

Sea Change

As a beautifully finished duplex with plenty of space for entertaining, this Bondi home exudes seaside living at its finest.

INTERIOR DESIGN—DECUS INTERIORS
PHOTOGRAPHY—FELIX FOREST



MOROSO'S **GENTRY SOFA**
(matisse.co.nz) SITS PRIDE OF
PLACE IN THE LIVING AREA,
WHILE A CLASSICON **BIBENDUM**
CHAIR (matisse.co.nz) AND
MING'S HEART LEATHER CHAIR
(studioitalia.co.nz)
ADD COMPLEMENTING
POPS OF COLOUR.

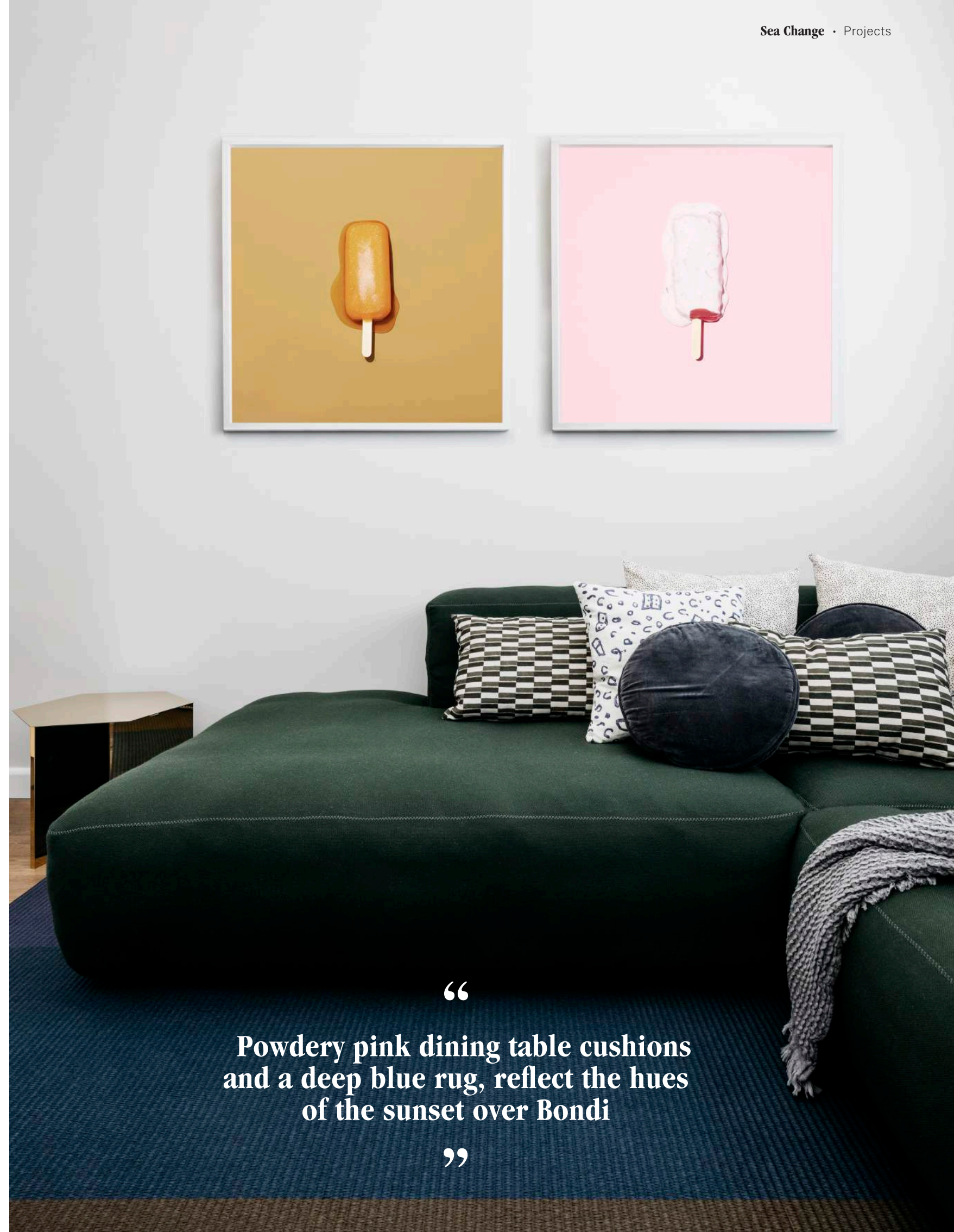
When instructed by their client to create a space that would both work with her busy lifestyle and accommodate regular visits from extended family, Decus Interiors knew that practicality had to be as important as style. Situated in North Bondi, and boasting the incredible ocean views the area is renowned for, this apartment reflects its laid-back environment in superb detail. Richly appointed and luxurious, textural rugs, sculptural chairs and cleverly used artworks have resulted in a home that embodies high design while retaining a sense of lightness through its clean colour palette and facilitation of natural light.

