

# DARK HORSE

Greg Natale creates a moody Geelong home that echoes its historical architecture and its role as a working stud farm | 室內設計師Greg Natale  
 打造出滿有情調的吉隆家居，呼應著它的歷史建築和育馬場用途

BY IAN PHILLIPS PHOTOGRAPHY ANSON SMART/TRIPOD AGENCY





**HORSEPLAY**  
Equestrian references in the entrance hall are clear indications to the homeowners' passion and work in horse breeding; vintage *Vanity Fair* illustrations of jockeys hang in the study; Greg Natale

**馬術精髓**  
門廳放滿與馬術有關的裝飾，清楚流露屋主對育馬的熱愛和工作；書房掛有 *Vanity Fair* 賽馬圖像；設計師 Greg Natale

When interior designer Greg Natale first visited this former 19<sup>th</sup>-century homestead an hour west of Melbourne, it was woefully bland. "It had been redone in the 1980s and was just all cream," he recalls. "It had no character." The current owners — a couple with five young children — not only wanted something more elegant and exciting, but they also requested that the new decor reflect the fact that the house stands at the heart of a working stud farm.

Named Rosemont Stud, the bucolic riverside property near Geelong is home to two of Australia's leading stallions, Toorak Toff and Danzero. And champion sprinter Starspangledbanner recently joined them: he has won a total of four Group 1 races on two continents, including the Golden Jubilee Stakes at the Royal Ascot race meeting in 2010.

室內設計師 Greg Natale 初次到訪這間離墨爾本西部一小時車程、前為19世紀農莊的建築時，它是多麼枯燥乏味。「80年代時曾經重整，但依然普通平凡。」他回想到：「全無格調可言。」現任屋主——育有五名年幼孩子的夫婦——不但希望擁有更優雅刺激的元素，更要求新裝潢能反映屋子作為育馬場重心的角色。

這幢鄰近吉隆名叫 Rosemont Stud 的河邊鄉村物業是澳洲兩位著名種馬師 Toorak Toff 和 Danzero 的家居。冠軍短跑精英 Starspangledbanner 是最新加入的成員，曾在兩大洲的 Group 1 賽事上贏取四面獎牌，包括2010年 Royal Ascot 賽事會議的 Golden Jubilee Stakes。





“I layer clean and classic lines together, and then put another layer of **pattern and opulence on top**”



**THROWING SHAPES**  
At the homeowners' request, Greg designed a dark and moody dining room, incorporating his signature use of patterns as well as gilt accents; the lofty family room contrasts with high ceilings and white walls

**魅力圖案**  
Greg根據屋主主要求設計出深沉、滿有格調的飯廳，與他標誌的圖紋運用和鍍金調子完美配搭；洋溢頂樓氣派的家庭空間有著高樓底和白牆

“This is serious horse breeding,” says Greg, and it’s something he has reflected in the home via various equestrian references. In the entry hall, he perched a saddle on top of a potter’s wheel. In the study, he hung a series of vintage *Vanity Fair* illustrations portraying jockeys, and used fabrics featuring stirrup and bridle motifs. He has also filled the home with images of thoroughbreds.

Greg is one of Australia’s foremost decorators, and his aesthetic has been labelled “Hollywood Regency.” Says the designer, “I layer clean and classic lines together and then put another layer of pattern and opulence on top ... Geometric motifs are one of my signatures.” It is a look that will be showcased in his debut book, which will be released by Hardie Grant Publishing this autumn, with a foreword by New York interiors guru, Jonathan Adler.

Greg表示：「這是項嚴謹的育馬工程。」他透過多種與馬術有關的元素在全屋每吋突顯此方面。他在入門廳的陶輪上放上馬鞍。書房則掛有一系列懷舊*Vanity Fair*印刷圖像，並選用飾有馬鐙和馬勒圖紋的布藝。Greg也不忘在全屋各處放滿純種馬圖片。

作為澳洲其中一位最傑出的裝飾師，Greg的美感有「荷里活風」美譽。他說：「我將簡潔經典的元素層疊起來，然後再放上一層圖紋和豐潤感.....幾何圖案是我的標記之一。」這款風格造型將會收錄在他與紐約室內設計達人Jonathan Adler合作的著作中——同為其處男作，並訂於本年秋天由Hardie Grant Publishing出版。





**TOO MANY COOKS**

Greg favoured open shelves and freestanding appliances for the kitchen, rather than trying to conceal everything behind cabinet doors; the space has a country feel to it

**一屋大廚**

Greg為廚房挑選了開放式架子和獨立式電器，而非將所有東西收藏在櫃門後；空間有著獨特的鄉村味道

The five-bedroom house at Rosemont Stud dates from the 1880s and stands on a vast, 2,400-acre estate. The house itself is made from Victorian bluestone — the same rich, charcoal-coloured stone used for Melbourne’s pavements. “The walls are half a metre thick,” he says.

