



OUT OF THIS WORLD Mixing eccentric materials with *trippy* nature scenes, YSG puts a fantastical, *Lynchian twist* on a home's lush NSW South Coast location, which makes the familiar feel a little SURREAL.

*By* FREYA HERRING *Photographed by* ANSON SMART *Styled by* FELICITY NG

*This page* in the living room of this NSW South Coast home, Song **armchairs** in Terracotta linen and Burnt Orange cord from Maker&Son; custom jarrah **coffee table** by YSG and produced by Winchester Interiors with skirt produced by Rematerialised in Abby Check Tan washed linen from Tessuti Fabrics; A Curved Line **vessel** by Astrid Salomon from Studio Gardner; vintage **bowl** from Rudi Rocket; bottle **sculpture** (on shelf) and blue tile **artwork** by Joseph Turrin, woodfired **vessel** by Suvira McDonald and Opus Lab Mushroom **wall art** (bottom shelf) all from The DEA Store; Ora Fields **rug** from Tappeti; Orb **pendant lights** from Lighting Collective; **fireplace face** in Zellige tiles in Bianca, Spearmint, Blush, Arctic and Shiraz from Di Lorenzo. *Details, last pages.*



*These pages in the kitchen, custom jarrah island and cabinets by YSG and produced by Winchester Interiors; island benchtop in Rosso Asiago marble from Euro Marble; custom island base and custom rangehood by YSG in Vixel glass mosaic tiles from Artedomus; splashback in Rust Moroccan Zellige tiles from Di Lorenzo; vintage rattan stools; Thread joinery handles in Toniton Blue from Royal Design; Zip filter tap; 1960s Erik Hoglund decanter (top left shelf) and sculpture by Rudi Loveapple from Rudi Rocket; wall vase (bottom left shelf) by Erez Ben-Or and Opus Lab Mushroom salt cellar (bottom right shelf) from The DEA Store; New Works Blæhr vase (top right shelf) and Sticky Glass Wiggle carafe #1 (bottom right shelf) from District; Momento Emerald vase (top right shelf) by Jaime Hayon for &Tradition from Cult; custom lamp by YSG; joinery lights from Sphera; Roman blinds produced by Simple Studio in Sahco Fantome fabric from Kvadrat; floor in cork from The Flooring Co; Current Wave wall sculpture by Valerie Vigar from Saint Cloche Gallery.*







*This page* in another view of the living room, custom **banquette** by YSG and produced by Rematerialised in Métaphores Zanzibar fabric from Boyac; Project 213A ceramic **side table** from Studio Gardner; yellow velvet **cushion** from Morrow Studio; vintage glass **sconce**; House of Hackney Plantasia **wallpaper** in Sage from IconRadford; **floor** in cork from The Flooring Co; *Two Parables (2023)* **artwork** by Daniel Domig from Chalk Horse Gallery. *Opposite page* in another view of the living room, Thursday **sofa** in Calippo/Palmer from Jardan; Normann Copenhagen Fyr pinewood **stool** from Royal Design; Roattino **floor lamp** by Eileen Gray for ClassiCon from Anibou; Pagoda Réflecteur **table lamp** from Studio Henry Wilson; **curtain** produced by Simple Studio in Clarence House Kharif Crewel from South Pacific Fabrics; handpainted **ceiling detail** by Creative Finish Sydney; vintage **artwork** from Rudi Rocket. In the dining room (beyond), PP130 Circle **chair** by Hans J. Wegner for PP Møbler from Cult; Aré **console** from Worn Store; **urn** by Kelly Brown from The DEA Store; Hollywood Regency ceramic lettuce **servicing platter** (on wall) from 1stDibs.







*These pages* in the entry, custom **ottoman** by YSG and produced by Rematerialised in Cruze Rust from Warwick Fabrics and Abby Check Tan washed linen from Tessuti Fabrics; custom **cabinets** by YSG and produced by Winchester Interiors with **curtains** produced by Rematerialised in Abby Check Tan washed linen from Tessuti Fabrics; custom **mirror** with yellow frame by YSG and produced by Window Joinery; Putrellino **side table** by Dimoremilano; *Pox Pot with Golden Balls* vessel by Glenn Barkley from Sullivan+Strumpf; 1970s German Waechtersbach **vase** from Rudi Rockett; Ovid **door pull** from V.Brokk; Bikini **wall light** in Green from Servomuto; Cherub **wall lights** (in hallway, foreground) in Cloud from Huey Lightshop; Figs & Strawberries **wallpaper** from Milton & King; Vichy **wallpaper** (on ceiling) from Natty and Polly; **floor** in cork from The Flooring Co.

t's little wonder interior designer Yasmine Ghoniem compares her recently completed Plantasia project to the David Lynch aesthetic. The entire house is utterly filmic, with clashing prints set against plush fabrics, mismatched furniture and Wes Anderson precision with a squeeze of 1970s-interpreted Victoriana. It's mesmerising without being overwhelming, and a far cry from the generic, mock-Colonial house it was before Ghoniem had her way with it.

The house is set on the bucolic New South Wales South Coast. "It's nestled in greenery and rolling hills, with beautiful citrus gardens," says Ghoniem, founder of VL50-listed, Sydney-based interior design and architecture firm YSG. "It's in an amazing location, but the interior didn't marry with the incredible views on offer. You could have been anywhere." The six-bedroom, six-bathroom house has an internal footprint of 320 square metres, and Ghoniem describes its previous incarnation as cavernous: "it didn't feel like a home." Something had to give. "We wanted it to feel a little bit adorned. We wanted to embrace the natural environment that the house was located in, and bring it inside more."

