KITCHEN This page The island bench features Calacutta Primo Quartz from Quantum Quartz. Guaxs bowl on dining table, Conley & Co. White platter on kitchen bench, Dinosaur Designs. Pendant light, customised by Boaz. Custom dining table with ebonised oak and Bruno marble, Artifex. Poliform 'Grace' chairs surround the dining table, and Poliform 'Sophie' stools sit under the counter. Dulux Pipe Clay Quarter features on walls here and throughout the home. Artwork by Carlos Barrios and sculptures by Stephen Ormandy. LIVING Opposite Charlie sofa and Lap coffee table by Fanuli. Custom S-fold curtains in 'Linear' white fabric, Simple Studio. Molteni throw, Analu. Knoll 'Platner' side chair, De De Ce. Rug, RC+D. Guaxs vase on coffee table, Conley & Co. Bowl on coffee table, Dinosaur Designs. ▶

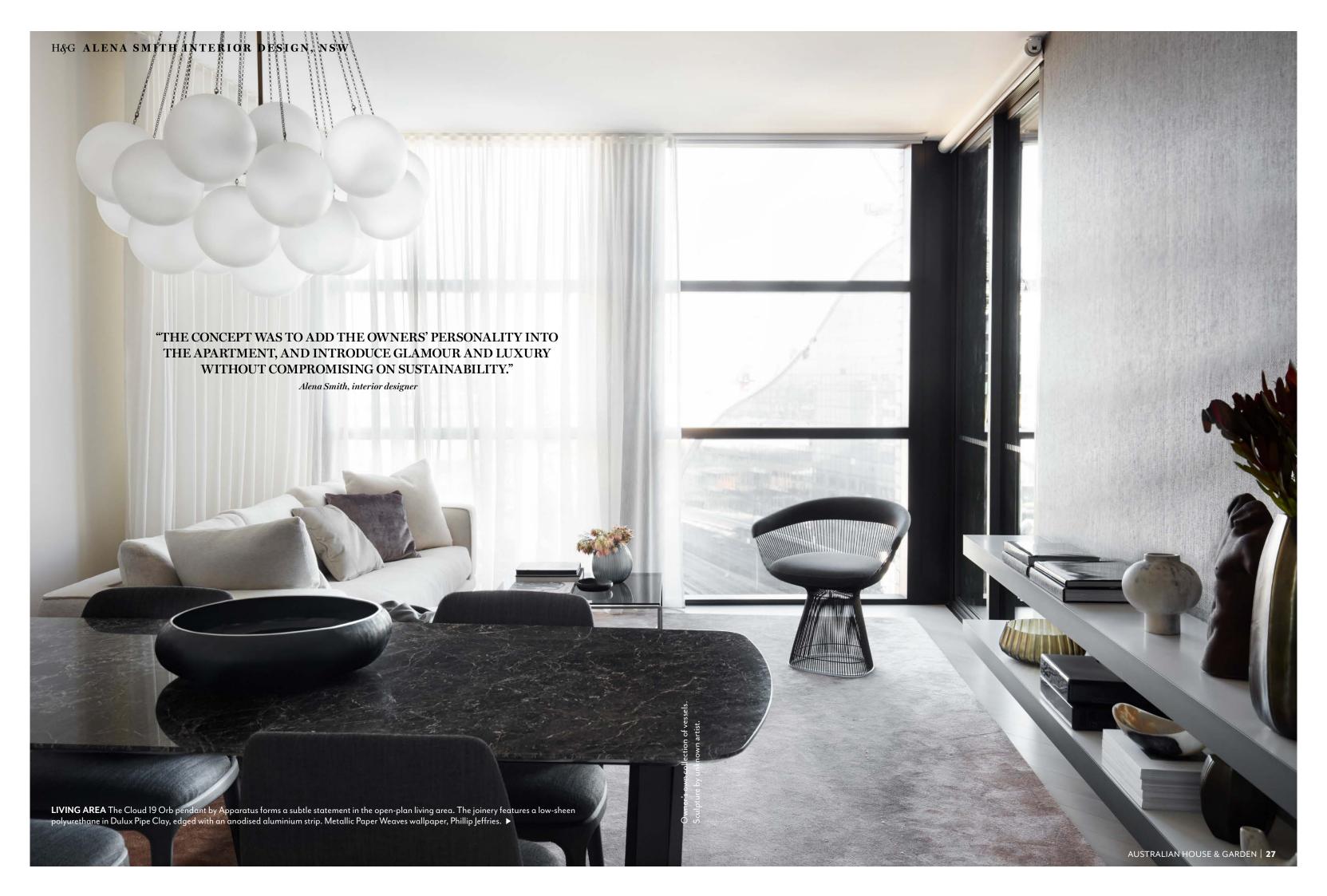


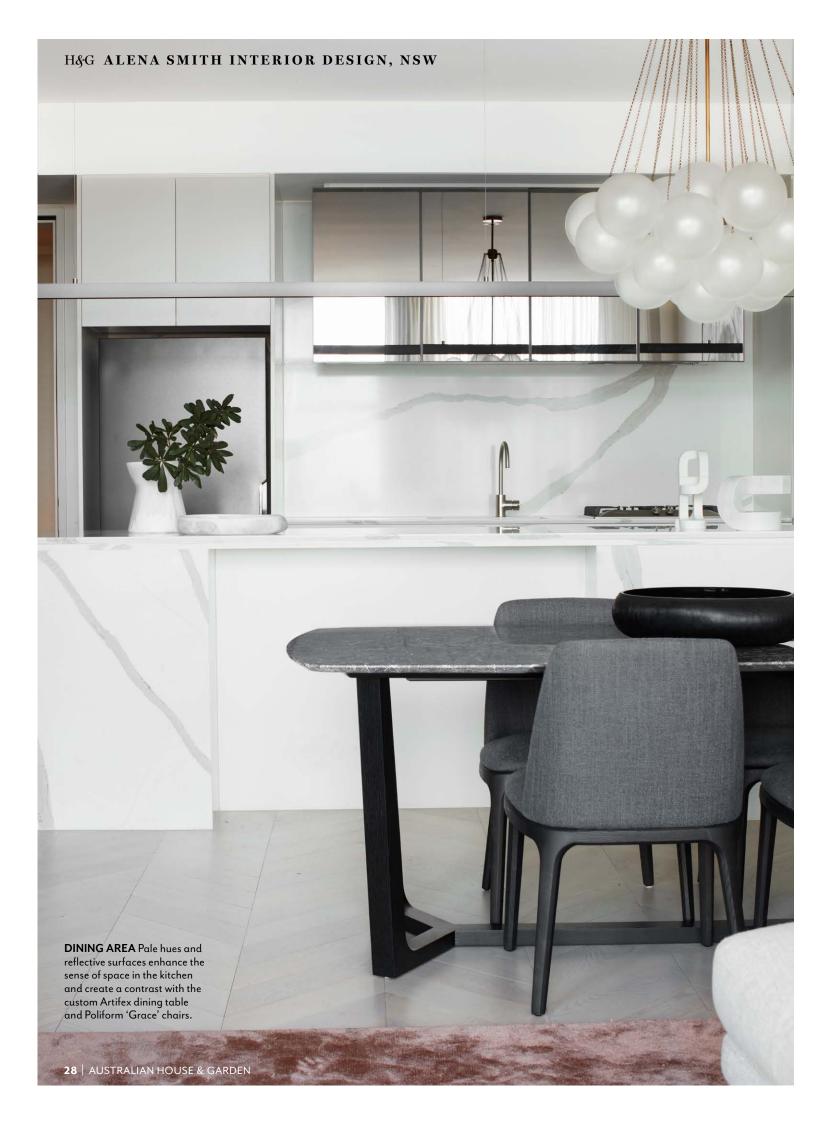
Conscious choices

This 'vegan' inner-city apartment proves a sustainable approach needn't come at the expense of style. STORY Carli Philips | STYLING Alexandra Gordon | PHOTOGRAPHY Prue Ruscoe

ALENA SMITH INTERIOR DESIGN, NSW H&G









The owners of this Sydney apartment were nervous about downsizing from a larger home, so interior designer Alena Smith's job was to facilitate their transition by helping them select the right furnishings and devising a colour palette with a "gentle complexity that will reveal itself over time".

The approach to the decoration was twofold: to retain the strong geometry of the base building that Alexandra Gordon of Smart Design Studio had spearheaded, and, under Alena's direction, to "add soft layers and a sophisticated colour scheme". Additionally, the clients wanted to make a few changes in the kitchen: extending the island bench, adding storage and a wine fridge, and creating more space for guests to sit at the bar.

