

FLACK STUDIO

INTERIORS



RIZZOLI
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CATHERINE, DOMAIN
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Following a great association working on the Elmore homestead, Catherine decided to commission Flack Studio to refresh a beautiful 1930s family home in South Yarra. The brief was to make it brighter with more practical living spaces. Our home is a gracious, statuesque south-facing 1930s home and we loved living there for eight years or so, prior to Flack Studio's inspired renovation. The great outcome at our country Victorian property - courtesy of Flack - inspired us to consider improvements in the city. We wanted lighter, brighter living spaces, bathrooms adding and a rethink of the grander front rooms in terms of useability. The kitchen living area was rebuilt as a new space and was the most advanced design change. Elsewhere in the home the many interior design decisions - colour, tiles, finishes, cabinetry - were made with David's creative and beautiful input and with a view to maintaining the integrity of the original home. It was very similar to making those exciting plans together at Elmore. The finished house is a joy to live in. The emotional aspect for me is the quality of the enhanced spaces, the light flooding in and the beautiful garden which we can enjoy so much more now. The renovation provided not only a bright, warm and airy kitchen-living-dining space but also made the large existing rooms so much more liveable. The front rooms now function as a cocktail lounge, bar and a beautiful sitting room. The warmer and brighter conditions, provided by the updated utilities throughout, enhance the quality of life and are fabulous to live in, and the double height of the new kitchen and living areas showcases the best of Melbourne's changing weather. There are new surroundings and furnishings that mix with treasured possessions, reflecting a lifetime of collecting objects that resonate with me, my family and close friends. The simplicity and scope of new spaces allows them to breathe and talk. Renovating a home is often fraught - and I think we avoided a lot of issues because we worked with a fantastic team on both the design and building side. Across both properties maintaining the integrity, history and beauty, while enhancing the essence of what makes these properties special, has been a deliberate and well managed process. They say, 'Better the Devil you know' and 'The Devil is in the detail.' That was certainly the case working with these known, trusted and excellent teammates. The process was very exciting, enjoyable and lifestyle-enhancing. It was, in my opinion, an excellent experience and an even better outcome.





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The glass bricks and aged brass façade exude warmth and presence. A sixty-year-old olive tree centres the courtyard, with the landscape designed by Kate Seddon of KSLD.

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A double-height void in the rear addition inspired by Pierre Chareau's *Malson de Verre*, creates volume and brings in light at the intersection of the new and the old. The Sengu sofa by Patricia Urquiola for Cassina rests on a kilim rug designed by Flack Studio, manufactured by Halcyon Lake. It is paired with vintage Stringa armchairs by Gae Aulenti, a Bonacina side table and an Isamu Noguchi coffee table.

A vintage Papilloma floor lamp by Afra and Tobia Scarpa complements the setting.





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The family living room opens to the garden through a full wall of steel-framed windows. Warm, buttery tones merge with cool, deep greys. Baxter Sorrento armchairs sit alongside the Square 16 sofa by De Padova.

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A graphic black-and-white stone starburst grounds the horseshoe cocktail bar, designed by Flack Studio and meticulously constructed by our stonemasons, Bluechip.

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Camouflaged within the high-gloss walls of the cocktail lounge, a dramatic work by Dale Frank, accompanied by two Raffles armchairs by Vico Magistretti for De Padova. The full saturation of deep glossy red creates a dramatic lustre and moody effect.

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The oversized and dramatic PROMETHEUS I + II pendants by Christopher Boots anchor the primary bedroom.

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The serene primary bathroom features hand-crafted Palladiana stone floor in Crema Perla marble and terrazzo, a freestanding bath by Perrin & Rowe, and steel-framed windows and doors define the space.





