

AUSTRALIA'S GO-TO FOR DESIGN INSPIRATION

# The Design Files

ISSUE 03

OCT 2025 — MAR 2026



Annie Portelli's Soulful Family Home • Coastal Bliss With The Bachelor Australia's  
Matty Johnson + Laura Byrne • A Brick Duplex Transformed With WOWOWA's Signature Flair •  
Pre-Fab Perfection In Capertee Valley • The Beauty + Balance of Multigenerational Living



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# Take it Easy

LOCATION  
Northcote, VIC  
Warrurden Country

Colour soothes the soul in the Northcote family home of interior decorator Lauren Egan, whose run-down 1930s weatherboard bungalow is now rich in texture and detail, following an extensive renovation with Project 12 Architecture.





Spirited gem jewelry and shoes by Big River  
Custom-made glass plates by Melissa's Table  
Decorative objects, Marvin County Table by Mike  
Wright, Shoji Panel Glass cabinet tops, Pin  
Pallet and Light Table, Table and chairs by Marvin  
Wright, Custom bar stools by Mike Mizuhara  
Photo by Sarah & Co.



Colour visually defines each zone, most notably in the central kitchen, which showcases a 'neutral' palette of burgandy tiles, pink travertine, and warm beige walls with a slightly brownish undertone that harmonise with the spotted gum and oak.

A timber pivot door conceals the main bedrooms off the living room (it's a bit of a flex to do as people first come to visit, says Lauren), which doubles down on the warm tones with amber carpet and heavy velvet curtains, adding a luxurious and plush feel to the space.

Original rooms in the heart of this house, in contrast, have a fresh look, with an array of mild and deep-toned greys that provide some relief from the earthy saturated hues of the communal areas.

While some interior decorators may scrutinise every detail in their home, Lauren offers a refreshingly balanced perspective.

I can't live with regrets... I'd go mad if I wanted. If every decision I made was the 'best' one!

I think the design of a home is a creation of what's in a designer's head at that moment, what they're looking at, what's influencing your social media, or a material you saw some time and it stuck.

Most importantly, the collective impact of the interiors inspires immediate relaxation, achieving Lauren's goal for a house that feels like a 'long exhale'. The best compliment I've had from friends and family is that they are at ease in the house. **A**



▲ Amber 24th lamp (2021) was by Hester Mulloy from Mo House. Benches in Pink Travertine by C&K Stone. Curved Pull Tumbled Brass by L&L Co.

▲ Hood (2 wall solutions) by Soora. Ceramics bought on a recent trip to Japan.

▲ Spotted gum shelves featuring various vessels by Brendigo Pottery, Whynot & Co, Claudia Lee, Heidielle Johnson and Anna. Goldie, woven basket from Pan. After: vintage Stonemorphic washbasin by Erik & Irene Maritz for R&A.

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Clockcase from left: Moon Glass by Charlotte Lutz, vase from an antique store by Wraygul & Co., vase from an antique wooden store by Angh-Grainle, vase by Nicolaus Johnson, books from C&A, lacquer from Plant Smith, Buttons by Wraygul & Co. and Crown T1, and vintage glass vases.

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Art by Tilly Raine. Mask by Park Pardon and beer shaver, both from Pan Alter. Clock made by Jessica. Clock table by Albert Lennan. Galia Piccolo lamp by Fluo. Vintage Amanda coffee table by Paolo Piva for E&O Italia. Carpet in Spindle Earth by Feltex.



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Paint by Renée Ellis, Vintage lamp, Bedding from Cultiver, Vase on carpet in Under by Helene Lake.

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Walk in Maria Azzurri Microcosm Street, Park Turbine by C&A Stone, Spine and Stone all from Curates. Tape, Towel by Katin. Artwork from Academy Trust.

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Glenn Hester, Lauren Egan and their children Remmie (8) and Abby (5).

