



a happy alliance

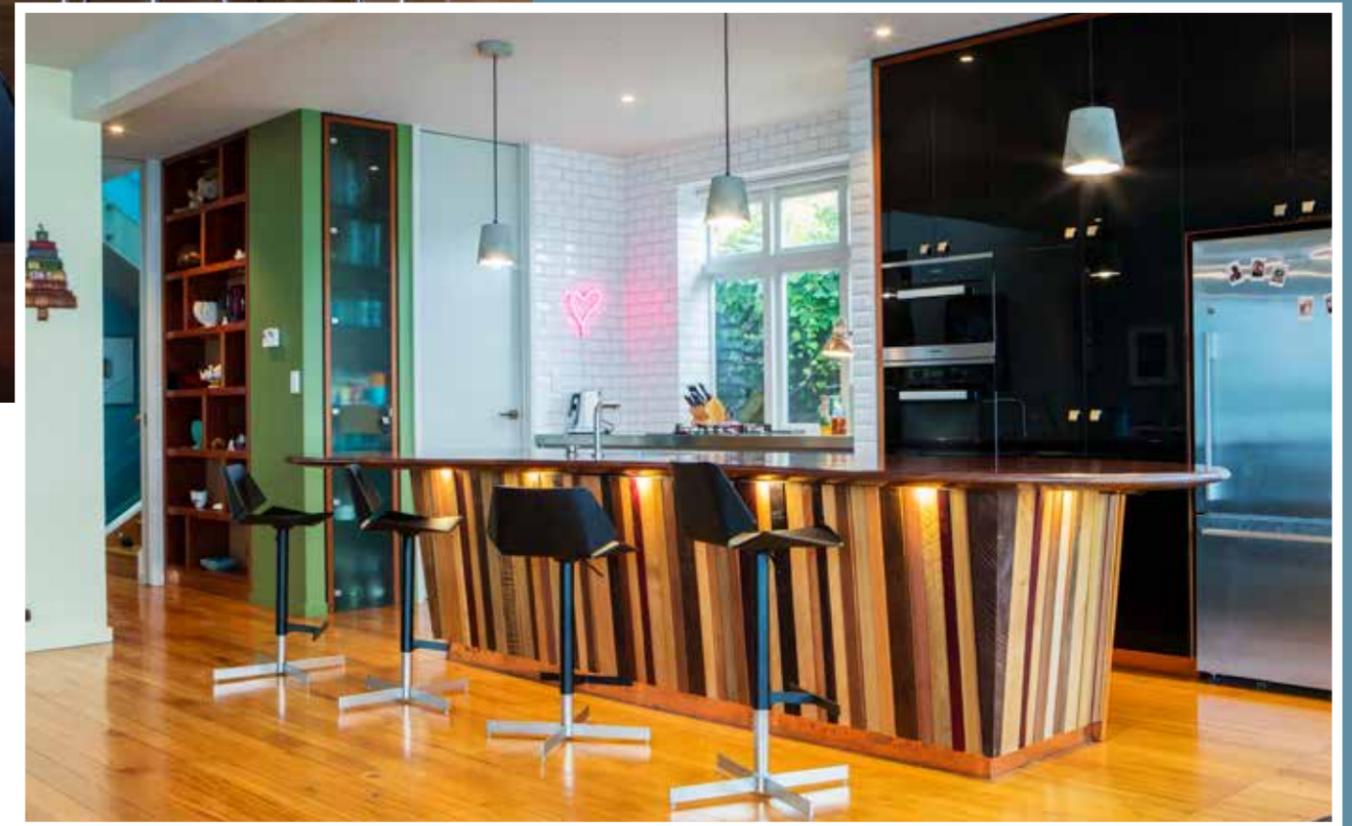
A sensitive redesign lets bold colour and stunning harbour views live side by side.

Left: Resene Bermuda Grey frames the extra-long dining table. The wall colour on the left is Resene Half Fossil and on the right is Resene Half Robin Egg Blue.

Below: Architect John Mills surprised the owners of the house with his colour choices.

Bottom: A dramatic island is a centrepiece of the kitchen with timber stained in a range of Resene Colorwood wood stain colours and urethaned in various gloss levels. Resene Woodstock is used on the wall to the left, with Resene Half Robin Egg Blue to the extreme left.

