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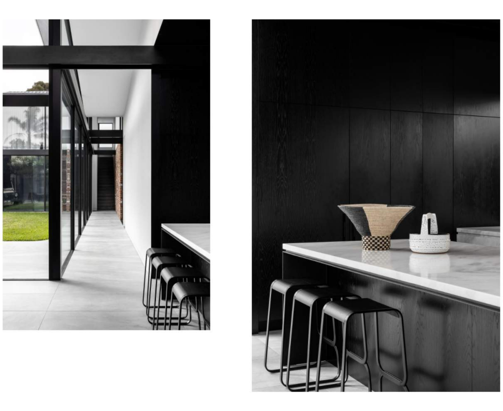
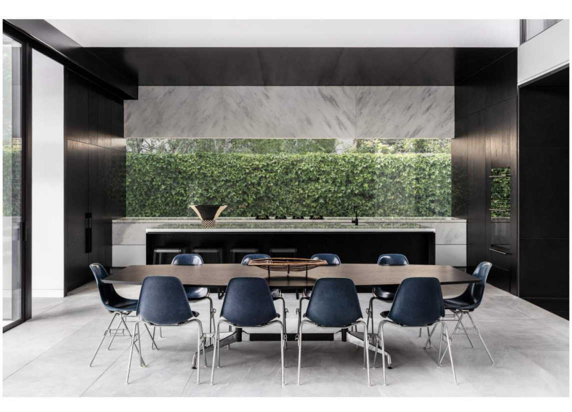
BAYSIDE HOUSE BY MCCLUSKEY STUDIO WITH CERA STRIBLEY.

KIMBERLEY HUI SEPTEMBER 6, 2021 ARCHITECTURE, FEATURED, INTERIOR DESIGN





Located in Bayside, Melbourne, Bayside House is a refurbishment of a questionable **extension** that's been added to the original Victorian house. This collaboration between McCluskey Studio and **Cera Stribley** also marks the debut for **McCluskey Studio** – headed by director Kate McCluskey who worked closely with **Cera Stribley**'s project architect, Matt Hainsworth and **Leone Constructions**. The end result craftily pulls vintage essence from the façade and translates them into sleek modern accents found within, with spaces made so grand, one could easily think they walked into a luxurious showroom.

A project almost three years in the making, the brief called or a transformation of the 'poorly conceived' existing extension and for the house to become a 'showpiece family home' that celebrates minimalism. The ambitious brief led to a remodelling that starts from the existing corridor, swooping gracefully upwards to encompass new bedrooms and bathrooms subtly distributed over two storeys. The renewed addition hugs the Japanese courtyard, landscaped with deep greens to compliment the dark steel framework and roof of the glass installation. A transparent surface, it exposes the bricks of the existing house, still preserved with patches of paint too precious to erase.

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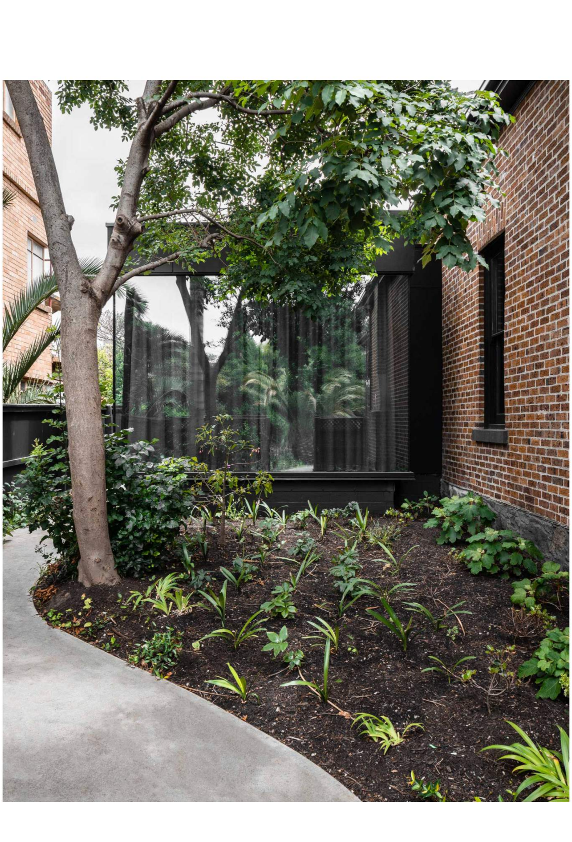

Under the client's request for a deeper palette — symphonies of sturdy lines, unwavering marble and black finishes block themselves around the space. Brilliant cool white stretches itself against new and existing walls, existing floorboards are revived with a deeper stain, and soot marbled tiles or plush charcoal carpets are introduced for the new flooring.

Each room has been curated to exude the qualities of a gallery. A boxed kitchen attached to the extension is framed with bespoke dark stained-oak cabinetry carefully pressed against the island bench topped with Ibiza White marble and a glazing splashback that reveals the garden be-

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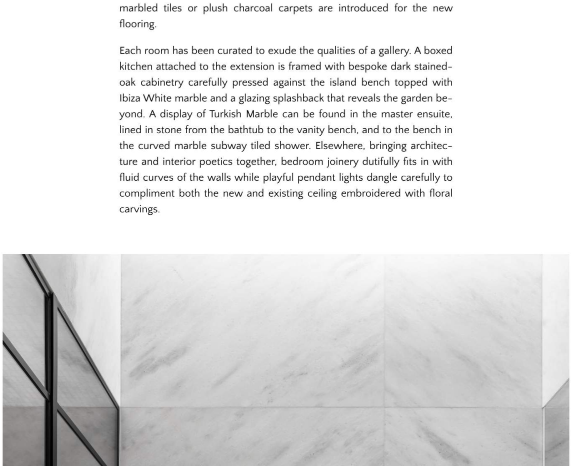

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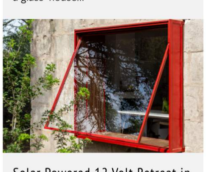

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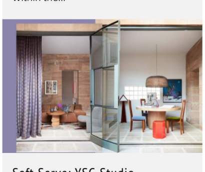

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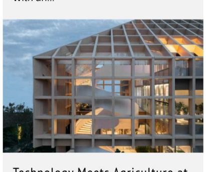

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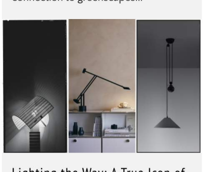

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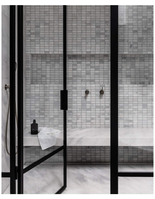
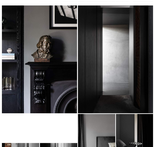
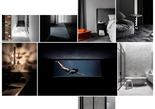


The front of the house is defined with new touches to fully unify the heritage and the present. Formed timber doors are replaced with sleek glass doors, while the interiors are transformed into a modern space. The rooms, finished with both antiquity and bespoke pieces, the space is now regarded as an enviable lounge and library for the client's family.

An adventurous trait attributed to the contemporary interior, Republic House is a testament to the fact that a home can be a place of comfort and luxury, but also a place of exploration. Each space – by sharing a common language while still interjecting a different character – makes the architecture as unique and special as it is.

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