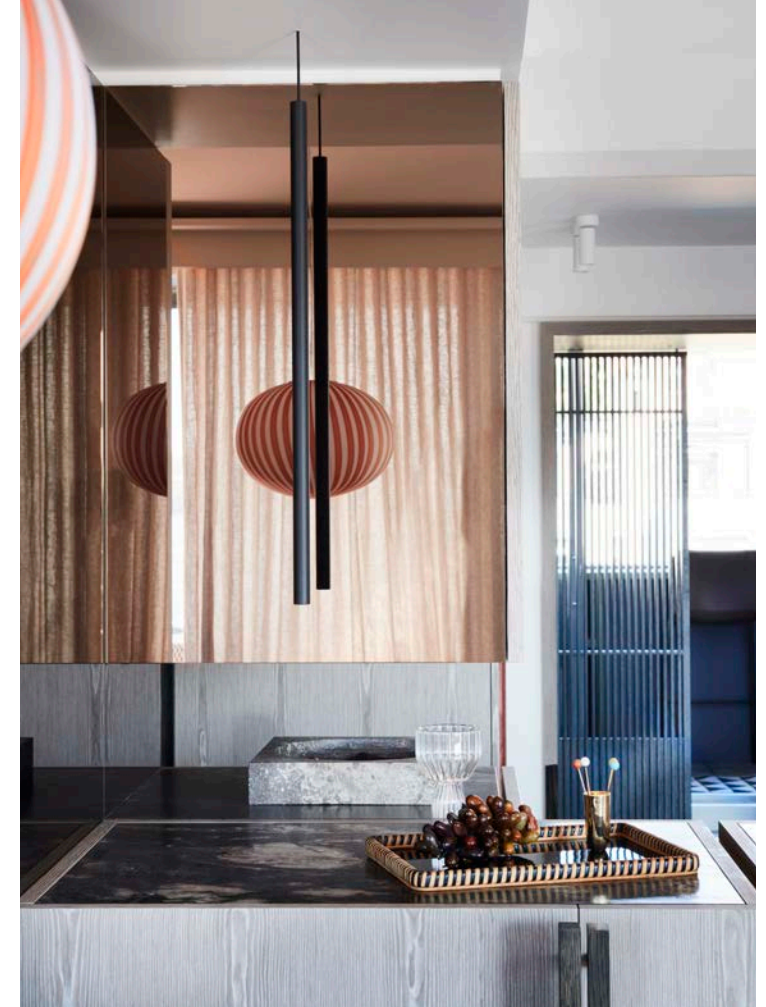




This page "Circus-like frivolity is conveyed with elegant strength via eclectic patterns and motifs," says designer Yamine Ghoniem of YSG Studio of the buoyant interiors of the penthouse on the Finger Wharf she transformed into a "light, whimsical beacon that enhanced harbour views". Established & Sons 'Filigrana S4' Venetian glass pendant lights from Living Edge. B&B Italia 'Tobi-Ishi' dining table in Satin White from Space. Poltrona Frau 'Amelie' dining chairs. L'Objet 'Cenote' bowl in green from Becker Minty. S-fold curtains in Mokum 'Satori Stonewash' in Blush made by Simple Studio. Custom outdoor seating and bolsters by YSG Studio made by Caroline Gilmour of Rematerialised in Kvadrat 'Patio #370' and Missoni 'Taranaki' with cushions in Missoni 'Thailand #174' and 'Waterloo #164' from Spence & Lyda. **Opposite page** Blank Joinery made the custom kitchen furniture designed by YSG Studio, including the counter in honed emerald-green marble from Artedomus. *Outback, 2018* artwork by Ken Done from Ken Done Gallery.



