

PURSUIT OF *Happiness*

AN ARCHITECT
BUILDS HIS FOREVER
HOME — BUT NOT AS
YOU KNOW IT



It's all about the curves in the open-plan living area

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS PHOTOGRAPHY // SHANNON MCGRATH

They say the home is a reflection of the soul, and for architect and homeowner Robert Puksand, his is bursting with energy, colour and pure joy. Revolving around the concept of creating a happy place, the Field House is proof that good things happen when you go with your gut.

Already living in the Melbourne suburb of Brighton, Robert and his wife Joanne were keen to move closer to the beach, so when a site came up for grabs, they didn't hesitate. "There was an existing property on the site which was demolished," says Robert. "But we lived in the house for a couple of years while we were sorting out the permits."

With their two kids well and truly out of the nest, Robert and Joanne decided to create a residence that would take them into the next phase of their lives together. "The project enabled us to get organised and create an easy-living, low-maintenance home with space for returning children, visiting friends

and potential grandchildren," says Robert.

With a new build comes the opportunity to address everything you missed out on in previous homes and live your life the way you want to — a notion Robert was more than happy to run with. Such luxury additions included a four-car garage, gym, artist's studio, laundry and a generous master bedroom suite. "Being an architect, I was happy for the house to be a little different and experimental," he says. "The most important part of the brief was that it needed to be a happy house, just like our family. Translating happiness to a house means that it can't be too serious and needs to create delight."

And delight the Field House does, but the project faced some potential setbacks along the way, spurring some serious innovation. One of the permit requirements ruled that the first floors couldn't overlook the neighbours' private spaces, prompting the inclusion of the floating wall planes. "In effect, the walls act like horses' blinkers in that they limit

DETAILS

HOUSE FIELD HOUSE
LOCATION BRIGHTON, VICTORIA
DATE COMMENCED JANUARY 2014
DATE COMPLETED FEBRUARY 2016
COST \$1.8 MILLION

"WE HAVE TRIED TO CREATE A HOME WHICH DOES MORE THAN MAKE US FEEL SAFE — WE HAVE CREATED A HOME THAT MAKES US FEEL GOOD AND ENGAGES OUR SENSES"
 - ROBERT PUKSAND



“TRANSLATING HAPPINESS TO A HOUSE MEANS THAT IT CAN'T BE TOO SERIOUS AND NEEDS TO CREATE DELIGHT” - ROBERT PUKSAND

WE LOVE THE OPEN LIVING AREA WITH VIEWS OF THE OUTDOOR SPACE



enable an unrestricted view over the external living spaces and the pool area," says Robert. "I thought it would be really cool to design a house where it felt like you were living in a sculpture rather than a traditional building."

Inspired by his passion for art, Robert took a different approach that revolved around making plain walls interesting rather than embellishing them with endless finishes. "In order to make the wall planes more noticeable, we have run with a white theme for the primary walls and black for the walls we don't want to be noticed," says Robert. "When we were designing the house, we had a theory that when you see the convex curved

