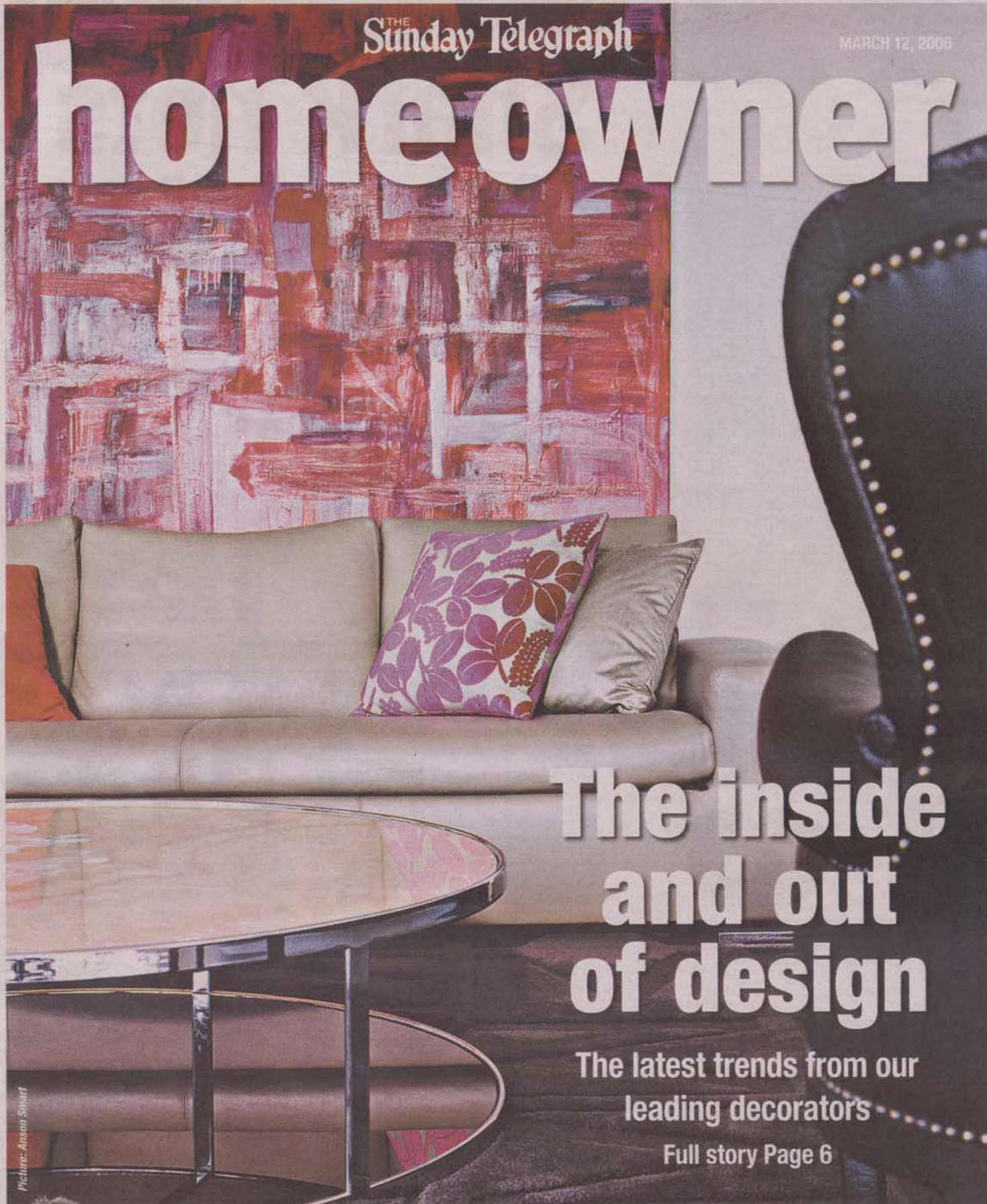


# homeowner



## The inside and out of design

The latest trends from our leading decorators

Full story Page 6

Picture: Anson Smart



### Home Truths

Football legend Brett Kimmorley gives the thumbs up to a great investment sell — P2

### Yours for only...



### \$9.25 million Balmoral

**Bed 5 Bath 5 Parking 2**

**Features** Tri-level ultra-stylish entertainer's home on 818sqm with direct beach access and panoramic harbour views. Main level with luxury open-plan living, stunning gourmet kitchen, floor-to-ceiling windows and expansive terrace. Indoor heated pool and spa, wet bar, guest suite, customised home office, wine cellar, plus two separate television and games areas  
**Contact** Stephen Patrick, 0413 834 848

