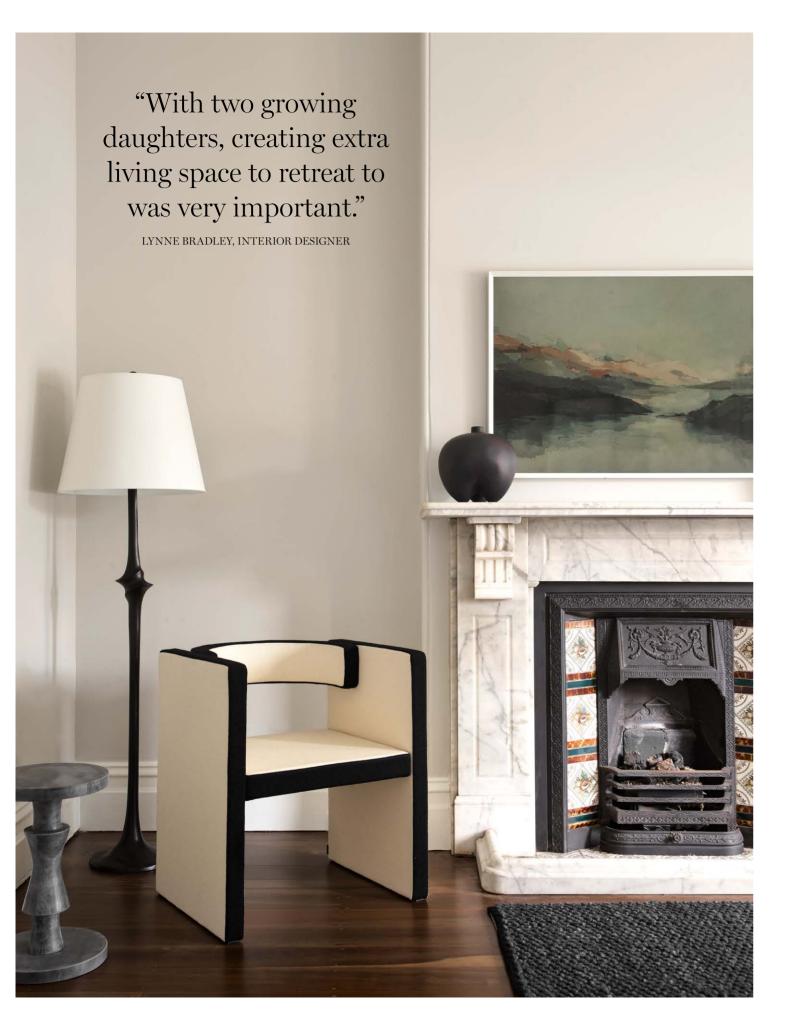


## PERSONAL SPACE

Thanks to a thoughtful interior designer, this once-awkward Sydney home is now meeting its true potential – and then some.

 ${\tt STORY}\ Carli\ Philips \mid {\tt STYLING}\ \textit{\textit{Jack Milenkovic/Atelier Lab}} \mid {\tt PHOTOGRAPHY}\ \textit{\textit{Anson Smart}}$ 









efore interior designer Lynne Bradley got her hands on this circa 1890 home in Sydney's inner west, the owners had to trek to the garage for access to their wardrobe. Surprisingly though, bringing the closet inside wasn't part of their brief. "We weren't asked to resolve that issue, mainly because they didn't think it was possible," says Lynne. "But I took the liberty of coming up with a better solution and now their clothes are actually stored in their bedroom where they should be!"

Homeowners Sylvia and Robert Paris and their children, Marie, 14, and Rose, 11, wanted to keep the character of the home but with modern updates including a new colour palette, furnishings and repair to the floorboards. "We wanted to maintain the heritage feel while adding contemporary touches, making the space more functional, elegant and relaxing for our family," says Sylvia.

