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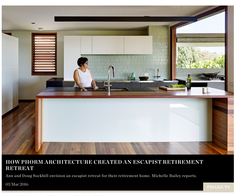

HOW PHORM ARCHITECTURE CREATED AN ESCAPIST RETIREMENT RETREAT

Ann and Doug Rockliff envision an escapist retreat for their retirement home. Michelle Bailey reports.

03 Apr 2014

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New territory is configured as part of a "promontory" extending perpendicular from the original house and including kitchen, outdoor rooms and peninsula master bedroom and ensuite. Conceived as an "aerial courtyard", the promontory shifts in "micro-terraces" allowing distant views of the landscape and silhouette of Mt Coolum to carry over furniture and be framed by the edges of the building.

In a conscious effort to "transpose the terrain into the fabric of the building," earth-coloured metal sheeting is employed as external cladding. "The colour of the new extension references the rich ferrous of the which Budertin is famed, is deep red, acidic soil formed from volcanic parent material," Paul says. At dusk, the effect is akin to the all-embracing glow of a campfire. During the day, the dramatic, visual contrast of ours burnt earth against bright blue sky reqiuires at a distance.

The new kitchen is embedded in the material and spatial experience of the promontory. "The kitchen bench top reflects upon a monolith of textured black basalt," Paul says. This black stone alum-lime-weathered finishes to complement the eucalyptus-like patina of kitchen wall tiles. The visual process of nature is reaffirmed in a material palette brought together here with sensitivity and skill.

In the master bedroom, the ensuite is elevated to take in views of the horizon through a generous corner aperture. The ash coloured tub continues the thread of "absalisa colour drawn through the details of the interiors".

"Our bedroom has come out to meet the big green tree... [which] feels as through we are in the treetops with the kookaburras," Ann says. "From the shower recess... we can almost touch the greenery."

Phorm Architecture - Design

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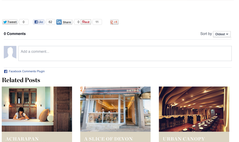

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HOW NEST ARCHITECTS LOOKED AT MID-CENTURY MODERN FROM A NEW PERSPECTIVE

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