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D'Cruz Design Group, Maroubra, NSW; (02) 9690 2232 or dcruz.net.au.

Interior designer Andrea's sheer mastery of materials has brought a disproportionate amount of beauty to a petite space. Clever design techniques – such as laying the handmade wall tiles vertically to draw the eye upwards and running the large-format terrazzo floor tiles part-way up the wall – fool the eye into believing there's more space than there really is. Working in conjunction with Telgrit Master Builders, she has ensured the space feels warm through the inclusion of oak-veneer joinery, bronze tapware and a custom-made mirror that radiates a gentle glow. "It's both contemporary and uplifting," says Andrea.

ROOM NOTES Oak-veneer vanity with Caesarstone Ice Snow top, designed by D'Cruz Design Group and made by Scotts Kitchens for Telgrit Master Builders. Foster basin, Duravit. Handmade Spanish tiles in Mist Gloss, Surface Gallery. Farrago terrazzo floor tiles, Skheme. LED backlit mirror by D'Cruz Design Group. CityStik basin mixer in Roma Bronze finish, Brodware.

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HAPPY PLACE Brooke Aithen Brooke Aithen Design, Ultimo, NSW; (02) 9212 6262 or brookeaithendesign.com.au.

This art-filled corner has been assembled in the living room of a rejuvenated Sydney home. "The brief was to create a jewel-like colourful room within the dark centre of a heritage house," says Brooke, who worked with colleague Vivian Ma on this project. Existing stained-glass windows were the starting point for the new scheme, which is layered with wallpaper, mix-and-match upholstery fabrics and an array of artworks, hung in a gallery fashion. The art helps bring life and depth to the room, camouflaging the Samsung 'The Frame' television. "I love that the room is full of colour, pattern and art, but still has an underlying order," says the homeowner. "It's both joyful and calming." ►

ROOM NOTES Console in Dulux Green Paw Paw and Porter's Paints Liquid Gold by JW Polishing. Arte Lino Collection 'Lignes' wallpaper, Ascraft. Architraves in Dulux Antique White USA. Artworks by (clockwise from top) Emily Imeson, Sally Stokes, Emily Persson, Kristen Lethem and Samsung 'The Frame' TV.