For seven years, all four shared a bathroom that was the "size of a postage stamp", says Lynne. "Originally, Sylvia and Robert just wanted the bathroom replaced. That was one solution, but I saw there was potential to fix the existing one as well as include an ensuite for the main bedroom. They completely embraced the idea, which also added value to the house. And we managed to keep it all within budget."

As per Sylvia and Robert's wishes, the period ceiling roses, leadlight windows and arches remained intact. But what started as a 70 per cent decorative, 30 per cent architectural project flipped the other way around.

Typical of houses of the era, the floor plan is defined by a central corridor with rooms off either side. Lynne decided to divide the spacious open-plan living/dining room on the right to create a sitting room and a new main bedroom. While the existing bathroom was too tiny for a family, it was ideal to use as an ensuite for Sylvia and Robert. The bold cherry-red tiles were stripped out in favour of a softer scheme; and a bath under the window was replaced with a floating vanity to enhance the feeling of space.

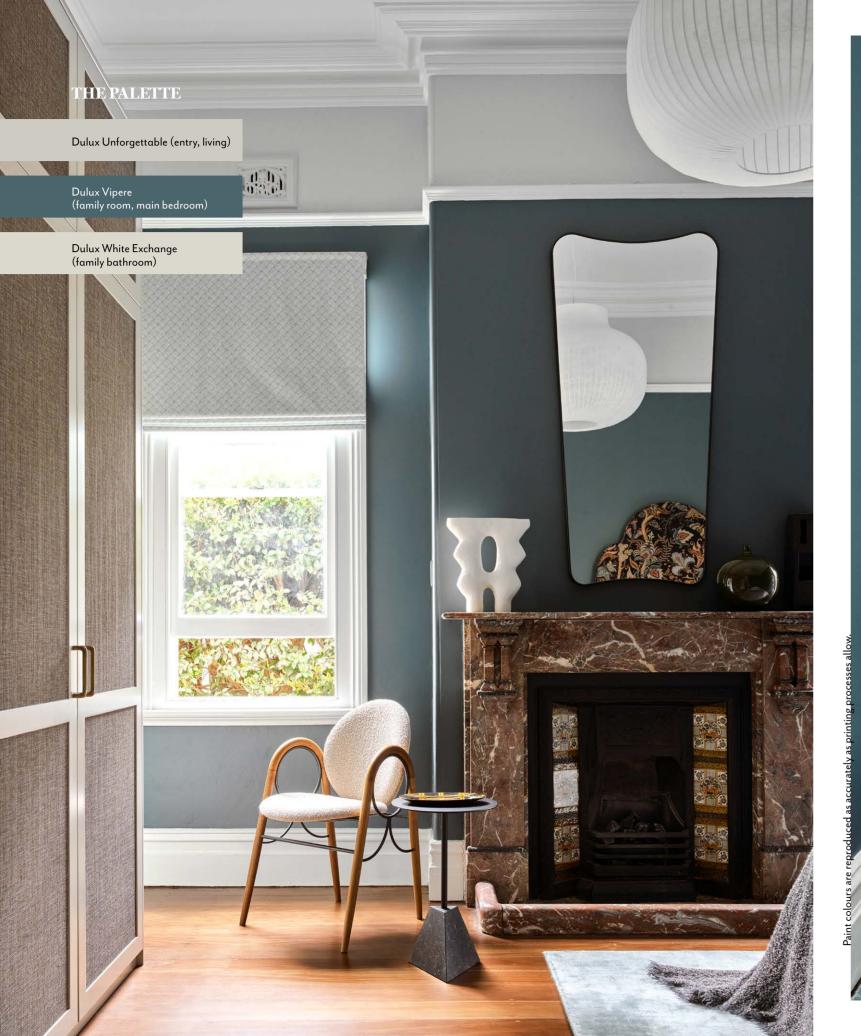
Continuing along the hall, the original kitchen was converted into a new family bathroom. The room was gutted, right down to the joists, so they could be reinforced to take the weight of the freestanding bath, marble floor tiles and feature terrazzo splashbacks. The fireplace was removed but the chimney preserved so that the cavity could be repurposed as storage, and the french doors to the garden were kept in position, allowing for natural light. "The terrazzo was inspired by the flooring at the entrance," says Lynne. "There are repeated elements here and there for continuity but overall I wanted to bring in some youthful energy and pattern. I call it 'contemporary classic'."

