

戶外好風光 stepping out

A major revamp brings this Clearwater Bay villa into harmony with its surroundings

大規模翻新和裝修令這座清水灣別墅與其周圍環境融為一體

BY KAREN GOULD

Location: Clearwater Bay
Floor area: 2,500-sq-ft internal,
2,200-sq-ft external
Specifics: 3 bed, 3 bath



THIS PAGE: A motorised awning extends as the weather demands.
OPPOSITE: With indoor-outdoor entertaining, the hardest thing is getting guests to leave.

本頁：機動雨蓬讓賓客無惧惡劣天氣
對頁：室內室外客廳活動不受天氣影響



THIS PAGE: The living room flows through to a terrace at the front of the house. KK Horticulture in Sai Kung supplied the plants.

OPPOSITE TOP: Kate is a passionate art collector and even buys some works on the Net, through sites like Eyebeam.com

OPPOSITE BOTTOM: Calm and colourful in the bedroom

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In a city of high-rises and high-density, this spacious Clearwater Bay villa stands out for its calming atmosphere and a crystal-clear connection with nature. "Entering from a fairly dense residential street, you suddenly don't feel hemmed in any more. The room opens up and you could be in a country house," says Edward Billson. As the designer behind the home, he's bound to like it, but you can be sure the owners are happy too. "You know, you get a picture in your mind of how it could be but you don't think it will really turn out that way," says owner Kate Padget-Koh. "In fact, it looks even better."

The semi-detached villa was the fruit of a long and laborious search for Kate and her partner John. "I looked at about 150 properties before I found this one," So what set this perfect property apart? Gorgeous architecture? Luxury fittings? Apparently not. "It was a dump,

actually," says Kate. "Outside was a kind of... wasteland. There was an illegal structure with a dark, miserable, windowless kitchen. But it was in a great location, and at a good price — I could just see the potential."

Kate and John asked Edward Billson from MAP, who designed their previous home, to cast an eye over the abused structure, and this rather blank canvas was soon filled in by a collage of ideas from the designer, the couple, and their rather extensive design library. "Ed totally understood our vision," says Kate. "I had a lot of John Pawson shots, they were part of it." "Pawson creates this very beautiful minimalist, Zen style," adds Billson. "I like the restraint of it."

Another plan everyone agreed on was opening the house to the outdoors, creating access to the garden areas both physically and visually. "Achieving the outside-in look is actually relatively simple — you put in

在一座高樓林立的高密度城市裡，這種面積寬敞的清水牆規劃以其寧謐氣氛以及與大自然全接觸而獨立顯著。「房間是開放式，你好像置身於鄉村大屋。」Edward Billson說。身為這個家背後的設計師，他一定會喜歡它。「你腦海裡有一幅大屋的構思圖畫，你會想現實不是那樣的。」屋主Kate Padget-Koh說。「但是事實上，它比想像中更好。」

對Kate及其伴侶John來說，這座半獨立房屋是他們長期和細牛仔色的成果。找到這座之後，他們看過的150個物業。這個完美物業究竟有何特殊之處？章主建築？豪華裝修？顯然都不是。「實際上這裡是一堆垃圾。」Kate說。「但是方位考慮好，而且價格吸引——我推算其潛力巨大。」

Kate和John請來MAP的Edward Billson探索這個遭濫用的建築結構。Billson曾為他們設計過舊居。於是這幅空白畫布便被來自設計師、屋主夫婦及其豐富設計寶庫的繪畫意念所填滿，構成一幅完美無瑕的畫畫。

另一個大家都贊同的計劃是將大屋向室外開放。改善室內外交融的效果實際上相當簡單——只要安裝盡可能大的窗子。不過宜仔細考慮窗戶玻璃的安裝技術。許多屋主喜歡應用雙摺門窗板，但Billson建議用趟板。前者裝上時，會看到更多企鵝框架，而後者則



THIS PAGE: Avid scuba divers, the couple chose underwater scenes by Edgar Francisco for the light-filled stairway

