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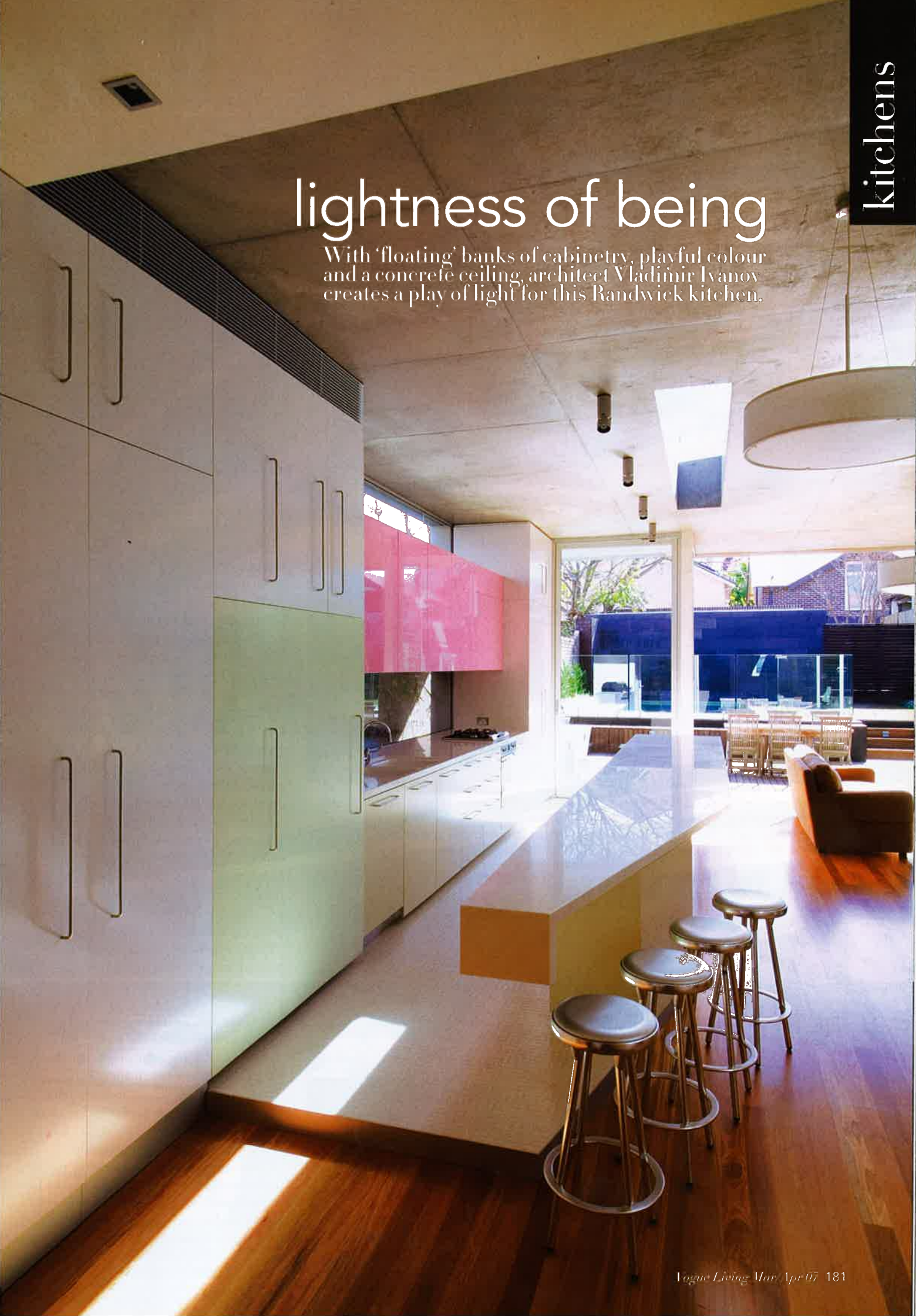
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lightness of being

With 'floating' banks of cabinetry, playful colour and a concrete ceiling, architect Vladimir Ivanov creates a play of light for this Randwick kitchen.





Pink overhead cupboards, **ABOVE**, with fixed windows over and a clear glass splashback under, appear to float above the bench. The streamlined look is completed by the Corian benchtop which was moulded to encompass the sink. **BELOW**: floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors open out onto a wooden deck, and the formed concrete roof makes for a dramatic roof line above.



DESIGN: Vladimir N. Ivanov Architects.
BUILDER: Paul King Pty Ltd.
BENCHTOP WITH INTEGRATED SINK: Corian in 'Glacier White'. **CABINETS:** two-pac polyurethane doors. **JOINERY:** Skalkos Woodwork Designs. **COLOURS:** Dulux 'Bubblegum' in gloss and Dulux 'Ghostly Green' and 'Pink Violet' in satin finish. **HANDLES:** Madinoz.
APPLIANCES: Miele cooktop, oven and dishwasher. **TAP:** Enware 'HOS401' surgeon's basin set. **LIGHTS:** Reggiani 'Sunlight' downlights over bench from Euroluce. Spotted Tiger 'Lah' suspended light and Modus 'Quark' downlights in Gyprock ceiling from JSB Lighting.
FLOORING: Activa 'BR' rubber floor tiles from PRF Australia. Details, last pages.

THIS SUNLIGHT-FILLED home in Sydney's Randwick has a playful charm. Here, architect Vladimir Ivanov uses shape and colour, and perforations in a thick concrete ceiling, to enliven a new kitchen and living area.

Glass is used at every opportunity to make a potentially cold and heavy concrete slab over the large interior space seem light. The room's north-east aspect means the quality of light is good at all times of the day. Skylights sporadically slash the concrete ceiling to relieve its solid mass, and the slab kicks up outside the building footprint to visually lighten its edge. A strip window running above the pink overhead cupboards appears to support the roof. This, and the unusual, clear glass splashback looking out onto the raw brick of a boundary wall were devised to create a floating sensation for the cupboards. "It's a bit of a mind-bending experience," says Ivanov, "something heavy appears to be quite lightweight."

Cupboards in bubblegum pink and pale, willow green offset the grey concrete. "Their softness and femininity enhances the contrast with the industrial feel of the concrete," explains Ivanov.

These bands of colour also create shapes in the interior, a graphic design device employed throughout the house, but the Corian bench's irregular shape owes more to function. "The bench anchors the space," Ivanov explains. "It divides the kitchen and living area, and its lines direct traffic through the space."

The kitchen is raised to define the culinary quarters, with hardwearing rubber underfoot. "It's a podium to observe the life of the house," says Ivanov. If it's anything like the architecture, it's sure to be one full of contrasts. **DANIKA JONES**