- Resene Half Fossil
- Resene Bermuda Grey
- Resene Half Robin Egg Blue



Resene Woodstock

Although the owners of this Wellington house aren't afraid of colour, when architect John Mills first showed them a proposed scheme for their renovated Roseneath home, there was a sharp intake of breath.

"Our previous house in Karori was painted 50 shades of white," laughs the owner. "John is known for his use of colour but we were still a little surprised by his choices. However, we trusted him and now we're so glad that we did."

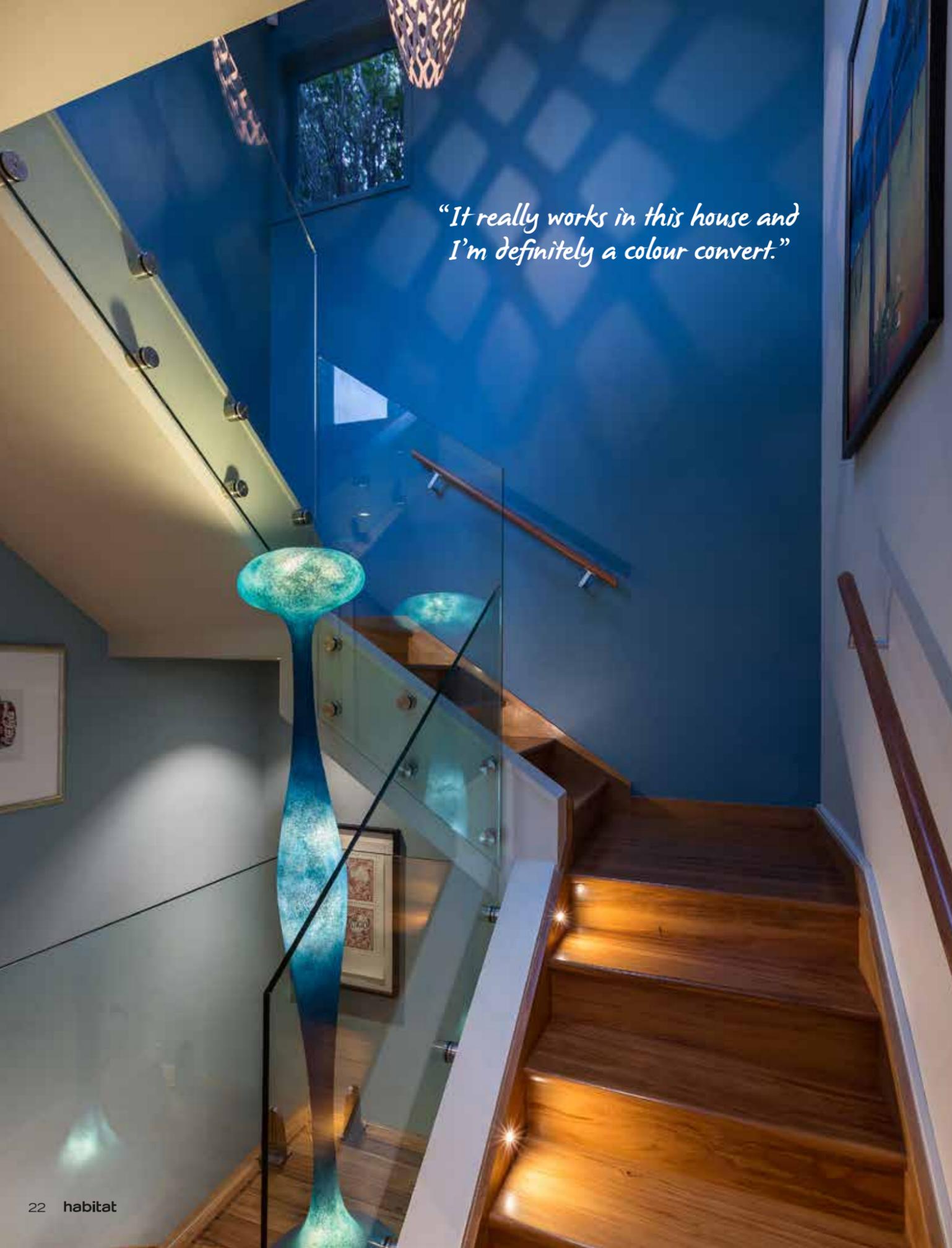
The resulting four-level home is a riot of vibrant blues and jewel-toned greens, alongside more subtle shades of lavender, grey and lemon. It won a Maestro

award in last year's Resene Total Colour Awards.

