

SITCHU.

LIVING



LIVE | SHOP | EAT | DRINK | STAY | PLAY

sitchu.com.au

A STYLISH *Transformation*

A Californian bungalow that celebrates both classic and contemporary design.



Where forever homes are found and community is strong, this particular suburban village charms with a rich Italian culture. In Sydney's Inner West, Haberfield has a nostalgic feel that blends the heyday of Californian bungalows with European flair.

It is here, where period homes are revered for their timeless beauty, that Sydney-based architecture practice Studio Prineas transformed a tired and worn Californian bungalow into a home fit for a growing family of five. Keen to remain in the heritage conservation suburb, the family purposefully sought out a house they could breathe new life into, making it a place that is uniquely their own.

Believing in the importance of home and its role in our overall well-being, Studio Prineas was the perfect fit for the project. "Our interior vision and overall design approach was to restore a home that would encourage and inspire a life well lived for generations to come, one that addresses the functional and emotional needs of the family in equal measure," explains Eva-Marie Prineas, Principal of Studio Prineas.

A collaboration between Eva-Marie and Studio Prineas associate, Jacqueline Lindeman, Bona Vista is a carefully crafted house. In line with heritage guidelines and the council's highly prescriptive regulations, the clever and fresh design of the renovation and extension plays on texture, warmth and light without compromising on the home's original character, blending the old with the new in the most unexpected of ways.

Behind the brick façade, the traditional colours of the home's exterior echoes throughout the interiors. Natural stone, maroons and browns appear within the furnishing, joinery and flooring, weaving together the classical and contemporary design elements.

"Since first setting foot in the home, our design team were inspired by the existing terrazzo thresholds and vitrified tiles to the fireplace, driving a tactile and layered material sensibility," says Eva-Marie. "Red stack bond brick forms a robust datum that grounds the open living spaces and is complemented by warm natural stone, Tasmanian oak and rattan joinery."

Encouraging a sense of connection throughout the home while still allowing space for quiet retreat, Studio Prineas repurposed existing rooms and bedrooms. The team created a new pavilion that functions as a contemporary living area. With open-plan living not typically associated with Californian bungalows, Studio Prineas purposefully created the modern addition, separated from the original house by a drop-in level and internal stairs.

Articulated by partially obscured skylights, the unconventional internal ceiling line is a defining and memorable volume, filtering natural light into the living and dining zones, highlighting bespoke joinery, Akari paper lanterns by Isamu Noguchi and a cosy sunken lounge area. A place for the family to gather, the lounge area is made all the more special with expanses of glass opening out to the lawn, pool and pool house.

Yet still, the standout in the home is the use of various flooring materials. "To pay homage to the identity and grain of the original house, we used subtle transitions in flooring that combine brick, terrazzo, parquetry, and traditional timber boards, giving depth to the articulation of space," explains Eva-Marie.

“

“The home is now as much about the parts we restored as it is about the parts we created.”

– Eva-Marie Prineas, Principal of Studio Prineas.





With the home now complete, Eva-Marie is enamoured by how Bona Vista celebrates the original house with a layer of fresh personality and also the versatility of the traditional colour palette now cast in a modern light.

“The home is now as much about the parts we restored as it is about the parts we created,” says Eva-Marie. “I feel proud that we were able to lovingly revive the original home with more attention to detail than it likely received in the first place. We set out to ensure our design impact would stand the test of time, and I feel that we’ve achieved that.”

Architect Eva-Marie Prineas and Jacqueline Linderman @studioprineas

Interior designer Studio Prineas @studioprineas

Stylist Anna Delprat @anna_delprat

Builder Carrington Building @carringtonbuilding

Joiner Finch Projects @finchprojects

Photography Chris Warnes @chriswarnes

Landscape Designer Custom Creations Landscapes @cclandscapes

Words Margaret Quilter

Shop the Style

WEAVING TOGETHER FRESH CONTEMPORARY DESIGN WITH HERITAGE SUBURBAN STYLE, THIS HOME IS AN EFFORTLESS MIX OF OLD AND NEW.



1. Linen **Duvet** Cover, Cedar, Cultiver, \$295.00-\$365.00. 2. Arura Glass **Vase**, Medium, AYTm, Trit House, \$389.00. 3. Togo Replica Lounge **Chair**, Beige Velvet, Nvnv Space, \$5,725.00. 4. Underground **Candle**, Living Edge, \$55.00. 5. White George Nelson Replica Ball pendant **Light**, Observatory Lighting, Temple and Webster, \$569.00. 6. Buddha Wood, **Hand Balm**, Leif Products, \$59.00. 7. Panama Wood & Rattan **Coffee Table**, Natural, Suma By Design, \$560.00. 8. Lovy **Armchair**, HC28 Cosmo, Frank Chou, Domo, \$1,250. 9. Roman Pool **Towel**, Sage & Chalk, Baina, End Clothing, \$155.00. 10. Stevie, Lava Glaze, **Vase**, Marloe Marloe, \$395.00.