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# DREAM WEAVER

WITH VIEWS ACROSS THE RIVER, AN OPULENT ENSUITE BIGGER THAN MOST PEOPLE'S LOUNGE ROOMS, A KITCHEN WITH ALL THE MOD CONS, AN ELEGANT LAP POOL, AND STATE-OF-THE-ART FINGERPRINT SECURITY, IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE SHARON DELAPORTE CONSIDERS HER NEW THREE-STORY MT PLEASANT HOME AS JUST "HER DREAM HOME FOR NOW".

When you take into account this is the fourth home mother-of-two Sharon has built with her husband Barry, it's clear the couple have building in their blood and are probably already planning their next dream home. And why wouldn't they? As co-owners of luxury building company Signature Custom Homes, they know what they want and have access to the best tradesmen and quality finishes to get the job done just as they envisaged it.

"While I normally go for a more classic look, the clean, sharp minimal look is definitely growing on me," empty-nester Sharon says. "This is what the market is looking for at the moment and that's why we've gone down this path."

If you had to sum up Signature's latest masterpiece in one sentence it would be "attention to detail". No stone has been left unturned in unearthing fabulous finishes and quality products to make this four-bedroom, four-bathroom plus powder room home, cutting edge. From the funky and modern street elevation to the light and airy streamlined neutral interiors, careful consideration has been given to every square inch of the sprawling home, which makes the most of its narrow 10.04 metre by 57 metre block.



Immediately upon entry is an open-plan kitchen, living and dining room, bordered by a wide lap pool on one side and a big balcony with river views on the other. High ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows and glass doors accentuate the openness of the area and bring the outdoors in, while glass balustrading on the tiled balcony gives the feeling you are floating on the river by not detracting from the view. The same glass paneling is used on the master suite's balcony as well as around the pool and stairwell.

The kitchen forms the centrepiece of this space and is an entertainer's delight. Big, sleek and sexy, the combination of seamless white vinyl-wrap laminate and solid timber stained American oak cabinetry, stainless-steel appliances, a frosted glass splashback, white Corian benchtop and grey marble breakfast bar is a contemporary look that won't date easily. Metallic tiles with a paisley print used on one wall look like wallpaper and add flair to an otherwise dead space.





Sharon, who loves to entertain, says the utmost consideration was given to storage because kitchen clutter is one of her pet hates. Take the splashback, for example. The frosted glass acts as a sliding door to hide things like the kettle and toaster. Big platters are stored in a cupboard with separate vertical compartments, while stainless-steel baskets built into the Corian top hold a kettle block, chopping board, paper towels and oil. These baskets also have drainage, which comes in handy when entertaining because ice and drinks can be placed in there. There is also a handy nook for cookbooks, keys and mobile phones and the big walk-in pantry with a smoked glass sliding door even has a spare fridge.

The kitchen overlooks the living area, which has a stunning Lapato tiled wall cabinet that was constructed as part of the building process. It has an ethanol Eco-Fire built into a fireplace, a spot for the plasma and display glass shelving on either side that provide a soft glow when lit up. Frosted glass panes on either side offer vital privacy without shutting out the light. From here, a wide, long hallway with a wall of floor-to-ceiling windows buffers the 15 metre pool and winds its way past the laundry and powder room to the home theatre, a guest room with an ensuite and a multi-purpose room with its own bathroom that opens out to the pool deck. Sharon says it was originally intended to be a gym but is mainly used to sit back in air-conditioned comfort and keep an eye on the grandchildren in the pool. A side door allows direct access to the bathroom from the pool and there is also an outdoor shower.

The same materials used for the kitchen cabinetry feature in all the wet areas but in slight variations. This is also true of the tiling in the bathrooms, where basically the same tiles are used but in different sizes and applications. CaesarStone Snow benchtops were used for all wet areas. Floors in the living areas are a hand-stained timber called Mesquite, while a lux carpet in chocolate with purple undertones was chosen for the home theatre, bedrooms and upstairs office/library nook. Sharon purposely used the same materials to keep a level of consistency throughout the home.

The office/library with inbuilt American oak cabinetry occupies a wide thoroughfare on the third storey with the minor bedrooms and bathroom at the back end separated by another long hallway to the master bedroom retreat. Access to this floor is via a staircase or a lift.



The main bathroom has a deep Reece Mizu bath, which is ideal for bathing the grandchildren when they come to stay. While this bathroom is big, it pales in comparison to the master room's ensuite, which is luxury personified. An oval Kohler Purist spa bath into an American oak display is the focal point of the room. Its subtle curves are echoed in the dual vanity island.

The fabulous ensuite is just one part of the oh-so-lovely master bedroom retreat. The massive room has a sitting nook complete with picture-perfect views of the water, while the big bedding area has a wall-in wardrobe with custom-fit cabinetry as well as a big balcony with city glimpses.

Even with such a big home on a narrow block, the Delaportes have still managed to set aside some lawn for their grandchildren to play.





**Designer**

Shayne Lefky together with the owners  
Builder

Signature Casano Homes

**Cabinetry**

Ferguson Corporation (except study  
and family room by Function and Form)

**Kitchen and bathroom design**

LHDK (Leon House Design Kitchens)

**Benchtops**

Ferguson Corporation (Corian) and  
Azura Stone (stone)

**Sanitaryware**

Rogerselker, Galvin Design Gallery  
and Rocco Plumbing

**Tiles**

European Ceramics, Myzax Ceramics  
and Mediterranean Ceramics

**Timber floors**

BJ's Timber Flooring and Ben Webster

**Carpet**

Doug Buckley's Carpet Co. Inc

**Landscaping**

Taylor Landscaping



**THE FACTS**

**ALFRESCO AREA**

- Lap pool
- Bat decking
- Glass balustrading
- Inlay electric sun shade attached to the side of the home that automatically extends out at noon to provide shade to the halway and the pool
- Row of ornamental plant trees

**LIVING AREA**

- Ethanol Eco-Fire
- Lapato tiled wall cabinets
- Frosted glass panelling
- Hydraulic lift to all three levels by Garis Elevators

**KITCHEN**

- In-built St George Appliances ovens
- Klermail induction hob/plane
- Corian benchtop in white
- Pietra grey marble breakfast bar
- Seamless white vinyl-wrap laminate cabinetry
- Stained solid timber American oak cabinetry
- Wallpaper-look tiles
- Mesquite timber flooring hand stained by Colour Last Paints

**MASTER BEDROOM**

- Balcony with cedar lined ceiling
- In-built Yamaha Music Cast sound system with ceiling speakers to bedroom and balcony
- Walk-in robe with custom-made cabinetry by Ferguson Corporation

**THE MASTER ENSUITE**

- An oval Kohler Purist spa bath built into American oak display by Ferguson Corporation
- Dual vanity island curved to match the lines of the spa
- Large Rogerselker showerhead with additional hand-held showerhead
- Heated towel rails
- Floor-to-ceiling tiling
- Mirrored cabinets
- CaesarStone Snow benchtop

**EXTERIOR**

- Colorbond roof
- Dulux Bleached Bark textured render
- Karriwa and Chinese sandstone detail
- Bat decking
- Cedar-clad portico
- Large timber frame and glass pivot entry door
- Keyless entry with fingerprint swipe
- Frosted glass garage door