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This home's makeover in spirited natural materials was sealed by evoking an ancient cleansing ritual.



Photographs JACK SHELTON Words CARLI PHILIPS Art consultant GEORGIE BRUCE



This page The sheer curtains in the airy dining room are from Inside Edge. The Zanat 'Unna' dining chairs from Hub are hand-carved. An Anchor Ceramics 'Potter DS' wall sconce from Cafe Culture + Insitu sits above New Volumes 'Hurlysi Low' and 'Hurlysi High' cantilevered marble tables by Thomas Coward from Artedamus. **Opposite page** Sitting on a Gervasoni console from Anibou is a vase from Hub and Karakter 'Tripod' table lamp from Cult. 'Orb' mirror from Meizai. Vitra 'Model C' and 'Model A' cork stools from Space.



This page Molteni&C 'Freestyle' sofa from Hub. TossB floor lamp from Hub. Nikari 'April' side tables and De La Espada 'Kim' table, all from from KFive+Kinnarps. Paola Lenti 'Calatini' side table from De De Ce. Opposite page, from top Alki 'Landa' desk from Cafe Culture + Insitu and 'Catifa 46' chair from Stylecraft. Rich Brilliant Willing pendant light from Koda. Louis Poulsen floor lamp from Cult. Artwork by Sophie Westerman from Hub. A pull-down bed is concealed in the cupboards. Script #1 artwork by John Young. Coedition 'BlueMoon' armchair from Hub.



cum-study to the left. A wide corridor runs to the rear where steps lead down to the open-plan living, dining and kitchen. Composed and calm, it's awash in a soothing palette of milky soft furnishings, creamy accents and oak timber joinery. "Everyone in the family can do their own thing but still feel connected," says Carole, referencing the double-sided modular sofa, study nook and window seat.

In the newly cleansed spaces, silhouettes are supple and lighting mellow, with wall and floor lamps on repeat. Molteni&C's 'Asterias' dining table glows under Doug Johnston's coiled pendants while Vibia's 'Pin' wall lights illuminate Agape's oval 'Vieques' bathtub. Everything from basins to Zanat's 'Unna' hand-carved dining chairs were given gently curved profiles. Aesthetically, Carole and Sarah were in sync, sharing Pinterest boards and workshopping ideas. Sarah fondly recalls "tossing ideas around ... sometimes over a cup of tea or glass of wine, or even standing on a pile of rubble in the yard". Carole, too, expressed dismay that she would no longer be meeting Sarah every week as she has done for two years.

Upstairs is kids only. Bedrooms are accented in pastel blue and rose, doors are barn-style, bathrooms are lined in spot floor tiles and in the rumpus room are Grazia & Co's oversized 'Obo' balls. Shelves display Lego and secret tunnels lead to a playroom.

Carole has designed concealed and covert elements throughout: mirrored panels in the main bathroom are a front for a secret door to the study, a sliding blackboard can close off the laundry, flush wall panels with steel hooks disguise a room beyond, and hidden in the joinery is a door leading from the main bedroom to the gym.

"I didn't want a cookie-cutter 'designer' house," says Sarah of her original brief. "I wanted every part to be carefully considered and planned for our needs, and to align with our character. It had to feel like it belonged to us." Mission accomplished. carolewhiting.com