Along the eastern side of the house, what was originally the principal bedroom has been converted into a family room/study with sofas arranged around the fireplace. "It was just too small to be the main bedroom, which is why Sylvia and Robert had to keep their clothing in the garage," says Lynne. "The extra living area was important too - with two growing daughters, it made sense to have another space for independent retreat." Further along the corridor, Marie and Rose's rooms now have a more grown-up look with a proper desk area and materials they selected themselves. At the rear, the kitchen has remained in position while the adjoining sunroom has been converted into a daily-use dining room.

Lynne dressed the house with a mix of newly sourced investment pieces complemented with more affordable items. "Sylvia and Robert hadn't held on to a lot of things when they moved here, so we didn't really have an anchor or cherished piece of art to become a focal point," she says. "This meant creating a new narrative for the family." In the main bedroom, the wardrobe wallpaper takes its cues from the chocolatey marble mantel and the white sofas in the living room draw from the ivory-hued fireplace. "We gave Lynne full creative license to think differently. And we are immensely pleased with the outcome," says Sylvia.

Lynne Bradley Interiors, Lindfield, NSW; www.lynnebradleyinteriors.com.au.

"We gave Lynne full creative license and we are immensely pleased with the outcome." SYLVIA, OWNER







"I wanted to bring in some colour, pattern and youthful energy."

LYNNE BRADLEY, INTERIOR DESIGNER



MAIN BEDROOM Top and above Casamance 'Filin' wallpaper on wardrobe. Knock Out side table, Fred International. Glitz rug, The Rug Collection. Throw, Ondene. Muuto 'Strand' pendant, Arrival Hall. Roman blinds in Thompson 'Petite' in Sea Glass by Diane Bergeron, made by Master Workroom. Artworks by Anna Carien. Conran chest, La Maison. Vessels (from left) Fineworks Paddington, Becker Minty, Pachamama Clay House and vase by Laith McGregor, Station Gallery. MAIN ENSUITE Left and opposite Mizu Drift tapware, Reece. Wall tiles, Labyrinth Oblique Carrara & Thassos floor tiles, and Carrara marble skirting tiles, all Di Lorenzo Tiles. Alba wall mirror, ABI Interiors. Atlas cabinet handles, Mapio. Basin, ADP Australia. Krøyer-Sætter-Lassen 'Nimbus' table mirror, Oliver Thom. Kelly Wearstler 'Covet' sconces, Bloomingdales Lighting. Artwork, stylist's own. Vintage Wedgwood vase, Becker Minty. ▶







## THE SOURCE

Bold colour and inspirational artworks are the magic ingredients that unite old and new.



1 Rosado vessel, \$49.95, Freedom. 2 Fretwork Pebble roller blind, from \$60, Blinds Online by Tuiss. 3 Lyfa 'Peanut' pendant light, \$759, Fred International. 4 Flotsam and jetsam artwork, \$6600, by Scott Thomlinson. 5 Ava wall mirror, \$2525, Coco Republic. 6 Zip 'HydroTap G5 CS Arc' chilled/sparkling water tap in Brushed Rose Gold, \$3114, Harvey Norman. 7 Australian House & Garden towels in Clay, \$15-\$60 each, Myer. 8 Laufen 'Val' freestanding bath, \$9690, Reece. 9 Soho cutlery in Champagne Gold, \$59.95/16-piece set, Freedom. 10 BRDR Krüger 'Arkade' dining chair, from \$2364, Fred International. For Where to Buy, see page 192. H&G