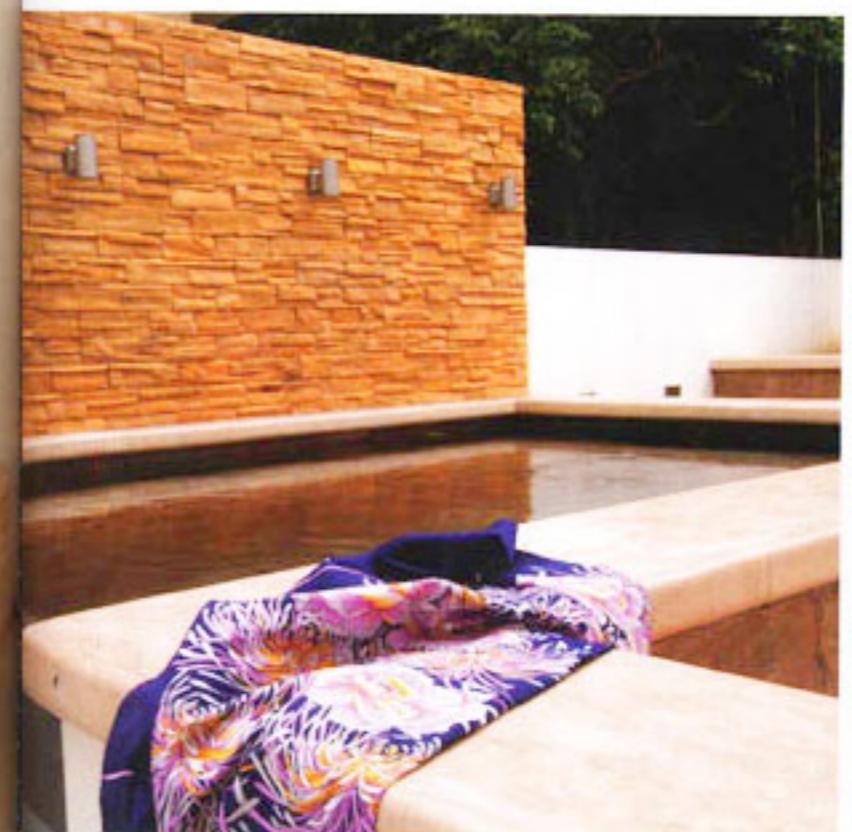
OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
LEFT: A 1930s table from Singapore looks right at home with benches from Tequila Kola; a Mark Quinn artwork is the perfect choice for this richly colourful home; the slate and sandstone plunge pool has a built-in seat, perfect for sipping cocktails

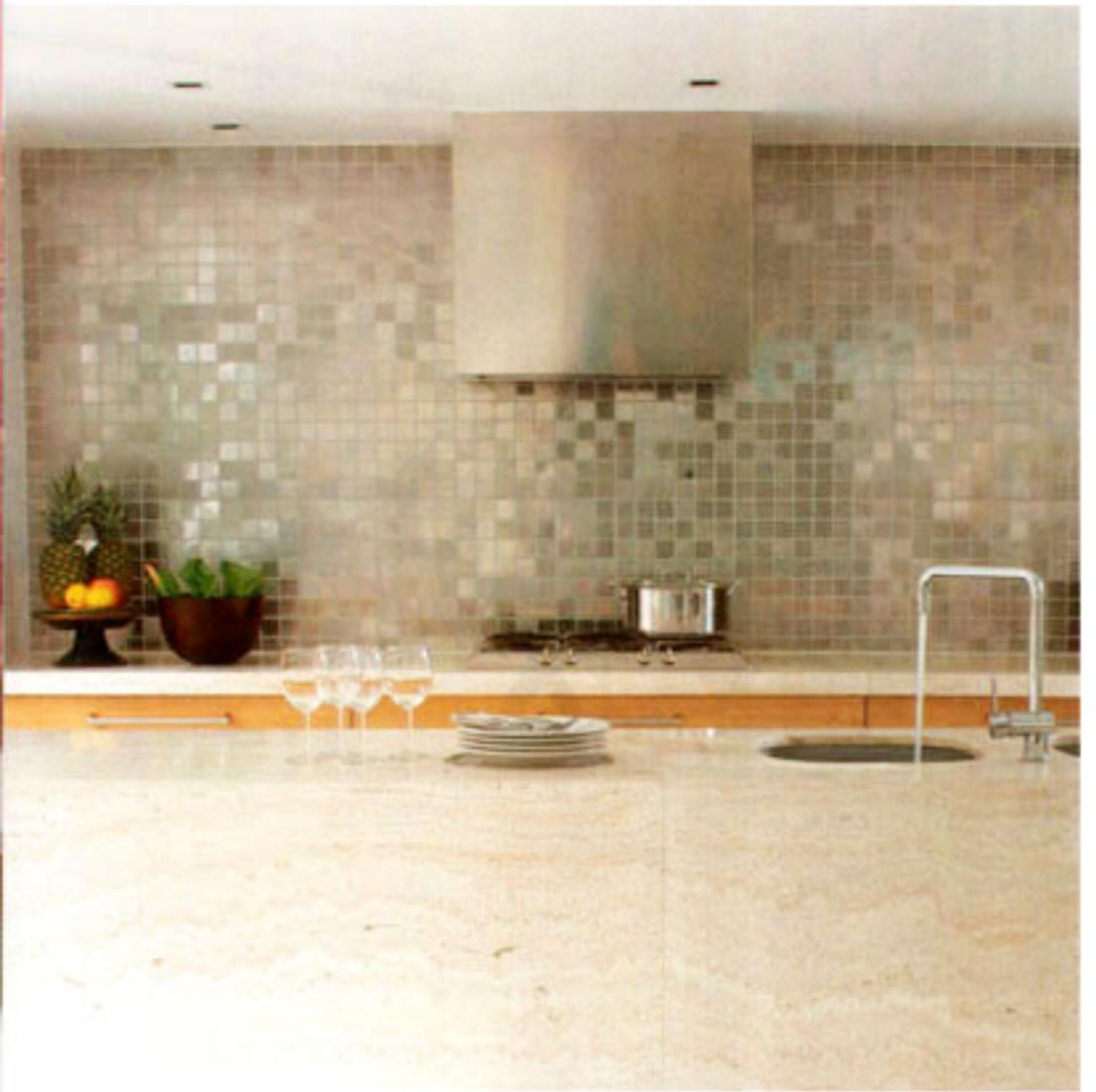
本頁圖一熱愛潛水活動的屋主大肆採用水底風景作牆裝飾樓梯對面圖一橫椅上方是由在上圖那張來自新加坡的三十年代桌子配來自Tequila Kola的馬克昆的畫作點綴著這個色彩豐富的家；泳池旁有座位，方便飲品尾酒