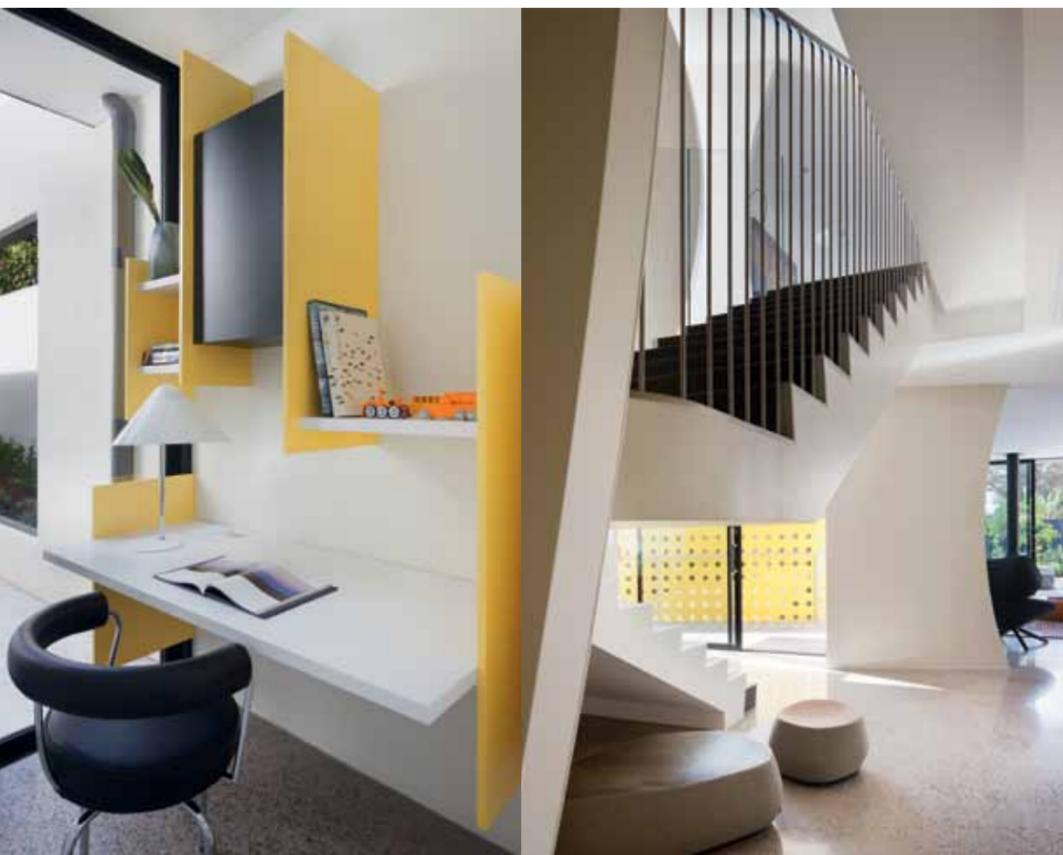
wall ends layered over each other, it would start to make other crescent shapes appear, so the house would become an evolving series of patterns and shapes. We also have bright pops of colour to create an element of surprise when you walk through the house." Evidence of this concept is found in the kitchen, with the orange island bench offering some serious curves and appearing as a piece of art rather than a place to prepare meals.

Quashing the concept that the home is all about clean lines and peace and quiet, the Field House is a capsule of happiness, light and excitement. As Robert says, "We have tried to create a home which does more than make us feel safe — we have created a home that makes

"I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE REALLY COOL TO DESIGN A HOUSE WHERE IT FELT LIKE YOU WERE LIVING IN A SCULPTURE RATHER THAN A TRADITIONAL BUILDING" - ROBERT PUKSAND



A moody bathroom is flooded with natural light



PROJECT TEAM

Architect and interior designer

Robert Puksand, Gray Puksand
(graypuksand.com.au)

Builder

Jonathan Lipshut,
360 Construction Group
(360construction.com.au)

SERVICES

Acoustic and audio-visual Gray Puksand (graypuksand.com.au)

Building surveyor Red Textas (redtextas.com.au)

Engineer Adams Consulting Engineers (adamseng.com.au)

Heating and cooling Daikin (daikin.com.au)

Hydronic slab heating Baxi (baxi.co.uk)

Suspended fireplace Oblica (oblica.com.au)

Landscaping Gray Puksand (graypuksand.com.au)

Lift ElfoLift (liftshop.com.au)

Lighting Gray Puksand (graypuksand.com.au)

Pool Dolphin Pools (dolphinpools.com.au)

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS

Furniture Space Furniture (spacefurniture.com.au); Cult Design (cultdesign.com.au); Hub (hubfurniture.com.au); Zuster (zuster.com.au); Cosh Living (coshliving.com.au)

Walls Knauf (knaufplasterboard.com.au); Ventech (ventech.com.au)

Joinery A&A Ibrahim (aaibrahim.com.au)

Kitchen Eveneer (eltongroup.com/eveneer); Corian (casf.com.au)

Soft furnishings and accessories Bella Casa Linen (bellacasalinen.com.au); Ninnho (ninnho.com.au); Space Furniture (spacefurniture.com.au); Cult (cultdesign.com.au); Hub (hubfurniture.com.au); Zuster (zuster.com.au)

FIXTURES & FITTINGS

Bathroom Roger Sellar (rogersellar.com.au); Reece (reece.com.au); Studio Bagno (studiobagno.com.au); Beaumont Tiles (beaumont-tiles.com.au); Caesarstone (caesarstone.com.au)

Doors Designer Doorware (designerdoorware.com.au)

Kitchen appliances Miele (miele.com.au)

Lamps Hub (hubfurniture.com.au); Space Furniture (spacefurniture.com.au); Cult (cultdesign.com.au)

Lighting Laser Lighting (laserlighting.com.au)