creating more space for guests to sit at the bar. The owners didn't want to use any animal products such as leather, silk or down, so Alena created a "vegan house" with sustainable materials such as GreenGuardcertified joinery, low-VOC paints (which contain less of the 'volatile organic compounds' found in traditional paints) and furniture that would stand the test of time To further amp up the luxe factor, the second bedroom was converted into a dressing room-cum-guest room with new joinery that includes a hidden yet elegant makeup counter with built-in LED lighting. Design and building team Interior design: Alena Smith Interior Design; alenasmith.com.au. Architecture: Smart Design Studio; smartdesignstudio.com. Builder: Parkview; parkview.com.au.

KITCHEN design notes

BENCHTOP AND SPLASHBACK Calacutta Primo Quartz, Quantum Quartz FLOORING Bleached oak chevron timber SINK Sterling 'Quattro' sink, Harvey Norman TAPWARE Envy sink mixer, Parisi LIGHTING Pendant customised by Boaz

Using an intersection of gentle blush highlights and cool silvery greys, Alena created a romantic design scheme with subtle nods to the past. Key elements include Wall&deco's 'Midsummer Night' wallpaper in the master bedroom, which she says is "reminiscent of a faraway place, complete with intricate nature-based details of birds, leaves and trees". Similarly, the Cloud pendant was chosen "because it reminds us of the glamour and soft ambience of grander times".

G ALENA SMITH INTERIOR DESIGN, NSW

WHEN I LOOK AROUND, I SIGH AT HOW BEAUTIFUL MY HOME IS. IT ELEVATES MY EXPERIENCE OF THE EVERYDAY." Homeowner

MASTER BEDROOM Wall&deco's 'Midsummer Night' wallpaper, Pure Interiors. Minotti 'Spencer' bed, De De Ce. Guaxs vase, Conley & Co. Marset 'Theia' table lamp, Est Lighting. Abbinabili bedside table, Poliform. Molteni bed linen, Analu. Elliott Clarke custom bolster in 'Brugge' velvet.





ced by Saffron Sylve Produ

'Theia M' table lamp, POA, Est Lighting. 8 Wabi Inspirations book by Axel Vervoordt, \$85, Coco Republic. 9 Simplehuman 6L rubbish bin in Dark Bronze, \$109, Howards Storage World. 10 Pols Potten 'Steps' vase in Green, \$168, Amara. H&G

SMART SET

Quality over quantity is the thinking in a home where sustainability sits front and centre.