"The hero of this house is the expansive harbour view," says John. "So while I didn't want the interior palette to detract from that, there was an opportunity to not only enhance what was going on outside but also to create a cooler look and feel, because this is a very warm house."

Externally, the use of two colours (Resene Crisp Green and Resene Tea) helps to express the form of the build and highlight the entrance, says John.

Colour isn't the only thing these homeowners changed; initially the plan was to revamp only the kitchen of the 1920s house to make it more user-



“It really works in this house and I’m definitely a colour convert.”



Left: Glass balustrades, skylights and walls in Resene Endeavour bring drama and light to the stairwell.

Above: The interior palette was designed to add interest but not detract from the harbour views. The walls here are in Resene Half Fossil and Resene Alluring.

Below: Resene Crisp Green helps define the home’s entrance. The other weatherboards are in Resene Tea.

- Resene Endeavour 
- Resene Crisp Green 
- Resene Tea 
- Resene Alluring 
- Resene Half Fossil 

did you know...

that the best paints to use for exterior weatherboards are Resene Lumbersider, for a low-sheen finish, Resene Sonyx 101, for a semi-gloss finish, or Resene Hi-Glo for a gloss finish? All are tough paints formulated to withstand the effects of the weather.

friendly for their four teenage sons. But one thing led to another and John ended up leaving almost no stone unturned.

The biggest change was in the living area on the first level. “It just needed a little tweaking to make it work for our family,” says the owner, who bought the house primarily because of its views and all-day sun. That included removing four walls, repositioning the entrance closer to the street, re-aligning the dramatic black kitchen along the southern wall and cribbing space from the previous kitchen to create a pantry.

Not only did that improve the flow, it also gave the family space to spread out... and to reclaim a 3.2m long dining table they’d had made for their previous larger home out of storage.

John also had an open brief to create the striking mahogany kitchen island made by artist John Calvert. The front of the 4m long worktop comprises planks of native wood (stained or urethaned in various Resene products) and a copper toe-kick, which adds texture to the space.

John’s design included extending the living space 2.5m over the existing deck and adding a new deck to the side of the house which is better sheltered from the prevailing northerlies. Now 2.4m high glass doors provide unrestricted sea views.

John added two projected copper-clad bay windows, as a nod to the home’s original bay windows. The copper, which is designed to weather with age, evokes a maritime feel and provides a striking connection with the ships that pass across the bay below.

Because the owners see themselves using the house as an apartment once their children leave home, the master wing is located on the same level as the kitchen



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The study is a restful space, now painted in Resene Woodstock.

Resene Woodstock

Get the look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen tinted to Resene Endeavour.

Resene Endeavour



get the look with Resene Cut Glass



Get the exterior look with Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Crisp Green.

Resene Crisp Green



and living spaces. Large sliding doors close off the space when the couple want privacy. "When the kids aren't here we can live entirely on this level."

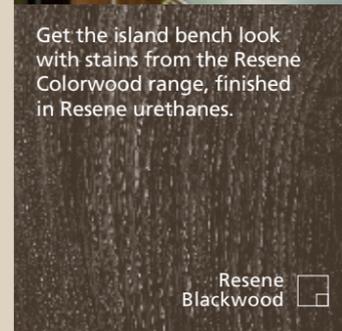
The original master bathroom was completely gutted, including replacing the bath with a generous shower. Space borrowed from the original bathroom allowed for a bank of ceiling-high storage cupboards that run the length of the hallway. A second compact bathroom was painted in lavender Resene Alluring, which contrasts nicely with bright orange vintage Scandinavian pendant lights.

Although the revamped living level is now flooded with natural light, the rest of the house needed to be given the same treatment. Adding glass balustrades on the two internal staircases and large skylights did just that, as well as increasing the sense of space.

A large roof deck which uses previously inaccessible space has proved a hit with family and friends. With its sweeping views over Oriental Bay across the harbour to the Hutt Valley, it's easy to see why.

It might have taken a year to achieve their dream house, but the owners says the renovation journey was relatively painless. "If you'd told me a few years ago I'd be living in a house with bright blue and green walls, I would have probably laughed at you. But it really works in this house and I'm definitely a colour convert." **H**

words Sharon Stephenson
pictures Paul McCredie, Nicola Edmonds



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Resene Blackwood



light by David Trubridge

designer John Mills,
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Resene Bermuda Grey

Resene Half Fossil

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