

# ELEMENTS IN MOTION

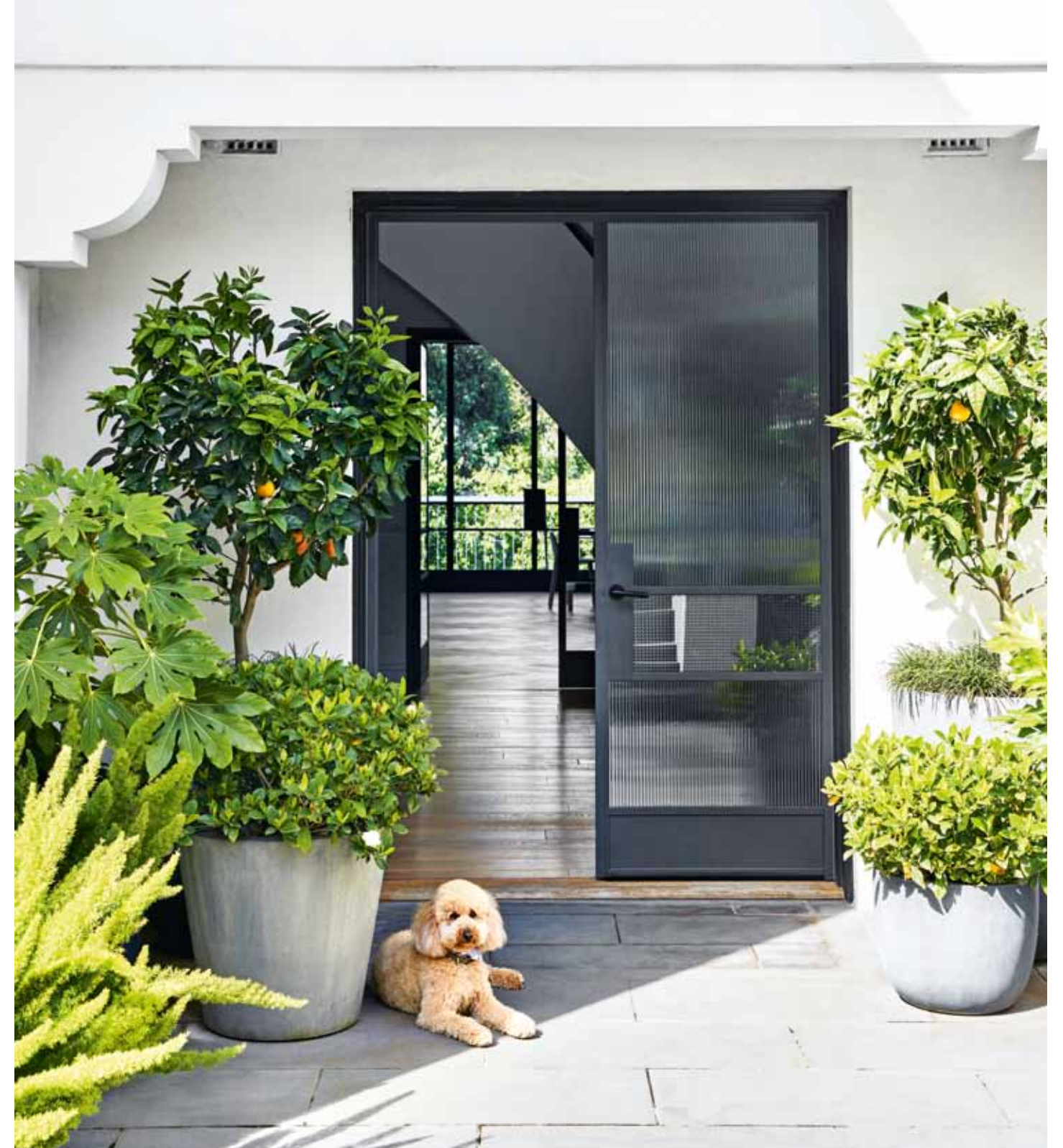
A space that showcases power play done right

Words Alexandra Longstaff Photography Sharyn Cairns





Light dances effortlessly through the spaces of the home, drawing the eye to its various contours



**This project has four main elements that dance with each other in a continuous power play**

When Lucy Bock was asked to redesign the first floor of this Melbourne home — a living, dining, kitchen and outdoor space set among treetops and within a pre-existing architectural masterpiece — she of course said yes. This home came with a hefty serving of fine bone structure from which Lucy could grow. Its three storeys were designed by renowned 1930s architect Marcus Martin, giving the Art

Deco home serious potential and an exciting canvas to paint on.

