

Inner city living can sometimes present challenges. Generally, there are smaller interior spaces to inhabit and this requires the designer to work hard to enhance place and provide comfort. From restriction can come creative solutions, however, and some of the most beautiful interiors have been born from the need to be imaginative, resourceful and inventive.

With Sydney warehouse, the spatial footprint was challenging; however, the design Pascale Gomes-McNabb, principal of Pascale Gomes-McNabb Design, has achieved is a resounding success, utilising every space and creating a light-filled environment with all details perfectly in keeping with the ideas of fine design.

This residence is one of three homes positioned side-by-side within a large inner city Sydney warehouse. The floor area is a long narrow rectangle, barely five metres wide and 26 metres long, with public and entertaining areas on the ground floor and bedrooms and study on the level above.

Gomes-McNabb has maintained an urban warehouse feel by retaining the raw brick walls throughout and leaving service pipes exposed, affixed to the sealed concrete ceiling on the ground floor. There is a light grey polished concrete floor with white aggregate and this utilitarian material complements the mortar within the brick walls.

The interior has been designed to complement the sophisticated lifestyle of the client and every utility has been incorporated through careful planning and spatial management. For example, instead of the usual long side corridor from front to back, Gomes-McNabb has designed a vestibule that separates the entry from the house proper. This is a small design inclusion, but one that breaks up the length of the space, offers privacy and also excites the imagination as to what lies ahead. And then there is the placement of the floating folded steel staircase to the level above. Located in the middle and to the side of the floor plan, the stair is

previous—View through the living area to the courtyard and kitchen beyond above—The powder room is situated beneath the stair that leads to the first floor

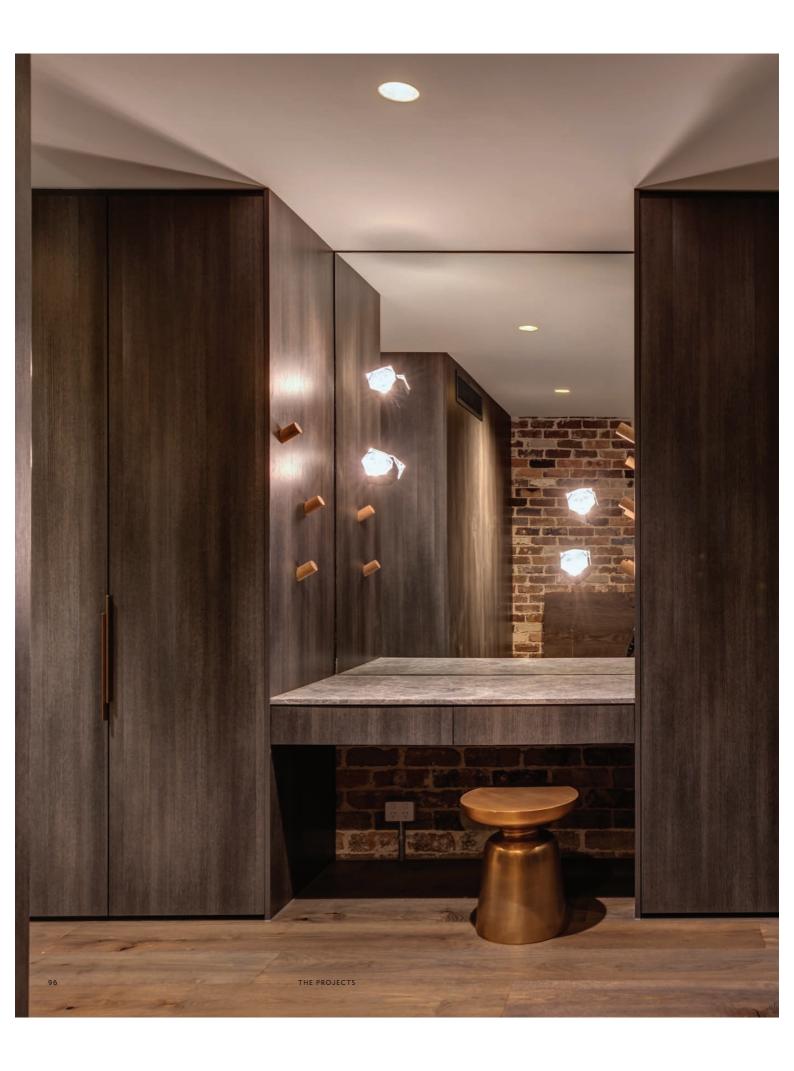
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below—Bright yellow glass mosaic tiles add a splash of colour to the powder room interior. right—A bird's-eye view of the void between the ground and first floor

