

DAVID FLACK

Wit and whimsy inform this interior architect's approach to design, creating a fresh vibe for his home.

Photographs SHARYN CAIRNS



This page David Flack with Criteria 'Re-imagined Low Hex' chair and Oluce 'Coupé' lamp. Artworks, *Imaginary Place 14* (top), and *Imaginary Place 26* (hurdles) by Emily Ferretti, and (right) by Leila Jeffreys.



This page, top Vintage de Sede sofa, Paolo Piva 'Alanda' coffee table, USM Haller shelving unit. Photographs, Yarra Bend Morning (right) and Komatsu Tractor Pile, Saudi Arabia, by Chris Penning. Below Ettore Sottsass 'Shiva' vase and 'Bowl' on shelf. Eames house bird.

WHAT HAS INFORMED AND INSPIRED YOUR INTERIOR STYLE? I am a very curious person and I love to explore, whether through my local environment or regular travel adventures. I immerse myself in art, fashion, design, literature, films and music and adore meeting people. I'm at my most creative surrounded by new possibilities, whether it's a new face, location or simply discovering a new artist for the first time.

IS YOUR HOME A SANCTUARY OR DOES IT DOUBLE AS A WORK SPACE? At the moment it is a double sanctuary: work and home. I love working from home and manage to keep them separate. But Flack Studio is nearing its first birthday so I plan to find a new home and grow the office space here in Westgarth [Melbourne].

WHAT APPEALED TO YOU ABOUT THE SPACE AND LOCATION? Whenever I search for a space I always consider the volumes and natural light levels. If you have good furniture and artwork you can make any space look fantastic. I love living among the energy of a high street and above a shop. Westgarth is on the fringe of Collingwood and I have everything on my doorstep: terrific cafes, yoga studio, cinema, organic grocer, and the most amazing gelateria and crepery.

WHAT ARE YOUR MOST TREASURED PIECES AND WHY? My vintage 1980s Paolo Piva 'Alanda' steel-framed coffee table by B&B Italia is like having a piece of architecture in the house. Because it's transparent it's not too overpowering. The USM Haller is one of my favourite pieces of furniture in a residential environment. The colour choices are





This page, clockwise from above In the bedroom, Flos 'Tab T' lamp. Bitossi vessels and Hay tray on a vintage glass table. Claudia Damichi's *Between Us*. Eames 'Hang-It-All' above a vintage bar cart. *Digging* by Paul Davies. *Bird Fan* by Claudia Damichi above a customised shelving unit.



unique (mine is green) and it's something you will see repeated quite often in my projects. The modular system can be made into a piece that suits any requirement and to me it epitomises form and function all in one. Sitting high and mighty on display is my Ettore Sottsass 'Shiva' vase which is always a talking point. I think that is what Ettore set out to achieve – he seemed like a cheeky man!

IS THERE A PARTICULAR ERA OR PERIOD THAT RESONATES WITH YOU? I gravitate towards 70s and 80s design. The proportions and explorations of shapes within joinery, furniture and objects strike a chord with me. There's a boldness, playfulness and humour I think interiors need. WHAT COULDN'T YOU LIVE WITHOUT? Lamps. I have around 20 – all different eras and designers, some ambient and some directional. They're like sculptural forms of art. WHICH ARCHITECTS OR INTERIOR DESIGNERS DO YOU ADMIRE AND WHY? Vincent Van Duysen is a true pioneer of poetic and honest spaces – they are highly contemporary yet often feel like they have been around for quite some time. Joseph Dirand is bold, striking and uber glamorous. WHAT PROJECTS ARE YOU WORKING ON AT THE MOMENT? A large list of residential work, gelateria and restaurants. We've also just launched our first annual Flack Studio architecture tour! First stop is LA and Palm Springs in November. I'm combining my thirst for travel and design and sharing the love with 12 other people. Inquisitive eyes can follow us on Instagram (@flackstudio).

WHAT FURNITURE OR ARTWORK DO YOU HAVE YOUR EYE ON AT THE MOMENT? I'm saving up for the 'Maralunga' sofa by Cassina. I recently saw it in a beautiful fabric designed by one of my favourite fashion designers, Raf Simons. Two birds and one stone! I'm also eyeing off an incredible piece of work on paper by artist Judith Wright from Sophie Gannon Gallery.

See flackstudio.com.au for details about David Flack's LA and Palm Springs architecture tour in November.