### Mortgage manager

The week's best rates

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Premium variable home loan       |              |
| <b>Advantage Finance</b>         | <b>6.30%</b> |
| Basic variable home loan         |              |
| <b>A M O Group</b>               | <b>5.70%</b> |
| Equity premium variable          |              |
| <b>Advantage Finance</b>         | <b>6.59%</b> |
| Introductory variable            |              |
| <b>Advantage Finance</b>         | <b>6.20%</b> |
| 3yr fixed home loan              |              |
| <b>NSW Teachers Credit Union</b> | <b>6.47%</b> |
| 5yr fixed home loan              |              |
| <b>AMP Banking</b>               | <b>6.59%</b> |

Source: CANNEX



**Inside edge:** The living room of the Bellevue Hill home which was decorated by interior designer Sarah-Jane Suliman, who has been shortlisted for the 2006 Interior Design Awards

**SARAH-JANE SULIMAN**

**Greener pastures:** Marchese Partners architects Steven Isaacs and Lisa Saville have been nominated for their own private Hunters Hill dwelling affectionately dubbed the 'Treehouse'

Photographer: Kata Bayer



**ISAACS/SAVILLE**



# Sydney's finest

You don't need to spend a fortune on your home to get the designer look.  
By Bronwen Gora

CREATING fashionable interiors does not mean turning your home into a money pit, according to Sydney's leading interior designers. Beautiful homes can be created out of simple materials that look effective, designer Domino Risch, a judge of next month's Interior Design Awards, says.

"It should be easy for homeowners to create harmonious spaces by choosing the right upholstery, accessories and furnishings," Ms Risch said. "There are some simple ways to effectively create pleasant places to be in and they don't have to be expensive or the latest and greatest."

Award finalists were announced last week, and while their creations may be beyond the budget of average homeowners, designers say there are simple, inexpensive tips people can glean from their work.

Architect Mark Cashman, of Marsh Cashman Koilloos Architects, used plywood, melamine and stainless steel instead of more costly timbers and stone when given a tight budget for the renovation of a worker's bungalow in inner-west Newtown.

"We recycled all the bricks for the barbecue and the inside and outside of the house," Mr Cashman said. "We used stainless steel that's cheap compared to other finishes and expensive materials like stone. We tried to be clever and have fun with the plywood, which weaves right through the house. We used all the offcuts to make bench seats."



**SARAH DAVISON**

At the other end of the scale, Sarah Davison's work on a Point Piper apartment involved tailor-made pieces and lavish accessories. The lounge was custom-made with a low back so as not to block the harbour view and the dining table was a one-off solid American oak piece with stainless steel legs. A kitchen with a striking basalt benchtop was built in the apartment's former dining room and the old tiny kitchen turned into a study.

Balance was the key to her extravagant design – an important tactic for any design-conscious homeowner, Ms Davison said.

As far as trends go, all finalists agreed stark minimalism was out and comfort and simplicity was in.

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# MARK CASHMAN

**Modern makeover:** This Newtown worker's cottage was redesigned and renovated by Mark Cashman from Marsh Cashman Kooloos Architects, finalists in the annual Interior Design Awards



**Ways with wallpaper:** Interior designer Greg Natale's passion for wallpaper is evident in the decor of this Cremorne property for which he has been shortlisted in the 2006 Interior Design Awards

Photographer: Anson Smart



# GREG NATALE

# Best interiors

**Decorative delight:** The interior of this lavish Point Piper apartment was created by finalist Sarah Davison



backdrop to give you flexibility. If you paint colours and use different wall textures, that dates and you have to redo your interior."

He said his steel-framed home, which sits on eight poles high among the tree tops, was a showcase of simplicity and sustainability.

Recycled blackbutt timber was used for the floors, walls slide away and rainwater is collected for the toilets and laundry. One feature is a living room wall that instead of having a window in the middle has glass at the bottom and top through which the trees can be seen. An existing tree has been incorporated into a corner of the balcony.

Interior designer Greg Natale took the flamboyant and glamorous approach when decorating a three-storey Cremorne house on Sydney's north shore that has also made the finals. Renowned for his unique way with wallpaper, Mr Natale created a visual feast of matching walls, bedspreads and lamp shades in some of the home's bedrooms.

"Basically we were softening the hard lines of the interior architecture and we did that with fabric and prints," Mr Natale said.

"The owners wanted something glamorous and 'wow'. On the first floor there's lots of colour for the kids' area and on level two, the entertaining area, we used lots of sophisticated furniture and basalt on the floor."

Architect David Boyle used bold colours to great effect in his brother's Bondi Junction terrace. There are full gloss walls, a bright red feature wall in the living room and concertina doors in one bedroom are a striking blue. Curving tiles up a wall and adding a skylight to an old chimney made a tiny upstairs bathroom appear spacious.

The third annual Interior Design Awards will be announced on Friday, April 7, at a gala function at Sydney's Hilton Hotel. Results will be available online at [www.interiordesignawards.com.au](http://www.interiordesignawards.com.au) from Tuesday, April 11.



**Family first:** Architect David Boyle used bold colours to create a sense of space inside the Bondi Junction terrace he redesigned for his brother and for which he has been nominated a finalist in the awards

# DAVID BOYLE