

BRIGHT SIDE

With its brilliant white base and abundance of natural textures, this reborn Mid-century home reveals enchanting surprises at every turn.

STORY *Jackie Brygel* | STYLING *Georgia Piovarchy* | PHOTOGRAPHY *Maree Homer*



EXTERIOR The home's luminous facade features rendered walls in Colorbond Surfmist and trims in Colorbond Dover White. 'Navoo' outdoor wall light from LA Lounge. Garage door in 'DecoWood' Curly Burch battens, DECO Australia. **LIVING** Opposite Molmic 'Big Easy' sofa, upholstered in Treviso textured fabric by The Textile Company. Coffee table, Fanuli. 'Dari' rug in Camel, Jardan.





Art may be the icing on the decorating cake, and for this three-level 1950s home in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs, it also proved the essential ingredient in a captivating transformation. A delicate and intriguing work by contemporary Australian artist Del Kathryn Barton helped provide inspiration for the home's renewal.

"It's an earlier original piece," says the owner. "I love the feminine side to the painting and was drawn to the beautiful colours shooting out of the woman's back, which I felt were reflective both of me and the natural, earthy tones in the environment."

To which interior designer Jodie Carter adds: "When the owner said, 'That's me in a nutshell', I felt confident not to hold back on some of the more dynamic ideas we came up with for her."

Positioned just moments from the water, the property on a 356 square-metre block features a garage at ground level, a granny flat/home office on level two and the main residence on the floor above. It was bought in 2023 with decisiveness by the owner, who couldn't pass up the location. "I'm an ocean swimmer and was deeply drawn not just to a view of the water but a close proximity to it," she says.

The home itself presented in a considerably darker and less alluring light. "The spaces felt quite small and boxed off, with an unnecessary number of walls and, to my mind, rooms," says the owner. "The colour palette was also something I wanted to lift - to reflect the lightness and brightness of the beach."

After living in the house for a couple of years, the owner was recommended by the construction company she had engaged - Quay Building & Design - to enlist ►

LIVING Molmic 'Big Easy' sofa in Treviso textured fabric by The Textile Company. Coffee table, Fanuli. 'Ziggy' armchair, 'Dari' rug and 'Pia' high sideboard, all Jardan. 'Heron' lamps, Canvas+Sasson. 'Venezia' linen curtains in Dune, The Textile Company. 'Amara' side table in Brown Vein Marble, GlobeWest. *Opposite* Bush Tucker at Alalgura artwork by Emily Kame Kngwarreye. 'Lake' lounge and ottoman in 'Rust', both Jardan. 'Atlas Decagon' side table in Ocean Marble, GlobeWest. 'Kimber' flooring, Tongue & Groove.



Clockwise from top left **ENTRY** Blackbutt batten screening by Leading Edge Kitchens. **COURTYARD** 'Lola' chaise in Terracotta Stripe, Florabelle Living. **LAUNDRY** Joinery painted Dulux Pale Green Tea. Benchtops in White Mist, Talostone. 'Novi' butler's sink, Reece. Glazed 'Cotto' Zellige wall tiles in Seafoam, Eco Outdoor. Chequerboard flooring in Taj Green and Carrara tumbled marble, Di Lorenzo. **POWDER ROOM** Vanity in Breccia Capraia marble, Anterior XL. Brodware 'Yokato' tapware in Statue Bronze. **DINING** Opposite 'Moni' pendants, Articolo Studios. 'Double Bell' dining table, Living Edge. 'Gus' dining chairs, Jordan. Joinery painted Dulux Waltzing. Steel-framed glass joinery doors by Leading Edge Kitchens.



Jodie and her team to refine every aspect of the interiors. Within weeks, the renewal works were underway, culminating in a masterful upgrade that's turned out exactly as intended.

While the garage and middle level were retained with a cosmetic refresh, the third level underwent an exciting metamorphosis. Here, the layout was dramatically reconfigured to accommodate an airy open-plan kitchen and entertaining domain, two bedrooms with ensuites, a powder room and laundry.

But it's the colour and material palette that brings this luminous house to life. Set against a crisp white canvas, the interiors feature adventurous bursts of sumptuous hues, from rusty caramel and deep terracotta to rich burgundy and verdant shades of green. "Colour is my thing and I love combining it with pattern, texture and contrast that makes you feel something when entering the space," says Jodie.

