

## ROMANTIC ENCOUNTER

This beautifully restored Edwardian house has been given Greg Natale's signature luxurious look which strikes the perfect balance between comfort and romanticism.

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IMAGES COURTESY OF GREG NATALE DESIGN



Ith a seemingly casual façade, the front lawn of this understated three-bedroom Edwardian house in the Australian suburb of Croydon, Sydney, is well groomed with a quaint white gate that beckons one into the property. But the real surprise reveals behind the brick walls.

Like the exterior, the brief was simple: a decorated, detailed home with an abundance of black and white. But Australian interior designer Greg Natale had other plans. Greatly influenced by his Italian heritage and driven by his Iuxurious style, the interior is given a romantic touch with powder blue walls, punctuated with white ceilings, boiseries, architraves and plaster cornices.

Meanwhile a soft take on the desired monochromes is achieved via Fornasetti Malachite wallpaper throughout the vestibule. The dramatic entrance even had the wallpaper's swirling patterns reflected in a Joshua Yeldham artwork on one of the walls. In the kitchen, the intricate Fornasetti arched tiles splashback that mirrors the vestibule add a little pizzazz to the stark white cabinetry highlighted by arched panels too.

A NEW TWO-STOREY EXTENSION AND BACKYARD SWIMMING POOL BROUGHT THE EDWARDIAN HOUSE TO THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY.



As for the library, Fornasetti Library wallpaper articulates the room's purpose while visually enhancing the room's dimensions. Meanwhile, the colourful book covers and rug offset the monochromatic aesthetic and add life to the otherwise serious and dingy space. It also helps that the library opens up to the veranda, allowing gentle breeze to waft through and for easy access to read outside if the occupants so please.

Likewise, the collection of black and white Fornasetti plates hung in the living room contrasts the powder blue walls; or rather add whimsy to the romantically decorated space. With Fornasetti's work peppered throughout the house, Greg's love for the Milanese artist's work is clear, and it's hard not to when they add so much character to any space and provide a stylish link between rooms.





The vestibule is dressed with Greg Natale designed rug, Fornasetti wallpaper, Joshua Yeldham art, Thomas Obrien chandelier, Kenzo Maison pedestal table and Mezai porcelain vase.





INTERNALLY, THE HOUSE

MAKES USE OF GREG

NATALE'S OWN RUG

COLLECTIONS AS WELL AS

MANY JONATHAN ADLER AND

VINTAGE DESIGN PIECES.





With the social spaces adopting a subdued take on the black and white aesthetic, the monochromatic look reigns supreme in the bedrooms. A spectacularly dizzying chevron wallpaper fills one room with matching bed and vanity. Interestingly, the door handle of the wardrobe is similar to that of the kitchen cabinets for a meticulously tailored interior. The main bedroom, however, is furnished with a black-stained timber of a four-poster bed that accentuates rather than overwhelms the softly hued walls and lights.

In addition, the rear of the house has an outdoor kitchen and alfresco dining area perfect for summer outdoor parties where friends and family can enjoy a good barbecue and a dip in the inviting waters of the pool. Ahhh...what a perfect finishing touch to this elegantly restored Edwardian house! �

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Fornasetti arched tiles in the kitchen give a nod to the house's arches that serve as the original inspirations to the design.