



LUXURY FINDS A HOME

And it might not be where you'd first expect...

By Donna Peters

while the Sunshine Coast enjoys a carefree reputation, there's luxury to be found and it is as indulgent as you might experience in the world's great cities. Unfortunately for us, however, reservations are not available as it's not a renowned hotel being featured here but a private residence.

It's hard to reconcile but it's the truth and knowing this makes the construction all the more

remarkable. The project is a renovation without comparison and is a sophisticated blend of classic materials with progressive technologies and design for a distinctive finish. The original home did not aid this bold development — it was mundane and uninspired with little to offer its lavish successor. It consisted of a series of disconnected dull spaces with little relation to one another and no creative unity. Yet from this characterless canvas came the

spectacular home that stands today.

Mark Gacesa from Ultraspace facilitated the conversion — his vision and talents are responsible for the kitchen and bathrooms that help set the tone of the residence. “My client wanted me to extend myself and create something unique and timeless,” he reports. “He has a love for technology, solid building materials and substance, so I wanted to explore

Corian® was chosen for the kitchen as it could be shaped to match the unique design work required by the plans.

the amalgamation of timeless classical with state of the art and morph the two worlds together.”

There were several design restrictions to overcome — most importantly the existing structure had to be cohesively linked with the new additions. In order to achieve this, the rooms that remained from the old house had to be completely made over. “The client looked to me to create a

unique environment based around his personality and the existing constraints,” Mark comments.

One space in dire need of a revamp was the kitchen, which previously modelled pink laminate and was desperately dated. It now features Corian® work surfaces, splayed verticals and fascias, inlay features and cantilevered tops and gables. “There was a large quantity of natural stone in this



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residence, so we wanted to use a product that would complement it and appear luxurious and sophisticated, while having the added appeal of being soft to the touch and easily manufactured for the complicated designs and inlay work,” Mark explains.

This material selection allowed the benchtop to be seamlessly formed around the existing floor-to-ceiling structural column that was

treated to mosaic marble cladding to match the refined image of the new kitchen. Other standout attributes of the design include the eye-catching multiple colour inlay feature set into timbergrain, back-splayed top and sides, inset glass cutting board, LED lighting and lavish finishes. However, it’s hard for these aspects to win attention away from the Corian® surfaces that truly put the space in a class of its own.



FEATURE HOME

The mirrored back-to-back centre cabinet column appears to punch through the ceiling and continue up through the roof.



Because Corian® was so intrinsic in the success of the kitchen, Mark decided to use Corian® again in the bathroom in a triumphant attempt to capture the same aura of stylish extravagance. Here, it features as a back-to-back vanity slab with red glass mosaic insets for added interest and to set off the full-height curved-glass mosaic shower wall. The curved entry wall — adorned with imported glass beads and embossed wallpaper — that leads into the ensuite replicates this distinctive form to create a truly remarkable scene.

“I am told the master bedroom, ensuite and walk-in dressing room (along with the rest of the house) give the feeling of being in a unique five-star hotel,” Mark reveals. “I like that.”

Mark credits Corian® as being key to the splendid outcome of the project and in turn Corian® acknowledged the prolific house, naming it a Corian® Design Award grand prize winner in 2009. It’s not hard to see why the home was so highly honoured. **LKB**

PROJECT PARTICULARS

ULTRASPACE

Phone (07) 5414 9291

Website www.ultraspace.com.au

CASF AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

Phone 1 300 795 044

Website www.casf.com.au