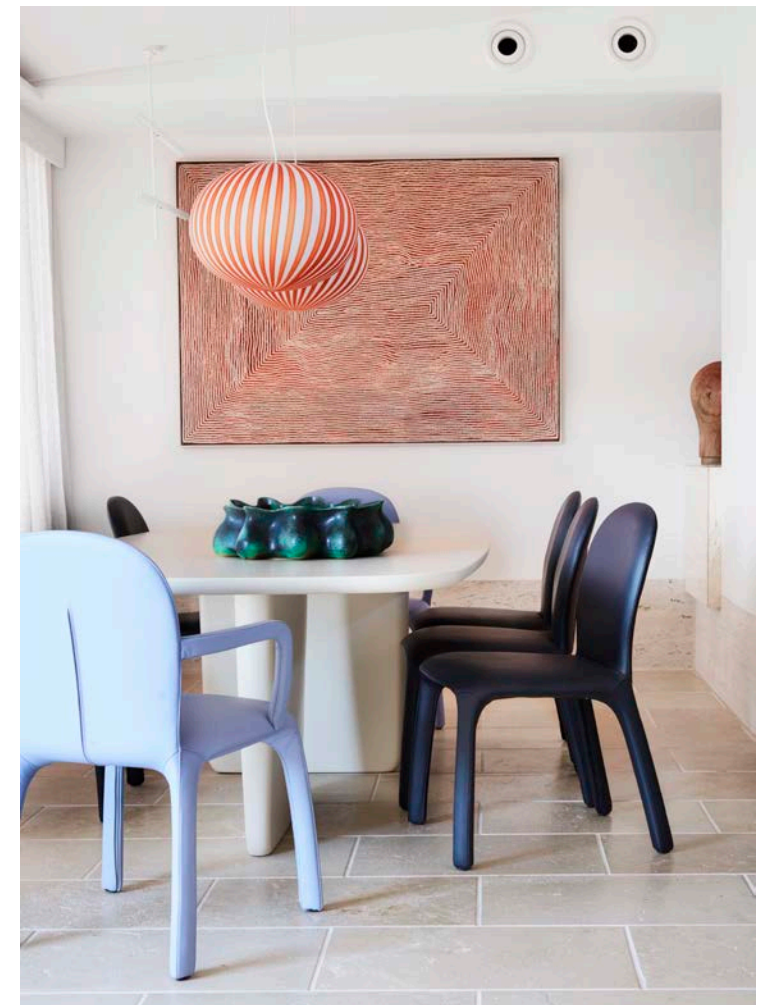


This page, clockwise from top left Originally enclosed, a chunky stacked counter in Vitoria Regia marble from Artedomus demarcates the kitchen's boundary. Suspended above the bar is the 'Miss' pendant light by Davide Groppi from De De De. Studio Henry Wilson 'Block Big Poche' travertine dish. Ferrone 'Margot' red wine goblet, vintage dyed agate grapes, Aerin Annette cocktail picks and holder, and vintage cane tray, all from Becker Minty. In the dining area hangs an artwork by Warlimpirrnga Tjapaljarri. In the kitchen, vintage 'Sella Piccolo' hand-blown Murano glass chandelier from The FM Gallery. **Opposite page, from top** Organically-shaped furniture defines areas without constricting them with jarring edges. Inspired by a fireplace in the mansion in the 1976 movie *A Star is Born*, a marble fireplace plinth hovering upon two sculpted travertine bases aligns with the floating detail supporting the bar's joinery, granting the natural stone a levitating lightness. Wool and art silk rug designed by YSG Studio and made by Tappeti. Detail of the fireplace designed by YSG Studio, made by Blank Joinery in Calcutta Viola marble from Mediterranean Marble & Granite.



THE CLIENTS' FASCINATION with far-flung cultures saw their treasured art, objects and fabrics star in this penthouse transformation by Yasmine Ghoniem of YSG Studio. *What was the brief?* The clients called after hearing about a residential design award we had won. They wanted to transform a dated 90s penthouse on a Sydney finger wharf into a light, whimsical beacon that enhanced harbour views while showcasing their art collection. Little-used bedrooms were to be converted into a study and a guest room. *What were the challenges of the space and how did you resolve them?* Tight, angular configurations within the challenging layout were altered to maximise spatial flow and usher in light. Decorative columns crowding the foyer were removed, as was a corridor, allowing water views from the now-integrated kitchen, living and dining area. Storage was recessed where possible, including a concealed area above the fireplace's lacquered cabinetry and in the study wall. A 45cm datum line integrates the rooms (predominantly via travertine, plus the bar's dramatic zebra veneer that hovers above the floor) as do batten joinery and doorhandles, lithely elevating the apartment's vertical dimensions. *How would you describe the interior?* The base palette of the 200sqm space was flipped from enclosing