Drawing inspiration from the undulating curves of the ocean, organic and feminine shapes take precedence. From the rounded walls to the gently curving tables and the circular chairs — subtle rattan chairs in the dining room and a show-stopping emerald blue armchair in the study — there's barely a hard-edged corner in sight. At once bold and minimalist, the prolific curvature creates a subtle flow through the home while also ensuring a distinctly unique finish. Soft injections of colour, like powdery pink dining table cushions and a deep blue rug, reflect the hues of the sunset over Bondi — where dusky tones accented by vivid bursts collide over the rippling waters. Occasional touches of bright colour lend the interior an unexpected edge, alongside the visually arresting contemporary art, that stands out against the apartment's understated aesthetic.

Using every square inch available, Decus proved that luxurious design doesn't have to be reserved for large spaces. Creating an ideal home for their client that also suited its surrounding environment, this apartment is beautifully considered and thoughtfully appointed. It offers a clean, organised space, ideal for a working professional while remaining exceptionally inviting for guests.

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GET THE LOOK

Sea Change

1. Ming's Heart armchair
by Shi-Chieh Lu
for Poltrona Frau
from Studio Italia

2. Tundra honed marble
from Artedomus

3. Bell Table light
by Tom Dixon
from ECC

4. Halves side table
by MSDS Studio
for Muuto
from Bauhaus

5. Graffito fabric
by Kelly Wearstler
from Trenzseater

6. Curlicue II
by Ray Haydon
from Sanderson
Contemporary Art

7. Crescent table
from King Living

8. Atticus P/114 Outdoor
by Joana Bover
for Bover
from ECC



Woollahra House by Decus Interiors

THE TREND

Stone Tubs

Stones and crystals have long been lauded for their health-augmenting qualities, so it comes as no surprise that they're making their way into our bathing routine.

