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SA Luxury Home Edit - Georgie Shepherd

As director of boutique Adelaide-based interior architecture and design firm GSiD, Georgie Shepherd transforms residential and commercial properties into functional, meaningful spaces. She talks with Genevieve Toop about her design ethos.

You started your business over 10 years ago. What are the most common goals your clients have when they come to you?

When clients contact us, they have usually seen our work and know something about GSiD. They are looking for help and direction in navigating the process of designing and building a home. With less travel over the past few years and more time at home, we have seen a call for spaces that feel like an escape or a retreat and have an inherent connection to the outdoors and to light. Calming, natural and authentic sophisticated spaces with a focus on functionality. More clients are looking for locally designed pieces and quality in natural materials, which aligns well with our aesthetic.





Why do you think the interior architecture of a home is so important?

A well designed and thought-out space can affect the way you feel every day. Interior architecture focuses on the internal flow and functionality of spaces. We really get to know our clients in order to create spaces that reflect them as a family, as well as being beautiful. As people continue to redefine home and what it means to them, interior architecture seeks to look within. We seek to understand how people live and like to move within their spaces. In turn, we create spaces that accommodate work, wellbeing and family and create joy. It is less about ego and more about creating meaningful spaces to live in.





What is the biggest mistake someone can make with the interior design of their home?

Following fads and looking at what is current and mainstream. When you really think about the design of home, it should form more of a wholistic view of how you live, not what is the latest trend. Engaging a good team to help with your process and taking the time to master plan and ensure spaces connect and flow from the outset is a good start.

What are the main differences when designing the interior of a new build compared to an existing house?

Both design processes stem from the architecture of the buildings. The new builds we work on are generally architectural builds. We work closely with the architect to understand the design and the process they have been on with the client. We then look at how we can value-add to this design

through the interior planning/design, detailing and materiality. With existing homes, it is a similar process. We start with the architecture of the home, drawing on the existing beauty and detail. There is a sense of layering in these spaces and unveiling the gems of the past forms a big part of the design narrative. From here we can build and shape the design, tying in the new elements to create a new narrative.





Your latest project in Dulwich is incredible. Talk us through your favourite elements of this home.

We loved working with our clients on this beautiful home. It was such a fun process to really get to know them and to create a home that is uniquely theirs. The existing home, a sandstone villa, was completely renovated and restored with a new architectural addition to include the kitchen/ living/ mud room and laundry. It was important to retain and restore some of the detail and history of the home, while creating better functionality through the floor plan. The client's love of colour really stands out in the powder room. It's painted burgundy with Calcutta viola marble vanity, creating a sense of fun and drama. The kitchen and mud room also reflect the client's sense of creativity and love of art and fashion. Through form and colour, we created playful spaces that also feel calm, warm and timeless.

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