This project has four main elements that dance with each other in a continuous power play. The first is the natural world found outside the space, the second is the use of shape, the third is the majesty found in the materials used, and the fourth is colour.

The first floor is privy to a beautiful natural world just beyond, which Lucy wanted to celebrate. “Floor-to-ceiling steel-framed





WHAT COULD CREATE A MORE BEAUTIFUL JUXTAPOSITION THAN THE MONOCHROMATIC PALETTE PAIRED WITH POPS OF COLOUR



Black steel windows create a picture frame to the outside world

glass windows and doors maximise the eastern natural light and views into the treetops," she explains. And this natural world filters into the space in other interesting ways, too. "A skylight positioned in the northern corner floods the living room with natural light, while the brick feature wall with impasto-painted finish creates added depth and texture as light and shadow move across it throughout the day."

And how beautifully this home masters the interaction between shadow and light at every turn. Not only does the skylight allow for exquisite shadow play, but the juxtaposition of tones between the white brick and marble elements and black steel-framed windows creates an aesthetically intriguing picture for the eyes. While we're on the topic of juxtapositions, what could create a more beautiful one than the monochromatic palette paired with pops of colour.

"The kitchen is the heart of the interior and definitely my favourite part of the home," says Lucy. "With functionality at the core, bespoke joinery items have been designed as refined, free-standing furniture pieces." One such piece is the stone island bench, which takes centre stage in the space. "The stone





**we love**  
THE POWER PLAY  
BETWEEN LIGHT  
AND SHADOW  
THROUGHOUT

The island bench is the epicentre of the kitchen and features Super White natural stone with intersecting pieces of Blue Moon stone



island bench is monolithic in its form and becomes a sculptural centrepiece to the kitchen," Lucy says. "It features beautiful Super White natural stone with bold intersecting pieces of Blue Moon stone."

Another stand-out piece and an item that is somewhat unusual for a kitchen space is the freestanding appliance cupboard. Finished in grey-painted American oak and featuring retractable doors that open to reveal an interior lined with purple-hued Japanese brick tiles, Super White stone benchtop and purple-painted drawers and shelves, this statement item has a strong presence in the space.

In the living room, a stone plinth proudly showcases items, while a side table and coffee table offer further places to show off interesting shapes and forms. The choice of lighting in the home also adds further intrigue, with each fitting and lamp acting as a sculptural form in its own right. "The selection of bold fixtures such as the Lindsey Adelman 'Kingdom' hand-blown glass pendant from New York, and Bonnemazou brushed nickel knobs and back plates from Paris, express a dedication to artisan craftsmanship."

Small layers of colour are weaved throughout the design of the floor, allowing for the injection of different hues in a subtle way, and this was no accident. "Just one colourful accent, in small doses, was chosen for the mostly monochromatic colour scheme," explains Lucy. "The decision behind this was to avoid dominating the space with loud splashes of colour, but rather to subtly introduce coloured elements that would tie the space together. Some are not obvious at





Pops of decadent colour and texture create a space that is visually inspiring and invites creative exploration

first and are discovered as one explores the interior." On top of this, the choice of velvet allowed for further shadow and light play. "The monochrome interior is subtly punctuated by hues of purple found in various joinery and furniture pieces. Rich velvet upholstery captures the depth and movement of natural light throughout the space," adds Lucy.

"The design of the interiors was to hopefully make the inhabitants feel a sense of calm and connection to nature," she says. "Bespoke joinery and loose furniture items feature refined details that not only create beauty in the interior, but also spark a feeling of understated luxury. The project was an absolute joy to work on and was made possible by the trust and enthusiasm of the most wonderful client and the attention to detail of a great builder and craftsmen," she concludes. **HD** [lucybock.com](http://lucybock.com)