Eclipse in Carrara Marble bathtub
by Marco Di Paolo
for Antoniolumi
from Matisse

Yalong Bay bathtub by Johannes Torpe Studios

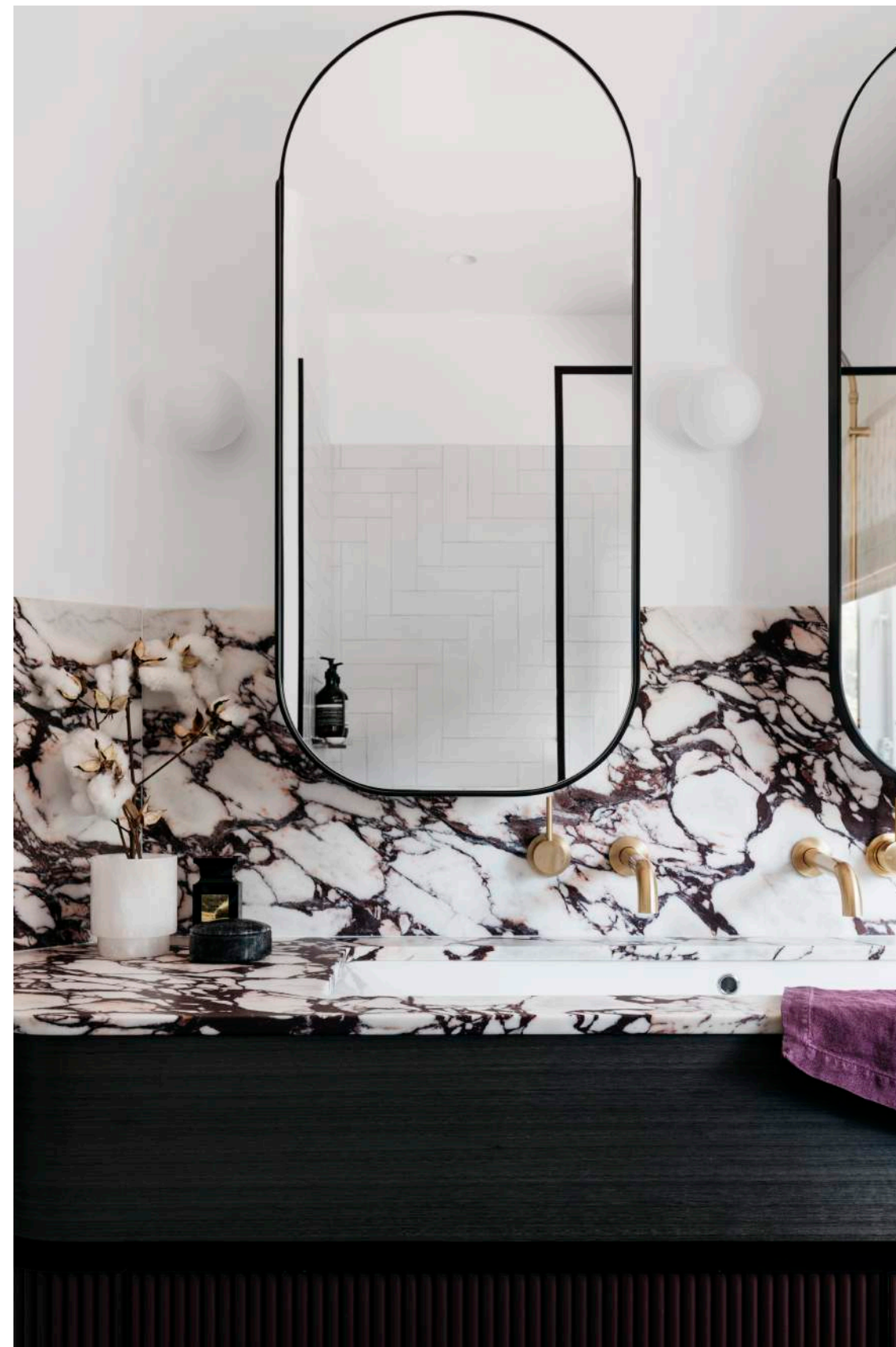
Armadale Residence by B.E Architecture

In-Out bathtub
by Behedini Associati
for Agape
from Matisse

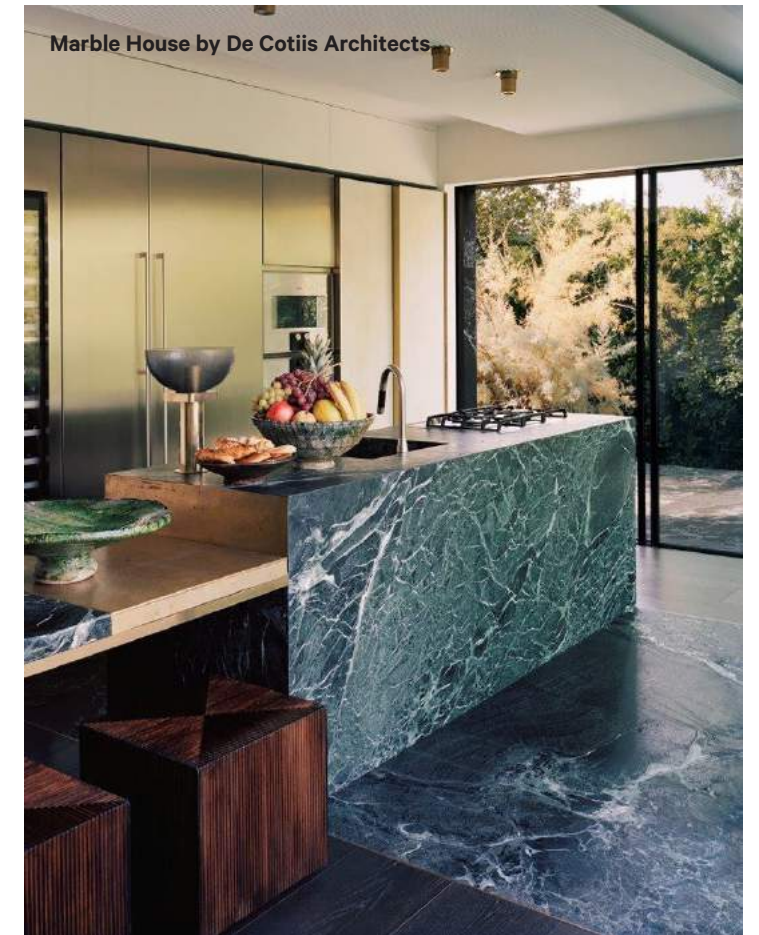
You could say that it all started with Yalong Bay's pink bathtub (pictured above) that made the Internet swoon. Rendered entirely of vitreous pink onyx, its unique appearance was arguably secondary only to the perceived benefits of bathing in such an object. Said to soothe nervousness, anger and resentment, and aid in meditation and reflection, one was left to wonder why stone baths weren't more commonplace. Now a fully fledged trend is positing mineral-rich materials as pivotal to the act of bathing. Whether cladding the exterior of a porcelain enameled tub or constructing one entirely from marble, crystal, onyx or stone, all their glorious grains and idiosyncrasies are being employed as a bather's new best friend. Decus Interiors used crema violet onyx in a Woollahra House (pictured left) to impose a point of difference in the typically white-washed ablutions area. Where marble and stone are not uncommon, using them to create a unique focal point with a contemporary twist can be the difference between a good and a great bathroom.



