

THE WINTER ISSUE

Day tripper

Go places in the season's must-have coats

MUSIC MAN

Andrew Lloyd Webber on his latest musical megahit

EAT LOCAL WEEK

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Ground force

A dog-friendly design with a strong connection to the outdoors is perfect for two schnauzers and their owners

Michelle Bailey



Forging a connection between house and garden was key to adapting this New Farm Queenslander for owners Mike and Tom and their lawn-loving miniature schnauzers, Harvey and Oscar. "Whether it's for dogs or kids, a lot of projects in Brisbane are about taking an elevated house and finding ways to get down to the ground without it feeling

undesirable to make that transition," says architect Aaron Peters of Brisbane practice Vokes and Peters. "Mike and Tom wanted the ability to spend a lot of time in their backyard and their dogs were a driver for the design. "At the rear of the house we made a living space between the garden and the main level (upstairs). You go down half a flight to a new living room and then

it's less than a metre to get your feet on the ground." The new living room and adjacent outdoor dining room are housed below a contemporary roof, which takes its form from the hipped roof of the original Queenslander. "We were able to take the existing roof at the rear and [metaphorically] drag it down to make that new volume," Aaron

says. "Because the living room gets that double-height space, it gave us the opportunity to open up views down and through the house." Upstairs, a dining nook beside the kitchen reinforces as sense of connectivity between old spaces and new. A banquette seat, upholstered in fabric by local designer, Georgia Cannon, fashions a cosy corner for conversation.

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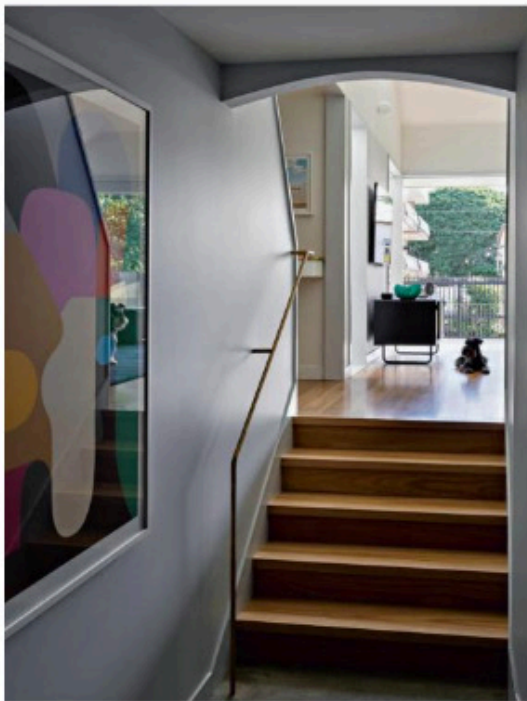
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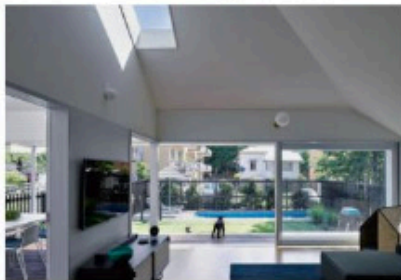
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OPEN HOUSE ...
The traditional Queenslander now has a living space linking the garden and the main upstairs area; the banquette dining nook; backyard and street views.

Architect:
vokesandpeters.com
Interior Designer:
georgiacannon.com
Photography:
Christopher Frederick Jones



"We love the fact that one of us can be upstairs and one downstairs and we can talk to each other," Mike says.

"The dining nook is a space that gets used a lot more than you would think. When one of us is cooking, the other is usually there. The dogs love the space too."

From the banquette seat, views are directed through casement windows and beyond through a skylight toward a distant

stand of pine trees. Glass walls frame views over the outdoor dining room and living spaces, strengthening the "presence" of these within the house.

"The upper level has a direct [visual] connection to the back yard," Aaron says. "You get little glimpses of the grass and the pool so you're always aware that it's there."

Inside historic rooms, traditional materials and ornamentation are retained

and enhanced through the curation of contemporary furniture and soft furnishings by Georgia Cannon and design of bespoke cabinetry by Vokes and Peters.

In the front sitting room an elegant, handpainted timber shelving unit provides display space for books, collectables and pot plants.

"The display shelf in the middle is positioned to frame the window," Aaron

says. "The cabinetry works to help orientate you in the room."

The house's exterior pays homage to its traditional architecture.

"We love the fact that it retains the old character and you can see the house as it was," Mike says.

"And the dogs' lives have been hugely enhanced. They are happy so we are happy."



RORY JONES
2018 YOUNG SPORTING
SPIRIT NOMINEE

DO YOU KNOW A YOUNGSTER WHOSE SPORTSMANSHIP INSPIRES YOUR COMMUNITY?

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For more information and to nominate, visit
localsportstars.com.au/quest

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Nominations open Monday 18 March, 2019 and close 11:59pm Saturday 31 August, 2019 for QLD residents only. Winners determined during the judging period 2 September, 2019 to 13 September, 2019. Publication and state winners names will be published following the awards presentation event in October 2019. Total Queensland prize pool valued at \$13,700 AUD. Full terms and conditions available at localsportstars.com.au/quest