

STARRY STARRY NIGHT

When is a house not a house? When it's a penthouse-style living space built in the heart of suburbia

WHEN THE CLIENTS of Panache Developments decided to build their new home, they wanted an penthouse-style with open areas that would maximise the views and night sky. The original platform for the house was a single-fronted yellow brick residence which, sparing the floor frame, was completely levelled.

Panache went right to work developing a two-storey home, which encompassed the need for functional areas such as a study and guest bedroom, while creating a very modern space with the feeling of being in a chic, inner-city warehouse that lets the outside shine in.

One of the main features of the home is the upstairs area. This houses the main bedroom, ensuite and combined kitchen, dining and living areas. An entire wall of this room opens via sliding doors to an entertaining terrace, which looks over the front of the house. Panoramic views are taken in from all parts of the room, with windows slotted in everywhere possible. These windows are also elongated either horizontally or vertically, giving the feeling of amazing space and letting in every ounce of natural light.

The stairwell was left completely open and features a skylight directly above it, giving an almost triple-storey height and setting the upstairs scene as you ascend.

Downstairs features two bedrooms, a guestroom, study, two bathrooms and powder room. It also features a gym, outdoor barbecue area and outdoor bathroom. At the front of the house the garage is set back, giving

way to landscaping with brick fencing and massive wrought-iron gates.

George from Panache comments on how they kept the colour palette contemporary but warm. "Although we wanted the views and design of the house to be the main focuses, we also didn't want to make the colour scheme cold and uninviting," he explained. Dark, sultry chocolates were used in the kitchen and bathrooms, with Antique White USA used for the walls (a replacement from stark whites) for a warmer, more ambient look. These colours also offset the stunning royal blues of the sky, which fill the upper level at night and are a real jaw dropper in the home.

Panache used lighting designers and suppliers, Lights + Tracks, for all lighting and created a delicate hue to each room as the house gets lots of natural light during the day and even at night has moonlight filtering through.

CaesarStone benchtops in snow were used in the kitchen and supplied by Doric Marble, with the glass splashback matching the walls in Antique White USA. In the bathrooms, Reece Design fittings feature and carpeting in the bedrooms, stairs and living areas are a light-chocolate low pile.

During the day the light in the house is amazing, with every corner illuminated. It's when the sun goes down, however, that the house really comes alive. A magical air fills each room and the whole house positively glows with natural colours that couldn't possibly be replicated with a man-made palette. Panache has not only delivered what the client wanted, but has made these desires heard in every facet of the house, allowing it to be enjoyed at any hour of the day for years to come. **-CHD-**

1 AN OPEN-PLAN SITTING AREA AND KITCHEN LETS AIR FLOW FREELY THROUGH THE SPACE 2 THE STAIRCASE SETS THE TONE FOR THE UPSTAIRS AREA WITH A MASSIVE CLEARWAY AND HIGH SKYLIGHT

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3 A BALCONY LOOKS OVER THE GENEROUS FRONT GARDEN 4 A BLUE HUE FILLS THE HOUSE AT NIGHT 5 A SIMPLE COLOUR PALETTE IN THE BEDROOM IS KEPT WARM BY USING ANTIQUE WHITE USA PAINT AND SOFT DOWNLIGHTS 6 REECE DESIGN FITTINGS IN THE BATHROOM ADD TO THE MODERN LOOK



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