

These pages The penthouse's seating area is contained by a custom rug from Greg Natale x Designer Rugs. 'Cut Triangle II' floor lamp from Square in Circle. Minotti 'Archipenko' cabinet and 'Sendai' armchairs from Dedecce. Tacchini 'Soap' coffee table from Stylecraft. Gallotti&Radice 'Fante' side tables from Living Interiors. Vase by Tom Dixon. 'Lily' bowl in Antico, 'Beta' ice bucket and 'Depeche Mode' vase in Bisque from Greg Natale. Artwork by Marisa Purcell. On the verandah are a Kettal 'Giro' sofa and armchairs and 'Mesh' coffee table from Mobilia. Minotti 'Cesar' outdoor table from Dedecce.

INTERIOR DESIGNER

Greg Natale

MINIMAL FUSS

[*Darlinghurst, NSW*]

Photography ANSON SMART



WHILE REDESIGNING A BOWRAL HOME, Greg Natale was engaged to work on the owners' spectacular city residence. *What made this project attractive to you?* It's a penthouse in Darling Point with a fantastic view of Sydney Harbour. We saw it as an opportunity to collaborate with clients who have a strong, discerning sense of personal style. Their taste is classic and refined, with a deep appreciation for quality materials. The apartment had been renovated just prior to their purchase, which meant some elements, like the kitchen joinery, could be left in place. This gave us the chance to focus on enhancing rather than overhauling the space, using high-end finishes and custom details. *Was there a brief for the interiors?* The penthouse had great bones and a strong architectural foundation, with clean lines and cream-toned marble floors that became the natural starting point and set the tone for the design to come. The clients love clean, low-line Italian furniture, so the brief was to create an elegant space that spoke to their personal style – minimal and restrained but with elevated finishes and a heightened sense of detail. *Were there any challenges with the space?* While the home had great bones, working around the existing joinery and architectural features presented some challenges. Much of the joinery, particularly in the kitchen and on the balcony, was designed to open outwards, which meant we had to be strategic in our furniture selection to avoid obstructing those elements. Our solution was to opt for modern European pieces, primarily low-profile Italian furniture which tends to keep a compact footprint. *Did you employ any devices to maximise the sense of space?* We used





several techniques to enhance the sense of space and light throughout – the most effective being the respraying of all the internal doors in a high-gloss lacquer. This finish reflects and distributes natural light more effectively, contributing to the airy, open feel of the interiors. Incorporating reflective surfaces was a deliberate design choice to amplify the brightness and elevate the existing architecture through subtle interventions. *What informed the selection of furniture and art?* The selection process was guided by the owners' appreciation for modern Italian furniture. They gravitate towards pieces that feel timeless and polished, so we curated a clean, high-end mix to reflect their tastes. We elevated the base palette with luxurious materials and glossy finishes to enhance the overall elegance. In the kitchen, for instance, we left the joinery intact but introduced new flooring. The client selected the black and white Palladio marble tiles from my collaboration with Teranova to add contrast and character and make the space feel grander. All the bathrooms were completely redone, each showcasing a different design of glass-mosaic tile, creating immersive, textural spaces that contrast with the more restrained living areas. In the primary bedroom and walk-in wardrobes, the bamboo silk carpet is not only softer underfoot but also makes these spaces feel warmer and more intimate. In the open-plan space, we customised rugs from my long-standing collaboration with Designer Rugs to anchor each furniture setting, clearly defining the seating, lounge and dining areas. At the clients'