Windows and sliding glass doors Architectural Window Systems (awsaustralia.com.au)

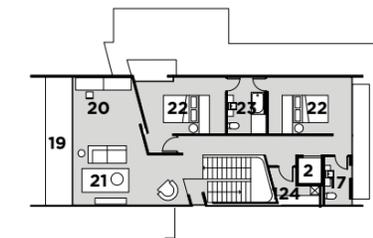


Colour Palette

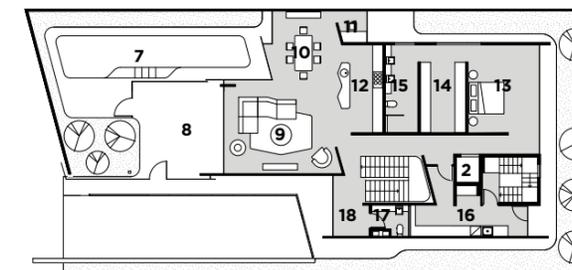
Like an art gallery, this space is designed to showcase colour. Stark white walls and concrete flooring allow the oranges, yellows, reds and pinks to shine, while the black joinery ties it all together

LEGEND

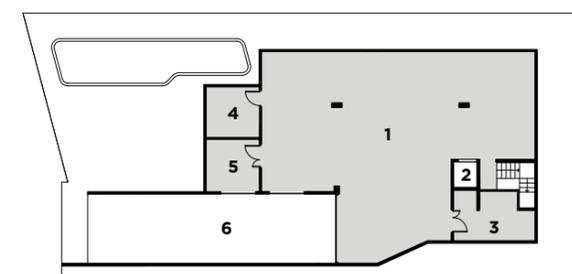
- 1 BASEMENT GARAGE
- 2 LIFT
- 3 STORE
- 4 EQUIPMENT ROOM
- 5 GYM
- 6 RAMP
- 7 POOL
- 8 OUTDOOR DECK
- 9 LIVING ROOM
- 10 DINING ROOM
- 11 STUDY
- 12 KITCHEN
- 13 MASTER BEDROOM
- 14 WALK-IN ROBE
- 15 ENSUITE
- 16 LAUNDRY
- 17 POWDER ROOM
- 18 ENTRY
- 19 BALCONY
- 20 STUDIO
- 21 GALLERY
- 22 BEDROOM
- 23 BATHROOM
- 24 LINEN ROOM



