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# A walk on the wild side

An award-winning home looking out to lush trees, wildlife and offering touches of bright green inside provides a strong connection to the outdoors

reparing for the birth of your first child can be daunting enough, but add in a home renovation (plus pesky possums and a python!) and it's a recipe for extreme stress. Michele and Kevin happily welcomed their first child, Christopher, just two weeks after demolition of their home begun, but it was hardly the sort of welcome home for baby that most new parents dream of, nor the most peaceful of environments for a sleeping newborn.

The original single-storey house situated in the north-western corner of their site had been renovated by the previous owner, an enthusiastic handyman; however, not much thought was given to the impact of a second-storey addition to the ground floor. The stair that led up to this new level had been placed in such a way that it made part of the living area a circulation corridor and created a rather large, unusable space in the south-eastern corner of the house,

Both Michele and Kevin enjoy cooking, so the kitchen had a special significance for them and would be the site for many family meals at home. The kitchen was housed in a room to the north, as was the laundry and WC, blocking most natural northern light throughout the day.

The overall feeling of the ground-floor space was cluttered and there was no connection to the lush natural garden and trees. The brief was to completely replan the ground floor. The clients desired a better connection with the



Left: The three modules are integral windows/storage units, constructed from a 10mm steel plate and steel window frames, Below: The new kitchen was placed in almost the same position it had occupied previously.



## TO THE SOUTH, A DISUSED FIREPLACE WAS REMOVED AND THE WHOLE WALL WAS OPENED UP. THIS OPENED VIEWS TO THE LUSH NATURAL GARDEN AND TREES.

de and an open-plan living/dining/kitchen gement that would allow natural light to rate the house,

chele is an interior designer, so she was pen to all suggestions by architect Vladimir vand had an immediate understanding of the ngs and concepts he presented to the couple, elt that the additions had to be radical than sympathetic to the existing house and aveclients agreed. There was not a single cteristic left in the existing house that had not destroyed by the previous intervention. The aach was one of contrast rather than blending

allow light into the space, all internal walls of isting kitchen and laundry were demolished, the existing stair. To the south, a disused ice was removed and the whole wall opened is opened views out to the lush natural nand trees.

The new kitchen, laundry and bathroom were placed in almost the same positions they had occupied previously. However, a clear splashback and highlight window and glazed steel-frame door in the laundry area allow for much-needed light to penetrate the entry and dining areas.

The stair redesign allowed for a more direct access to the upper floor while giving back valuable space to the living area. The new stair is also constructed from a 10mm folded steel plate, with a resin finish to the threads. The stair rests on a concrete plinth, which becomes a daybed to the eastern corner of the living room area. The central core of the stair is clad in a rich, dark timber veneer, which balances the starkness of the steel,

"A series of steel plate boxes were 'plugged' into the southern wall. The three modules are integral windows/storage units, constructed from 10mm steel plate and steel window frames, These not only provide and control views to the landscaped area of

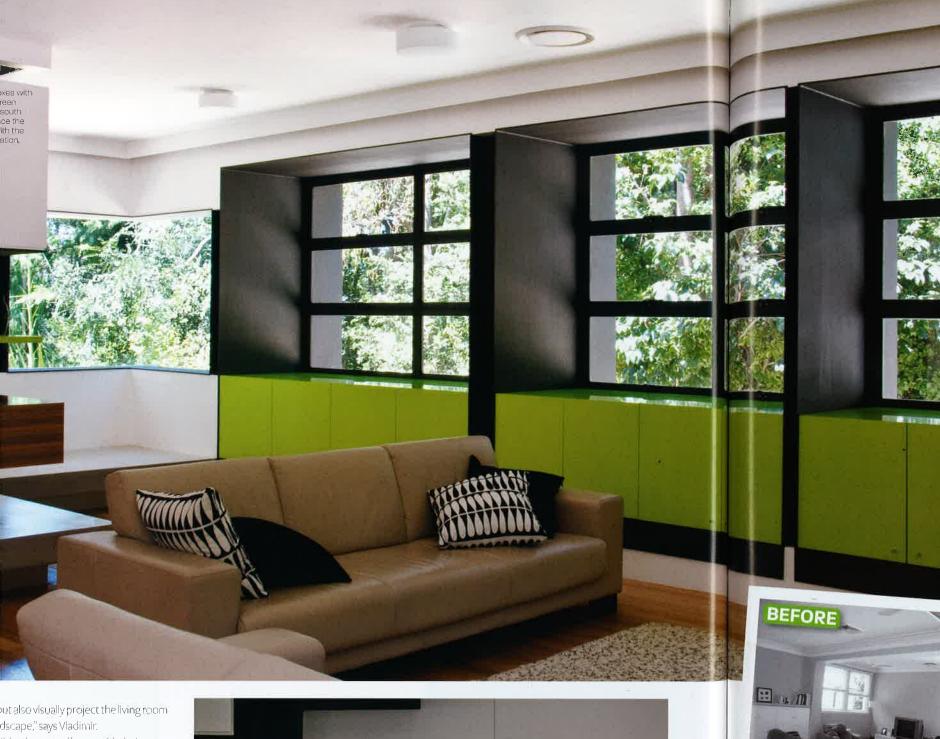
## The task:

