

Lookbox

A showcase of the latest trends in urban homes, furniture and home accessories

Issue 23 2011 | \$6.95



Take It Outside

THE LANDED PROPERTY ISSUE

FEATURING
A LOOK AT TIMBER OUTDOOR DECKING
A CHAT WITH BONY LAM
OF THINK BY KAIROZ

PLUS
OUR PICKS FOR OUTDOOR
FURNITURE AND HOW TO
MAINTAIN THEM

MORE
SMART FINDS FOR
THE HOME



twin vision

Free Space Intent brings to life two luxurious yet distinct interiors for two families who own this pair of semi-detached houses.

TEXT BY **BARBARA JAMIL** | IMAGES COURTESY OF **FREE SPACE INTENT**



designer: **free space intent**
project type: **pair of 3-storey semi-detached houses** floor area: **7,000 sq ft**



There's no way of knowing how many of such homes – a pair of semi-detached units owned by essentially one extended family – exist in Singapore. This particular one is shared by a first and second generation family, each living in their respective units. The latter is headed by a son of the former. "The units are connected, actually. They also share certain common areas. And if required, there's a movable partition to separate them into two units," says Jeffrey Lin. The designer from Free Space Intent had taken on the design and construction of this project, which took a year and nine months to complete.

The houses are located at Somerville Road off Braddell Road. The exterior of both units are a mirror image of each other, and even as the interiors are laid out just as similarly, they have been designed and decorated with unique characteristics. "The mother (of the first family) wanted something posh and well-finished," explains Jeffrey, adding that the son's preference leans toward a more masculine palette of red and black.

"The tricky part was to match the living areas," Jeffrey adds. That's because the two are connected via a movable partition. On the 'first' side of the house, the living area exudes a soft, relaxed and sophisticated environment.

A feature wall in white accentuates the high ceiling in the space. Even in its simplicity, it is no ordinary feature wall. Floral motifs on alternating blocks glow from within. "The feature wall is actually made of tiles. The panels with the floral motifs are made of glass, so we designed them such that they light up from inside," Jeffrey says. The cool, white finish is paired with furniture in wine-coloured plush velvet and lush indoor plants. This gives the space a refreshing vibe that's elevated by natural light.

Just across the invisible line that separates the two units, the living room in the son's home features a palette of white and grey. Furnishings in red and orange inject colour and vitality into the space. The furniture's quirky lines offer a glimpse into the vivacity of the owner.



Because the layouts of the respective units are somewhat similar, spaces like the kitchens have been planned out almost uniformly.



Because the layouts of the respective units are somewhat similar, spaces like the kitchens have been planned out almost uniformly. In the case of the son's kitchen, the walls are lined with generous storage units. Jeffrey and his team also made room for plenty of countertop space. Again, the kitchen features a robust palette of white and solid black that differentiates itself from the mother's white and light wood kitchen.

Space is plentiful in this pair of houses, which totals at 7,000 sq ft, and comes with generous common areas. That said, bedrooms have been designed as spacious sanctuaries. Given the amount of wide expanse, Jeffrey designed the master bedroom of the first unit such that the dresser and wardrobe are kept separate from the bedroom proper. He worked with a partition for that purpose, cladding one side with a large mirror. The other side facing the bed backs the television. To put together the warm, sunset hues of the bedroom, he worked with patterned full carpeting and textured wallpaper on the walls and ceiling.

Last but not least, Jeffrey's classical Moroccan adaptation for the entertainment room was drawn from the existing furniture belonging to the mother. Intricate furniture and patterned soft furnishings come together beautifully with multi-coloured fibre optic lights, creating an intimate setting where the family can spend quality time. ■■



Free Space Intent Pte Ltd

9 Jalan Kubor Singapore 199206

tel (65) 6392 8885 fax (65) 6292 8885

enquiries@fsi.com.sg www.fsi.com.sg