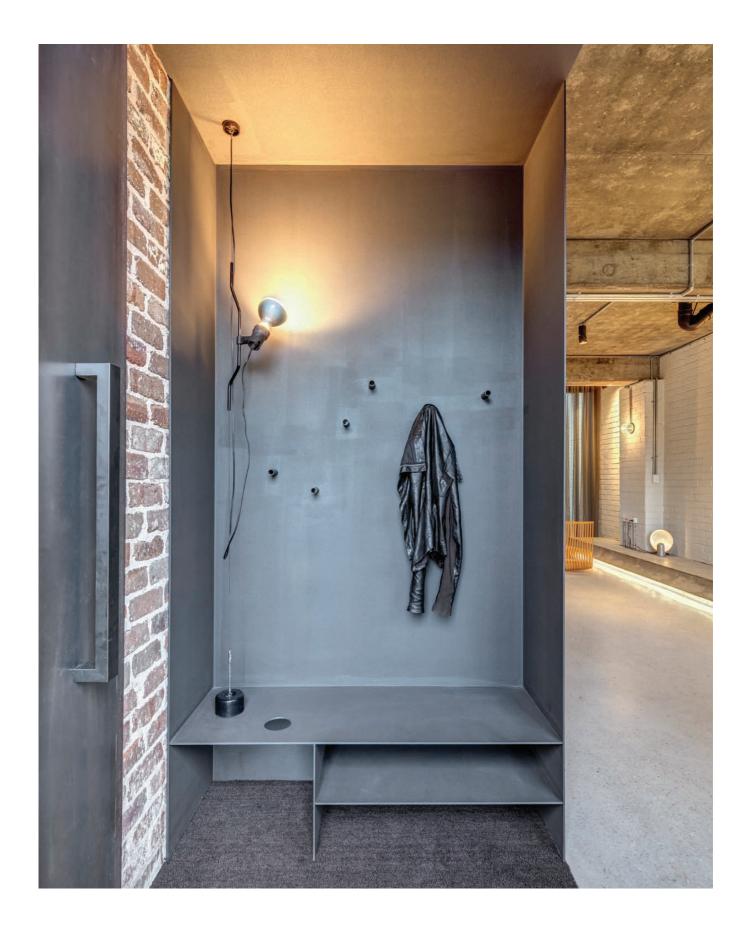




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There are two bedrooms on either side of a bathroom at one end, a study in the middle and the master suite beyond. Gomes-McNabb has again used mirror in the bathrooms to increase volume and light, and the addition of brass taps and showerhead complements the white bright interior.

As an inner city apartment this is one of the best and would not be out of place in New York, London or Paris. Every amenity is included and there is even a two-car garage at the very rear of the property. Although the width of the house is modest, there is a generosity within the design that creates a spaciousness and easy flow. The interior style is minimal; however, large striking art installations have been strategically placed to complement the four-metre ceiling height and augment the colour palette. Gomes-McNabb brings restraint and finesse to this project and the outcome is perfect inner city living.





opposite—A privacy vestibule separates the entrance from the house proper. above— The palette of the contemporary kitchen is soft grey in keeping with the polished concrete floor and white painted walls in this area. left—Looking back to the kitchen from the outdoor courtyard

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