The inspiration for the colour palette inside actually came from the exterior. The dark grey of the stone, the red of the brick chimneys and the white of the window frames are adapted for the interiors, in line with the owners’ request for distinctly moody interiors. So Greg stained the pine boards black and used sombre hues for the main reception rooms. Perhaps the most atmospheric is the dining room, with its black chevron-patterned wallpaper. He also integrated some period furnishings, to give the rooms a more traditional vibe. Among them are gilt mirrors, which were

Rosemont Stud這個五房家居坐落在2,400英畝土地上，歷史可追溯到1880年代。房子本身以維多利亞時期的藍灰沙岩建成，亦即是墨爾本行人道鋪有的煤炭色石材。Greg指：「牆身足足有半米厚。」

室內用色的靈感源於外牆。石材的深灰色、磚煙筒的紅色和框窗的白色營造出屋主要求的情調氣氛。Greg更將松木板染成黑色，並為主接待空間繫上陰沉調子。飯廳飾有黑色V形圖案牆紙，大概是全屋最具神秘感的角落。除此之外，他更融合部分具特別時期特色的裝飾，打造出更傳統的格調。當中包括原本已置在屋中的塗金鏡面，和一對在悉尼古董店購得的30年代裝飾椅。他也在





**PATTERN PLAY**  
Geometric lines and shapes continue in the bedrooms and bathrooms, as does the palette of sombre hues

**圖案之最**  
幾何線條和形狀，以及陰沉色調一直延續至睡房和浴室

already in the house, and a pair of 1930s tufted chairs he found in an antique store in Sydney. He acquired several items in Geelong, too: a vintage alarm clock, firewood buckets and the gold dinner service displayed in the dining room cabinet. "If I'm working on a house like this, I like to go into the local neighbourhoods and see what I can find," he says. "It gives it a bit of context."

For Greg, the reception rooms correspond to the tastes of the wife. "Her aesthetic is more dressy and glamorous," he says. The husband, meanwhile, prefers a look that's "a bit more rustic and industrial," which is reflected elsewhere in the home. For example, the bathrooms feature exposed brass pipes, washbasins redolent of barn sinks, and geometric Turkish tiles.

吉隆購得數款產品：古董鬧鐘、火爐木桶和飯廳櫃陳列著的金色餐具。「處理類似屋子的話，我會走到當地社區看看能找著甚麼。」他說：「這樣有助加深度。」

對Greg來說，接待空間最能回應太太的品味：「她較偏向隆重華麗的風格。」這位丈夫則喜愛「鄉村和工業的味道」，這種格調在全屋其他範圍源源流露。浴室配備外露的銻黃喉管，洗臉盆讓人聯想起穀倉銻盆和土地耳幾何磚面。



GET THE LOOK

The decor reflects the fact that the house stands on a **working stud farm**



IN THE RED

For a red sofa like the one in this home, head to Tequila Kola. [tequilakola.com](http://tequilakola.com)



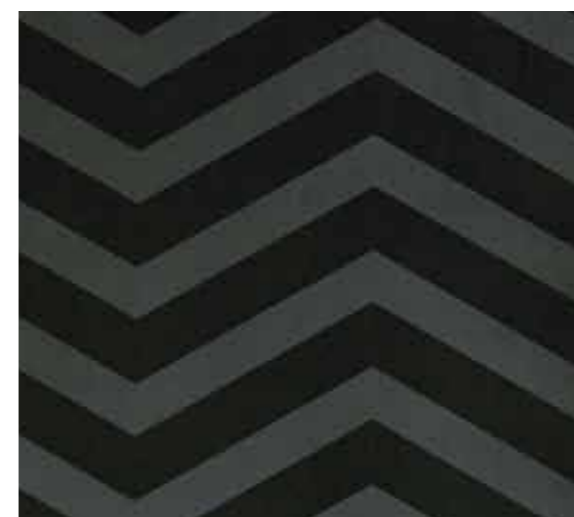
THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

Find a circular mirror like the one in the bathroom at Homeless. [homeless.hk](http://homeless.hk)



BATHING BEAUTY

To create a bathroom look like the one in this home, head to Fired Earth for tiles and tubs. [firedearth.com](http://firedearth.com)



HORSING AROUND

The wallpaper in the dining room is Greg Natale's Chevron print for Porter's Paints. [porterspains.com](http://porterspains.com)



**THE GREAT OUTDOORS**  
A casual set up on the shaded deck for alfresco entertaining

**完美戶外**  
設有遮蔽的平台是戶外用餐款客的好地方

The kitchen, meanwhile, has a distinctly country feel. Greg was particularly keen to steer clear of built-ins. "You're not hiding the appliances and all that stuff, which is what I usually do," he says. Instead, there are open shelves and freestanding fridges. He also used the same diamond motifs on the kitchen floors as he did in the bathrooms. "That goes with my philosophy of houses being very cohesive and everything flowing and connecting," says Greg.

His favourite space is the lofty family room, where he created two inviting seating areas. One is focused on a fireplace constructed with Victoria bluestone salvaged from the floors of the adjacent coach house. The other is used for television viewing. "I was just so lucky with the proportions of that room and those high ceilings," he says. "I feel I really captured the spirit of the house in there." //

廚房亦有著獨特的鄉郊情懷。Greg特別小心避開選用嵌入式設計。他說：「我不會將電器和其他東西隱藏起來。」反之，當中放有開放式架子和獨立式雪櫃，並在廚房地板選用浴室的鑽石形基調。他說：「這與我的信念相符，讓全屋格調更顯緊扣，所有事物也自然過渡，互相連繫。」

他最愛滿有頂樓風格的家庭空間，在此更打造出兩個讓人感覺賓至如歸的休息範圍。其中一個以火爐為焦點，並以毗連馬車房的維多利亞藍灰沙岩製成。另一空間則用作欣賞電視節目的天地。「能遇上這種比例的樓房和高聳的天花樓底實在幸運。」Greg指出：「我認為自己的確抓住了屋子的精髓所在。」 //