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

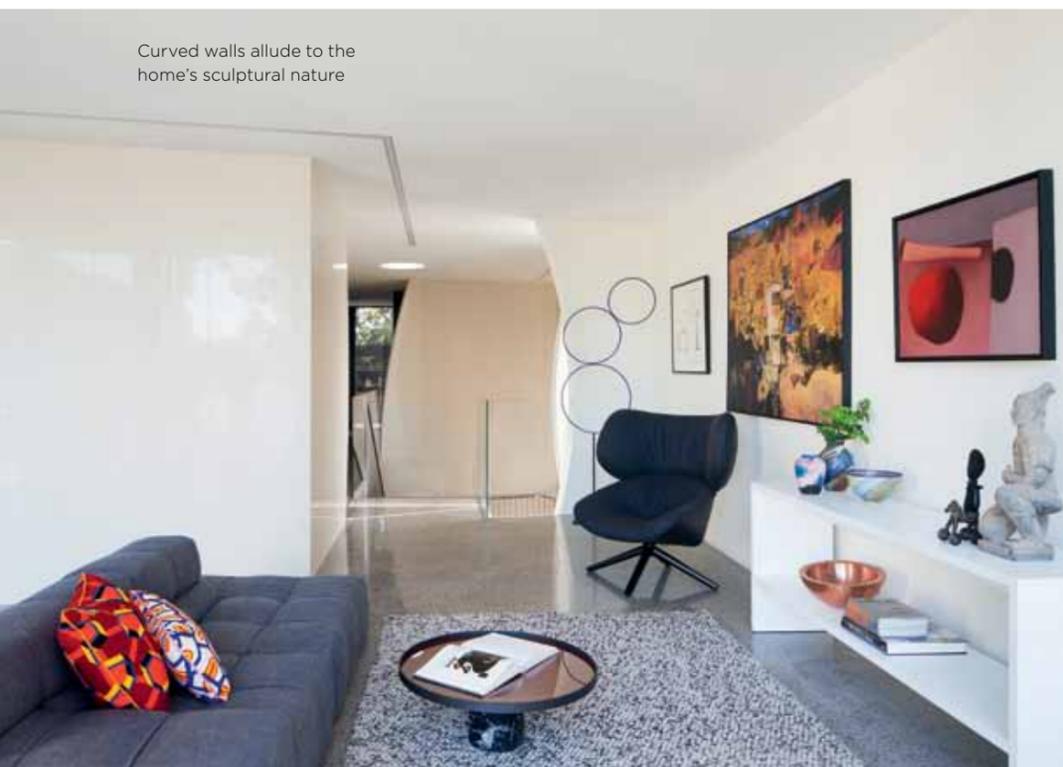


GROUND FLOOR PLAN

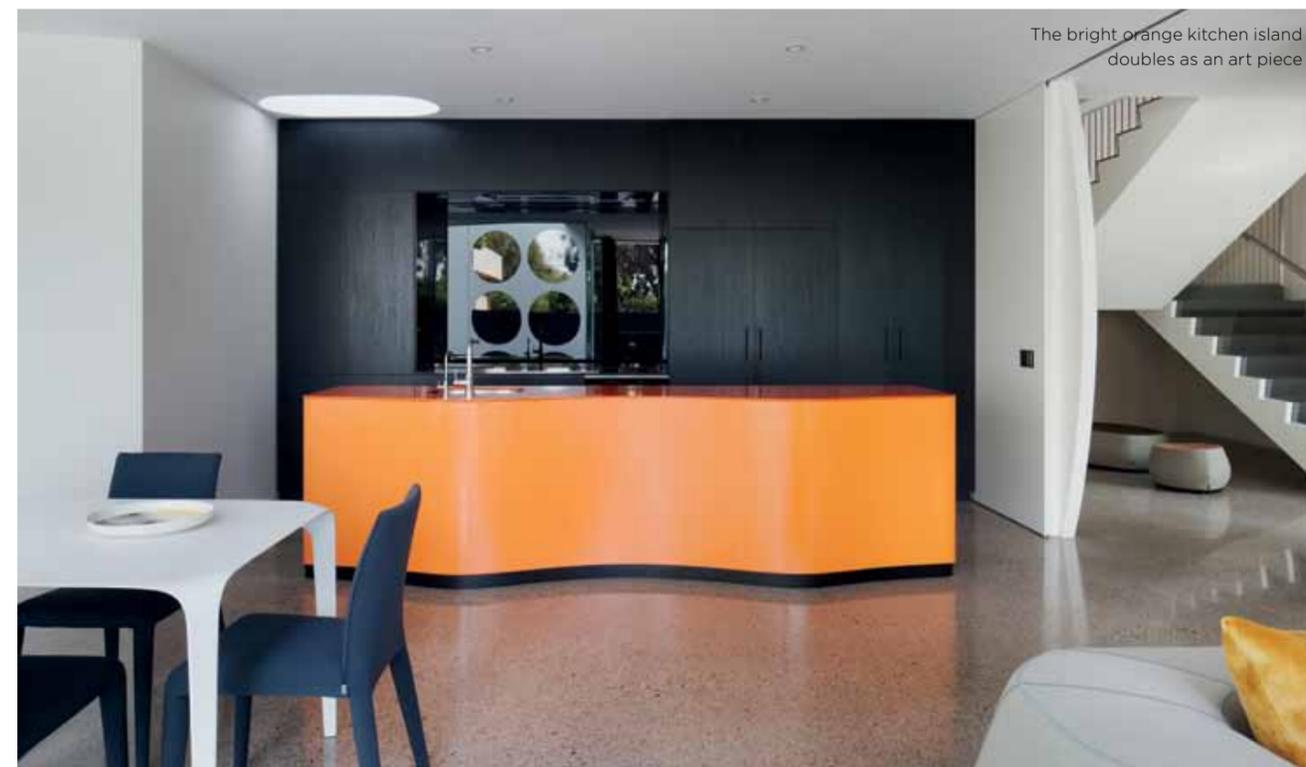


BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

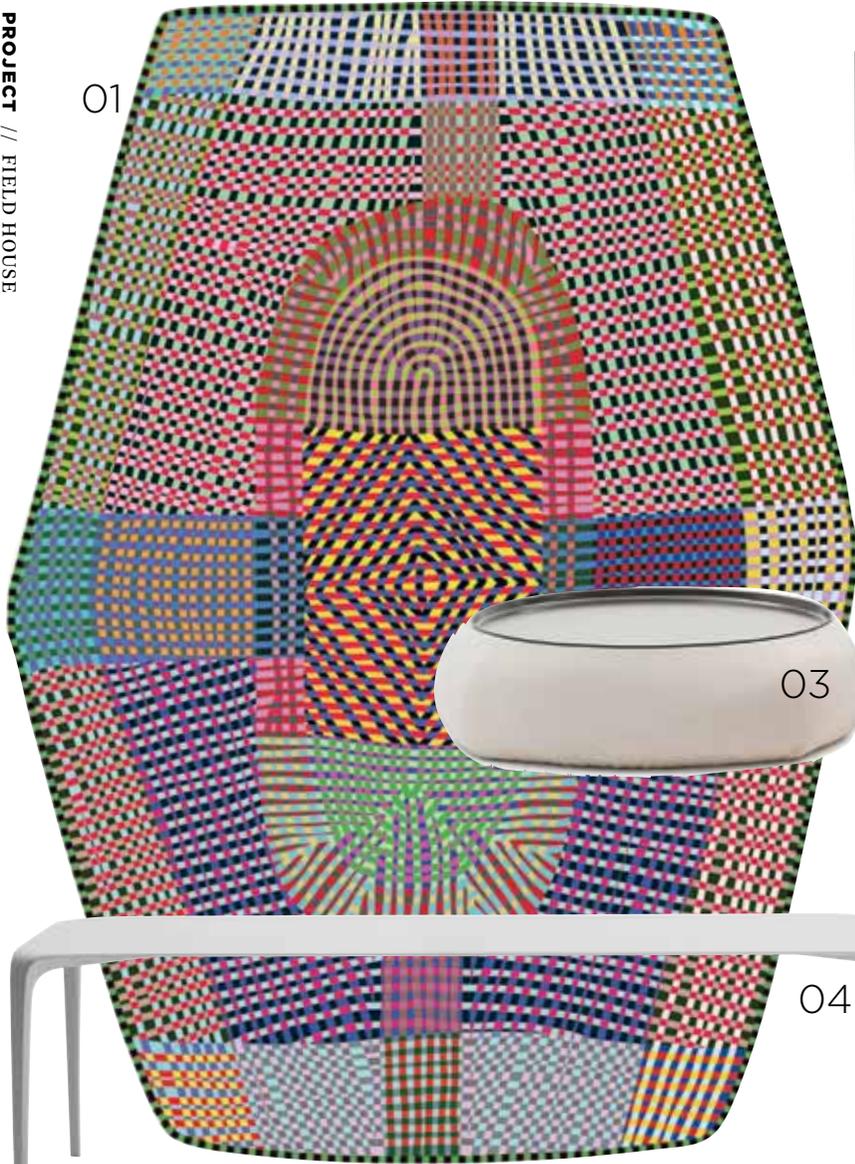
Curved walls allude to the home's sculptural nature



The bright orange kitchen island doubles as an art piece



01



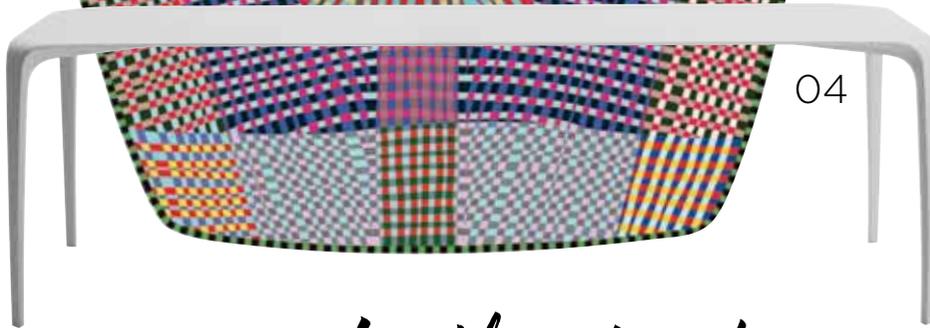
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03



04



Get the Look

01: Moooi Carpets Freaky rug from spacefurniture.com.au

02: Duyfken console from zuster.com.au **03:** Fat-Fat and Lady Fat elements from spacefurniture.com.au **04:** Jakob Wagner B&B Italia Link small table from spacefurniture.com.au

05: Monarch bath towel from ninnho.com.au **06:** Coast Isla chair from coshliving.com.au **07:** Patricia Urquiola B&B Italia Husk outdoor armchair from spacefurniture.com.au

05



07

06

