

21ST-CENTURY Edwardian

A full-size horse lamp and rose-gold handles: welcome to the weird and wonderful world of Beaver Street

WORDS LOUISE SMITHERS PHOTOGRAPHY PETER CLARKE



DETAILS

HOUSE Beaver Street House
LOCATION Malvern East, Victoria
FINAL COST \$2m
DATE COMMENCED January 2018
DATE COMPLETED August 2019

“Only my daughter could have rose-gold handles!” said the father of Beaver Street’s lucky owner. From impressive hardware to equine-equipped lighting features, this is a truly unforgettable home with an interior design like none we’ve ever seen.

Smack bang in the centre of coveted Malvern East in Melbourne, the house is hugged by trademark real estate. Subdivided from the Gascoigne estate in the 1880s, and built in 1917, the property’s original structure has been faithfully restored to its Edwardian roots and imaginatively remodelled and extended.

“At more than a century old, it’s filled with a combination of period and modern details within its solid-brick interior, including the main bedroom with open fireplace, kitchen and elegant, functional living areas,” says Erika Lancini from Studio Lancini, the interior design legends responsible for this project.



WE LOVE
THE 1:1 REPLICA
MOOOI HORSE LAMP



THIS PAGE The custom-designed kitchen exudes class with its clean lines and a surprisingly effective contrast between the smooth blue cabinetry and parquet flooring



A major component of the brief was redesigning the Edwardian's existing layout, which encompassed a formal living room, office space, master bedroom with ensuite and walk-in robe, and additional bedrooms and bathrooms. Celebrating the past was important, as was access to seamless indoor/outdoor flow.

The modern renovation embraces high ceilings, ornamental cornices and intricate leadlight. A contemporary fireplace furnishes the space with style, warmth and clean lines that work with the established style of the home.

The GraceCon-constructed extension is dominated by a custom-designed kitchen and large living area. Two extra bedrooms offer respite, leaving the laundry and dedicated kids' retreat to take over the remaining square footage. Timber flooring and terrazzo tiling join timber veneers and brass hardware in a deliberately sustainable, yet chic, material palette.

The bespoke door with decorative mouldings and rose-gold handles is a knockout (pun intended). Indeed, Erika is a firm believer in the power of appropriate hardware. "Door hardware acts as an extension of the home's personality, and in this case is a stellar example of creating a connection between contemporary and traditional design," she says. The rose-gold handles not only look and feel phenomenal, they also evoke a sense of nostalgia for a more glamorous past that was lush with grandeur and opulent subtleties.





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AND CLEAN LINES
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The bathroom's rose-gold taps are a style statement

The clients' willingness to push the boundaries in terms of the colour palette and furnishing enabled Erika to treat the home with the same vivacious excitement she would her own. A Real Flame fireplace casts an alluring glow over the hard and soft furnishings, supplied by Living Edge, Est Lining and Space Furniture. Custom cabinetry by Vision Cabinet populates much of the house and further intensifies the refined nature of the spaces.

Natural colours and clean lines are interrupted by hints of royal blue and rose gold to create engaging, textured rooms. "It was important the aesthetics were welcoming, rigorously designed with bold accents of colour alongside a sense of calm," Erika explains.

Bold art choices reveal how traditional aesthetics can be transformed with modern styling. Forget "the race that stops the nation" because this place is home to "the horse that illuminates the scene". The 1:1 replica Moooi Horse Lamp by Front is a fabulous, quirky conversation starter.

**EDITOR'S
FAVOURITE**

THE BESPOKE DOOR WITH
DECORATIVE MOULDINGS
AND ROSE-GOLD HANDLES



INTERIOR PROJECT
BEAVER STREET HOUSE



LEFT The cute bird ceiling-hung light and matching wall sconce inject fun into the elegant bedroom

PROJECT TEAM

INTERIOR DESIGNER Studio Lancini, studiolancini.com.au

BUILDER GraceCon, gracecon.com.au

FIXTURES & FITTINGS

Cabinets Vision Cabinet

Fittings Gessi/Abey

Furniture Space, Living Edge

Lighting Est Lighting

Fireplace Real Flame

Road Kill is the kangaroo sculpture that graces the living room. Made by local artist Robert Delves, the sculptural silhouette was constructed using recycled street signs. “Robert Delves’ sculpture is an example of how recycled materials can be a significant design feature,” Erika adds.

In addition to retaining the heritage interiors of the home, the project has a wider impact on the preservation of Malvern’s architectural history, and for that we take our hat off to Erika and her talented team. 🏡