The owners trusted Ghoniem's instincts to take on the transformation. "We had done work with this particular client before, so it wasn't our first rodeo — we understood how they work as a family, and their appreciation for fun, free-spirited living," she says. "They kind of just let us go, and I think that's why the outcome is as layered and imaginative as it is."

The outside has been brought in with lush natural materials like cork flooring, but most persuasively via the use of print, particularly the ornate wallpaper that bejewels the rooms. "In one room we framed the beautiful tree outside with wallpaper that assimilates the landscape beyond. It's very trippy — you don't know if you're in the room or if you're outside," Ghoniem explains. "All of the wallpapers have some element of greenery, forest, rolling hill or citrus garden." The bedrooms are a highlight. The owners love to host family and friends, so there's no primary bedroom per se. Instead, guests can choose a room for their stay. "Each one has an independent flavour, which is also complementary, so in some instances the adornment doesn't appear on all the walls, it just appears on the ceiling. Guests can pick their experience."

One of Ghoniem's favourite bedrooms is like a 21st-century rereading of the *Twin Peaks* universe. "It's almost David Lynchian in some of the combinations of materials and colours. We did combos like the blue carpet, red-coloured frames and striped ceilings," she states. "Saying that out loud some people might vomit, but looking at it it's a really lovely composition." The headily floral wallpaper is by Natty and Polly, with an artwork of a whispering couple hanging aloft the bed. "The painting is by one of my favourite artists, Madeleine Pfull; it's called *Secrets*. It's almost like they're saying, 'Have you been to this place? It's so amazing.'"

Raised by an Australian mother and Egyptian father, Ghoniem grew up living throughout the Middle East, from Dubai and Kuwait to Saudi Arabia, and her style (warm, layered, playful and rich) reflects the eclecticism of this kind of upbringing — why use one reference when you have multitudes absorbed via osmosis clacking away behind the scenes of your mind? "I've got a bit of a global aesthetic because I have moved around so much and I have an appreciation for loads of different types of styles and aesthetics and the way people live," she says. "I really get a kick out of how someone puts their home together based on where they're from."

The dining area reflects this scope, with mismatched chairs — vintage ones in scraggily rush, a double act of Thonet — and objects of miscellany pinned to the walls. Vaguely shirred, pink fabric bedecks the overhead light — it could be something daggy your gran might have whipped together on the Singer, but here, in combination with everything else (the rattan, cork, an inimitable choice of accessories) it becomes both a chic elevation and a softening force. Like granny, Ghoniem isn't afraid of a bit of brown, with the adjoining kitchen echoing 1970s design in tones of earthy red, maroon tiles set against timber panelling and heavily mottled Rosso Asiago marble benchtops. Vintage rattan stools link the elements together with their woody texture and red-slicked finish.

The connecting living room is filled with cushy furniture — Maker&Son's dreamy Song armchair in terracotta linen, Jordan's Thursday modular sofa with thick stripes in brown and blue — overlooking a fireplace that Ghoniem moved to the middle of the wall and added tiling to "give it some girth", heightening it as a feature in the space.

Recently, Ghoniem had the chance to stay at this fantastical property that sprung from her own mind. "I put the fire on when I was there and it was honestly one of the best movie night experiences ever," she says. "Everything had that touch of 'Whoa! Crazy!' but not at the same time. It felt like it was all supposed to be there." ■ [ysg.studio](#)

*Opposite page* in the bathroom, The Water Monopoly Rockwell **bath** in Sherbet Yellow and **tapware** from The English Tapware Company; Iris **wall lamps** from Sogni di Cristallo; Citrus Garden **wallpaper** by Schumacher; Bianca Casa Zellige **wall tiles** and Bejmat Blue Moon **floor tiles** from Di Lorenzo; *Menindee II Plein Air artwork* by Justin Maurice Scivetti from Saint Cloche Gallery.





*These pages* in the main bedroom, Massproductions Sander table from District; Ash NYC Pillow chair from Studio Alm; Knossos vase #02 XL by Tina Psarianos from The DEA Store; Chateau bedcover in Dune from In the Sac; Radici Abetone Club broadloom carpet in Cielo 9226 from Fyber; Bikini wall light in Rust from Servomuto; Bethany Linz Fresco Stripe wallpaper in Caramel (on ceiling) from Milton & King; Architects Paper Botany Tree wallpaper in Ochre/Blue from Natty and Polly; curtains and Roman blinds produced by Simple Studio in Linford Rust washed linen from Tessuti Fabrics; *Secrets 1* (2023) artwork by Madeleine Pfull from Chalk Horse Gallery.







*This page* in the king bedroom, **side table** by Eileen Gray for ClassiCon from Anibou; Putrellino **ottoman** by Dimoremilano; Chateau **bedcover** from In the Sac; vintage **table lamp**; Kara brass and leather **door pull** from Passio Interiors; Aeratron AE2+ Premium DC **ceiling fan** from Harvey Norman; Radici Abetone Club broadloom **carpet** from Fyber; House of Hackney Hollyhocks **wallpaper** (on ceiling) from IconRadford; *Atoll* (2019-21) **artwork** by André Piguet from Station Gallery. *Opposite page* in the guest powder room, Hemnes mirror **cabinet** in custom colour from Ikea; The Water Monopoly Rockwell **basin** in Willow Green on pedestal and three-hole high spout **basin mixer** from The English Tapware Company; **benchtop** and **shelf** in onyx stone from Euro Marble; custom **cabinet** by YSG and produced by Winchester Interiors; 1960s glass **vase** from Rudi Rocket; Opus Lab Mushroom **salt spoons** from The DEA Store; *SMD3* **sculpture** by Tanika Jellis from Studio Gardner; Rolling Hills **wallpaper** by Schumacher; **floor** in Bejmat Blue Moon tiles from Di Lorenzo. *Details, last pages.*