The villa stands out for its calming atmosphere and connection with nature

這座別墅以其寧靜氣氛以及與大自然全接觸而鶴立雞群





the biggest window openings possible and consider very carefully the technology you use." While many home owners opt for bifolding panels, Billson advises the use of sliding panels instead. "When bifolding panels are closed you have a lot more metal in the view. While sliding doors don't open up 100 percent, they're more weatherproof and easier to use."

Despite a wall connecting the villa to the adjoining property, clever design achieves the illusion of a standalone home. "We flipped the kitchen from the external wall to the internal wall," Billson points out. With the kitchen against the party wall and extending to an outdoor kitchen, the designer was able to add two large windows to the south wall overlooking the plunge pool, and the outdoors connection was complete.

"They didn't want it to be monastic, either," says Billson. "I know Kate and John quite well, and I thought they

wanted a slightly softer version of the minimalist look. So instead of using a concrete finish where Pawson might have, for example, we used a soapy-coloured Travertine marble on the kitchen counter and stairs." The floors are covered in homogenous ceramic tile, which has a non-slip surface that looks like stone.

"The warm colour of the floors was one of the best decisions we made," says Kate. "We call it 'shades of Shih Tzu,'" a reference to her much-loved dogs, all rescued from the SPCA.

To the clean lines and flowing spaces Kate added vibrant lashings of colour. "I can safely say that the colour was Kate's contribution to the project," laughs Billson. "She has quite a good eye for colour though and it does add a personal touch." Along with the views of jungly hillside at the rear, the bright surfaces contribute to a tropical feel in the home – like living in a holiday house all year round. ■

100%開揚，而且不受天氣影響和容易使用。

雖然有一面界牆將別墅與隔壁物業相連接，但是巧妙的設計營造出一間獨立屋的幻覺。「我們將廚房由外牆推到內牆。」Billson指出。由於有廚房靠近界牆，並延伸至一間戶外廚房，設計師得以在南牆增加可俯視泳池的兩扇大窗。於是內外的連接工作就此完成。

「他們不希望過份素靜。」Billson說。『我知道他們想要一種較柔和的簡約風格。』為此，在廚房工作台面及樓梯的梯級上用一種黑色亮色石灰華青石。無板覆以類似的瓷磚，其表面不滑，看上去像石質。

『地板顏色的選擇是我們所做的最佳決定之一。它最發暖意、外觀悅目。』Kate說。

Kate在清簡的線條及流麗的空間上增加了點點鮮明色彩。『我為Puma工作，我們公司的總部有一面大紅牆，牆身高達四或五層樓。』Kate說。『紅牆很偉岸美。我決定模仿那種做法。』

『我敢說顏色是Kate對這個項目所做出的貢獻。』Billson笑道。『她對色彩極有眼光，又在其上注入個人風格。』Billson建議在一個白色建築外牆裡，應該節制用色。從效果來看，大屋的色彩並沒有喧賓奪主，配襯屋背後青翠及密的山景，明豔的裝置表面為家居引入熱帶氣氛——好像全年都生活在一座度假屋中。■



THE LIST 購物清單

Contractor 承包商
Rose Paradise & Associates, Sai Kung
Floor tiles 地磚
Pacific Building Materials, Wanchai
Daybed 雙用床
Resource Asia, Apleichau

THIS PICTURE: Good morning sunshine! The colourful bedroom has a resort vibe

OPPOSITE: Reflective tiling bounces light off the house's only party wall; "if you never take baths, don't have a tub" says Kate, who prefers her rainshowers, from Classic Bathrooms in Wanchai

左頁圖：早晨太陽，色彩繽紛的地磚散發著光澤，反射在牆壁上；「如果你從來都不洗澡，就不要有浴缸」，Kate說，她喜歡她的雨灑式淋浴，由Classic Bathrooms

To the clean lines and flowing spaces Kate added vibrant lashings of colour

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