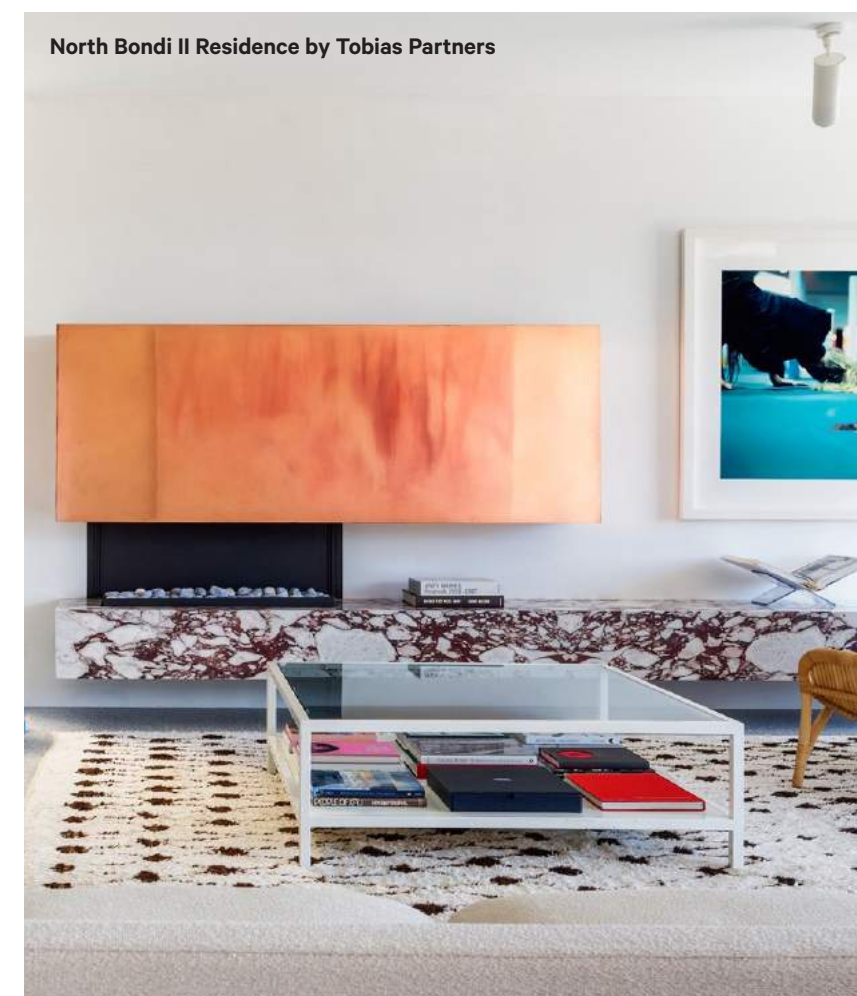
North Bondi II Residence by Tobias Partners



Woollahra house by Decus Interiors



Marble House by De Cotiis Architects



North Bondi II Residence by Tobias Partners

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED

Coloured Marble

Whoever deems marble monotonous hasn't met the material in all of its playful, modern day glory.

While Carrara marble has long been the stone of choice for its clean palette and versatility, a new breed of colourful slabs are encouraging us to indulge in something a bit more playful. In the vibrant Bondi beach home by Tobias Partners, pictured above, the desire to avoid any interior design clichés of being 'by the sea' led to an unlikely mixture of terrazzo flooring flanked by a red and white stone plinth in the living room. Its clever application lent the space an air of sophistication while maintaining a relaxed, laid-back feel.

In the bathroom of the same project, candy floss coloured floor-to-ceiling marble walls provide a show-stopping backdrop while rendering the washroom simultaneously bold and feminine. Graduating out of the powder room to places where a saturated marble can be an unexpected touch, such as the continuous use of jade granite that sees a kitchen island blend into the flooring in De Cotiis Architects' Marble House, this robust new movement is proving that unusual marble hues really have no bounds.