An abundant use of timber and natural stone paired with strategically placed decorative finishes, including marble chequerboard tiling, terrazzo flooring and a sculptural microcement fireplace, further heightens the feeling of mood and depth.

"I'm not a minimalist and was super excited to experiment and really have some fun with this home where it was appropriate, such as in the living and bathroom areas, where we went to town with the colour and pattern," says Jodie. "As much as possible, we wanted to stay away from what you'd typically expect of a coastal home with the interiors - and being able to embrace the Mid-century vibe was an added bonus for making it less 'beachy'."

In contrast, the mostly soft-white bedroom, with a mixture of natural textures and colours, provides a restful, quiet space for winding down. "I'm confident the home reflects the owner's personality - her loves and her lifestyle. It's her sanctuary," says Jodie. ►

Jodie Carter Design: jodicarterdesign.com.au.

Quay Building & Design: quaybuilding.com.au.

Leading Edge Kitchens: lekitchens.com.au.

KITCHEN Joinery painted Dulux Waltzing. Benchtops and splashback in Breccia Capraia marble. Island front in Bejmat Lily tiles, Di Lorenzo. Brodware mixer. Zip HydroTap G5 in Matt Black. Artwork by Del Kathryn Barton. 'Brooklyn' stools, Jardan.



THIS IS THE LIFE

The owner's diverse collection of art and treasures features prominently in almost every room. "The pieces all have meaning to her and every piece suits where it is placed," says Jodie. Adds the owner: "I've been collecting for the past seven or so years, and it's become an appreciation of art as an asset, but also something you get to wake up to and enjoy in your own home."

"As much as possible, we wanted to stay away from what you'd typically expect of a coastal home."

JODIE CARTER, INTERIOR DESIGNER

THE PALETTE

Dulux Mt Aspiring
(kitchen and powder room walls)

Dulux Waltzing
(kitchen and dining joinery)

Dulux New Penny
(powder room vanity)



ENSUITE *Top left and right* Zellige wall tiles in Rust and Bianca Casa, and ‘English Stone’ floor tiles in Ivory Naturale, all Di Lorenzo. Vanity painted Dulux New Penny. Travertino Alabastrino benchtop, Anterior XL. ‘Kiln 515’ basin in Coast and ‘Pearl’ wall sconce, both Robert Gordon Interiors. ‘Nur’ bath, Studio Bagno. **BEDROOM** *Below* Joinery painted Dulux Waltzing. Bedcover, Cultiver. Throw, Hale Mercantile. **BEDROOM** *Opposite* Jodie Carter Design bedhead and base in Camengo ‘Scacchiera’ fabric in Carbone. Wall panelling painted Dulux Waltzing. ‘Hackney’ table lamp, Bloomingdales Lighting. ‘Mondo’ sheets, Linen & Moore. ‘Vert de Gris’ cushion in Camengo ‘Scacchiera’ fabric. Curtains in ‘Venezia’ linen in Dune, The Textile Company.

Paint colours are reproduced as accurately as printing processes allow.



COURTYARD This level-two outdoor zone was designed by landscape architects SiteDesign+Studios. 'Lola' chaise in Terracotta Stripe, Florabelle Living. 'DecoWood' Curly Birch battens, DECO Australia. 'Scala' crazy paving and battens, Eco Outdoor.



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THE SOURCE

In a sea of white, texture and earthy colour go a long way.



Produced by Amanda McCourt.

1 'Harvey' side table, \$229, Domayne. 2 'Llonga' planters (54cm and 32cm), \$659/two, Kave Home. 3 'Lake' armchair in Petal/Poppy, \$5564, Jordan. 4 *Life Within Life* 2024 artwork by Lindy Lee, POA, Sullivan+Strumpf. 5 'Vestmanna III' vase in Clay, \$59.95, Freedom. 6 Articolo 'Moni' pendant, POA, Est Lighting. 7 'Zulta' cushion in Onyx Dots, \$240, Fenton&Fenton. 8 'Double Bell' table in Golden Oak, \$179, The Wood Room. 9 'Matteo' wool and silk throw in Chalk, \$394, L&M Home. 10 'Dari' rug in Camel, \$11,000, Jordan. **H&G**