This page In the generous reception area is an artwork by André de Vanny from Curatorial+Co. De Sede 'DS-80' day bed from Domo. Gallotti&Radice 'Fante' table from Living Interiors. Custom 'Miami' rug from Greg Natale x Designer Rugs. Knoll 'Platner' dining table and side chairs from Dedece. Opposite page (clockwise from top) A wall of the living room is 'Desert Dunes' wallpaper by Phillip Jeffries, supplied by The Textile Company. Ceiling in Dulux Lexicon Quarter. Minotti 'Brasilia' sofa, 'Tape' armchairs and 'Roger' coffee table at wall from Dedece. Custom Calacatta Viola marble coffee table by Greg Natale. 'Erté' rug from Greg Natale x Designer Rugs. Bonaldo 'Vague' side table and Flexform 'Mood Riviera' ottoman from Fanuli. Iittala 'Aalto' vase, clients' own. All other accessories from Greg Natale. Artwork by Marisa Purcell. // At the entry is an 'Anjelica' console from Greg Natale x Covet Collection. Flexform 'Mood Riviera' stool from Fanuli. Custom rug from Greg Natale x Designer Rugs. Blue artwork by Marisa Purcell. White artwork by Felicia Aroney. // The powder room's walls are 'Chester' mosaics from Bisazza. Articolo Studios 'Loopi' sconces from Studio Cavit. Vanity in Calacatta Viola marble from CDK Stone. Joinery pulls from Lo & Co. 'Icon' tapware from Astra Walker. 'Brooke' wall mirror from Greg Natale.



request, we colour-matched each rug to the corresponding upholstery, creating distinct yet cohesive zones that feel polished and immersive. *Was colour important to this project?* Colour played a vital role in adding personality and depth to the space. The clients like rich tones such as plum and royal blue, which became accent colours used throughout the interiors. Those hues were used to create contrast and visual interest against the more neutral base palette of creams and soft greys. *What are some of your favourite elements?* The walk-in wardrobe we designed to house our client's impressive shoe collection is a beautifully detailed space that feels like a jewel box, complete with a mini Murano glass chandelier and glass-fronted display cabinets. The balcony is another standout. Its generous proportions meant that we could create distinct outdoor entertaining zones, including both a lounge and dining area. *How would you describe the end result?* The completed interior is refined and minimal, but still luxurious. It strikes a balance between modern and warm, with clean lines, high-end materials and layered finishes. Overall, the design of the apartment is refined and comfortable, and reflects the owners' personalities and lifestyle in a very considered way. *gregnatale.com*



SMART SPACES



This page The ensuite is decorated with 'Festoon' tiles from Bisazza. Bath and Bianco Carrara marble vanity and floors, existing. Cabinet pulls from The English Tapware Company. Mirrors from Spectrum Art Glass. Articolo Studios 'Float Glide' light from Est Lighting. Blinds in Camengo 'Psyché' Gold fabric from The Textile Company. Accessories from Greg Natale. // A corner of the main bedroom with a Minotti 'Leslie' chair from Dedec. Mirror, clients' own. R&Y Augusti 'Pedestal' tables from Studio Cavit. // Calacatta Viola marble from CDK Stone tops the wardrobe's island. Murano Poliedri pendant from e Moderno. **Opposite page** 'Chameleon' wallpaper from Thibaut Design brings texture to the main bedroom. Maxalto 'Alcova' bed from Space. Linen from Cultiver. Minotti 'Harvey' nightstand from Dedec. Murano lamps from e Moderno. 'Ponza' cushions from Greg Natale. 'Los Angeles' carpet from Greg Natale x Designer Rugs.



DESIGN

/ GREG NATALE /

INTERIORS AND HOMEWARES DESIGNER AND AUTHOR

“Travel is a huge source of inspiration for me. On a trip to Mexico earlier this year, I visited architect Luis Barragán’s home and was awed by his bold use of colour. This design draws from that experience, anchored by a warm, neutral base and lifted by vibrant accents in homage to his influence.”

These pages For his scheme, Greg chose the ‘Lily’ modular sofa, designed inhouse by Fanuli, and various pieces by Flexform, including the pink ‘Riviera’ and woven ‘Tessa’ ottomans and ‘Arnold’ coffee table. Also available from Fanuli are the ‘Lit’ pendants and ‘Log’ outdoor armchair. ‘Pila’ vase in Red Travertine, Rosso, Travertine and Emperador; ‘Lily’ bowl in Travertine; and ‘Pietra’ dish in Brass, all from Greg Natale. Artwork by Marisa Purcell.

DROP

Greg Natale chose key pieces from the latest Fanuli range to set the scene for an international look.

Photography **ALANA LANDSBERRY** Styling **GREG NATALE**