here, local company, Lymesmith, developed a colour palette to complement the exposed brick walls using bold tones on the surrounding surfaces, culminating with a mural on the bricks themselves directly behind the new fireplace selected for its vintage appeal. The abstract artwork was inspired by aerial photographs of the property's coastal location. It simultaneously animates the area and provides a refreshing alternative to installing a large wall-mounted TV screen, whilst complementing the new paving with its angular form. It also does not go unnoticed the curved seating formed by a white brick plinth fitted with plum-hued seating cushions.



Rejecting a conventional layout, a custom brick plinth, besides serving as the base of sitting, delineates the new kitchen from the living area and serves as an open liquor display. Here, bold tonal highlights include the mustard yellow-tinted open pantry joinery, blue integrated fridge cabinets and the terracotta backdrop to the kitchen. Iconic modular mid-century furniture complements the original build of the sixties. The outcome is a generously playful and welcoming 'shelter for living' within an Australian landscape which firmly rejects basing neutral design schemes on bland notions of resale value. This is an 'all in' commitment to self expression as the home wholeheartedly embraces a fearless love of colour.





Another request of the clients was an integrated indoor/outdoor retreat space. So, the removal of the existing rear façade and realigning it with the storey above expands the lounge area's footprint. In addition, bold crazy paving now connects the internal and external living areas. Close

to this area, also upstairs we have a lounge area created by the terrace overlooking the garden. Also, bathroom walls are divided by colorful timber dowels to separate bed from bath, further extending the spatial parameters of the rooms whilst enabling ample natural light to flow freely.