charcoal shades to a blank canvas comprising textured marmorino plaster walls by Uprising Cement Renderers, polished Insernia stone floors and pitted travertine bathrooms. Candy striped glass 'beach ball' lights levitate above the dining table, their vertical stripes enabling tonal absorption with the Ken Done painting, *Outback*, hanging behind. In the bedroom, a shell-like plaster Plafoniere light floats like a cloud. Surrounding this space, curtains and an integrated upholstered bedhead with side panels in a textured hand-stitched Pierre Frey fabric inject the room with multicultural references (as do the tartan sconces and bed cushions). *What are your favourite elements?* Artisanal and sculpted vignettes are underpinned by space-expanding elements, including high-voltage marble veins connecting zones. Within the deepened thresholds of the bedrooms, oversized pivot timber doors reduce angled margins, enabling light to pool within. Organically-shaped furniture defines areas without constricting them with jarring edges, including the refined 'stone age' dining table and the sophisticated naivety of the cartoon-like silhouettes of the blue leather chairs surrounding it. *What informed the selection of furniture, art, fittings and finishes?* Avid art collectors, the owners



stipulated that colour schemes should complement their pieces. Tangy tangerine, salmon and plum shades dotted with varying depths of the harbour's marine blue are anchored by stronger tones in the adjoining rooms. Candy-pink kitchen tapware and lampshades in the guest bedroom add spirited pops. Embracing the owners' intrepid travel instincts, international references abound, most notably within the master suite. Inspired by ancient Chinese folding screens, the ceiling's hand-painted walnut timber batten bracing subtly nods to their framing device. Unfurling around its centrifuge, a waterscape of lilies and pond ripples expand the room's depth. Brass cattle horn handles on the bedhead's integrated joinery beneath add further exotic flair. *Were the owners happy with the execution?* Absolutely. A favourite zone is the wet bar near the dining table. They were adamant that the ritual of pouring an evening drink was glorified. Its smoked bronzed mirror visually amplifies the dimensions of the living area while bouncing natural light throughout and reflecting the hero view. Swirling natural stone inlays hover upon its surface, adding a spritz of drama with weightless finesse. *ysg.studio*



These pages, clockwise from above Unfurling around the handpainted ceiling, a custom waterscape of lilies and pond ripples by YSG Studio and painted by Creative Finish Sydney expand the room's depth. Brass cattle-horn handles on the custom bedhead and integrated joinery add further exotic flair. Cultiver bed linen with quilt in Japanese vintage silks from Planet and reversible hand-printed quilt by Sally Campbell from The DEA Store. Handmade leather and wood wall sconces from Specified Store. Vintage vase from Rudi Rocket and Emily Belle Ellis stoneware vase from The DEA Store. Linear cut highball tumbler from Becker Minty. To the right of the bed are vintage Japanese ceramic vases from Planet and a vessel from Rudi Rocket. In front of a Sussie Heymans artwork is an Artifort 'Tulip' chair and ottoman upholstered in Kvadrat 'Pilot' by Raf Simons in colour 792 and 'Talesin 1' floor lamp by Frank Lloyd Wright from Euroluce. Custom silk runner made by Tappeti.



"AVID ART COLLECTORS, THE OWNERS STIPULATED THAT COLOUR SCHEMES SHOULD COMPLEMENT THEIR PIECES."



This page, clockwise from above Views over Walsh Bay beckon from the study, formerly a bedroom, from behind filmy S-fold curtains in Mokum 'Satori Stonewash' in Blush made by Simple Studio. De La Espada 'Capo' armchair by Neri&Hu from Spence & Lyda. Dyson 'CSYS' floor lamp from Living Edge. On the desk is a cast-brass tape dispenser by Studio Henry Wilson. Bespoke elements add a playful hit to the guest bedroom with the sconce lampshade in brilliant pink 'Checked Silk' from Chee Soon & Fitzgerald and bedhead panels in Pierre Frey 'Okinawa' in Saphir and Pierre Frey 'La Smala' embroidered linen made by Caroline Gilmour of Rematerialised. In the bathroom, bespoke elements include the vanity designed by YSG Studio and made by Blank Joinery in honed silver travertine from Mediterranean Marble & Granite. Inserta brushed limestone floor tiles from Artedomus. Vintage artwork from Rudi Rocket. Walls glow in a high-shine finish thanks to the tadelakt method of lime plastering.