- \* Replan the ground floor of the house.
- Create a better connection with outside; an open-plan living/dining/ kitchen area to allow natural light to penetrate.

## How it was done:

- All internal walls of the existing kitchen and laundry were demolished, as was the existing stair.
- A whole wall was opened up for views to the lush natural garden and trees.
- A clear splashback, highlight window and glazed steel frame door in the laundry area allow light to penetrate the entry and dining areas.
- Redesign the stair for more direct access to the upper floor while giving valuable space back to the living area.
- Three steel boxes with fluorescentgreen joinery further enhance the connection with outside vegetation.



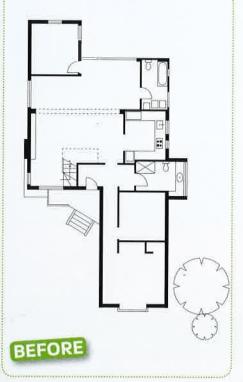


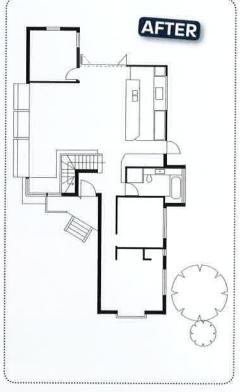
out also visually project the living room dscape," says Vladimir.
"the three steel boxes with their segreen joinery to the south further e connection with the outside and the new steel stair which e design" as his favourite aspects of sion, which was recently awarded dation in the Australian Institute of awards for Residential Architecture and Additions.

stant invasion of wildlife while the under construction did prove to be ing a python living in the ceiling and alking all over the stair resin finish before ere quite unusual and unexpected 'Vladimirsaid,

illy now has a fresh new home to suit y grow and will be the perfect place to ime of memories together. **r&e** 







## **Project particulars**

This project was designed by: Vladimir Ivanov

#### CULLINAN IVANOV PARTNERSHIP

123 Commonwealth Street,

Surry Hills NSW 2010

Tel: 02 9212 1796

Email: vladl@clparnership.com

Website: www.vniarchitects.com.au Photography: Charmaine Pang

This project was built by:

### PAUL KING PTY LTD

Mobile: 0412 446 355

Licence Number: 7405 IC

#### looring

Kitchen: BASF two-pack white resin

Dining/living: Blackbutt

Stair: 10mm steel plate with BASF

Other: Bathroom — Pietra Medicea

600mm x 300mm stone tiles

#### Walle

Stair. Zebrano veneer panels

#### Kitchen

All joinery by SWD Detailed Joinery

Tel: 0416 166 2

Benchtop: Corian Cameo White

Splashback: 10mm clear toughened glass Cabinetry: Polyurethane and

Zebrano veneer

#### Sanitary fixtures

Vanity: C3 90L from Rogerseller Tel: 02 9332 4800 Toilet: Wall-hung WC Villeroy + Boch Nornina wall-hung pan with soft-close seat, concealed cistern, Geberit vanityset cistern with top access panel and cistern buttons Remote Mark 3 type from Candana Design

Tel: 02 9389 8631

Bath: Kaldewei Saniform Plus from

Bright Water Bathware

Tel: 02 9380 4222

#### Bathroom fittings

Vanity: Vola KVI tapware chrome finish Bath tap set Vola BK6 chrome finish Shower rose and tap set Vola 781

chrome finish

Soap holder: Vola T4 chrome finish

Tollet roller holder. Vola T12-BP chrome

finish from Candana Design

Tel: 02 9389 8631

Towel rails: Madinoz MDZ TR5606/B from

Stule Finish

Tel: 02 9957 6344

#### Lighting

TUBO 270mm high light fitting by Modus from JSB Lighting

Tal: 02 0571 000

LIDO 250mm and 300mm light fittings

from Euroluce

Tel: 02 9380 6222

#### Windows + external doors

Steel-framed doors from

Skyrange Windows

Tel: 03 9480 2066