

BIG COLOUR

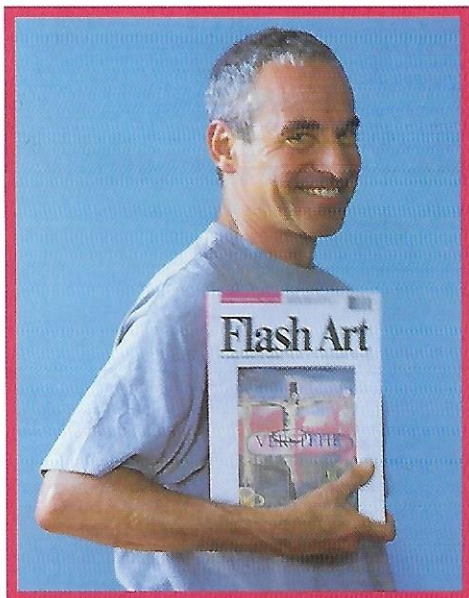
PHOTOGRAPHY: SIMON KENNY ♦ PRODUCED BY NADINE BUSH



Pack up the pastels, banish the beige and hail the happy return of high-voltage hues. Colour with clout, applied in measured doses, is a liberating, uplifting alternative to the safety of wall-to-wall 'Magnolia'.

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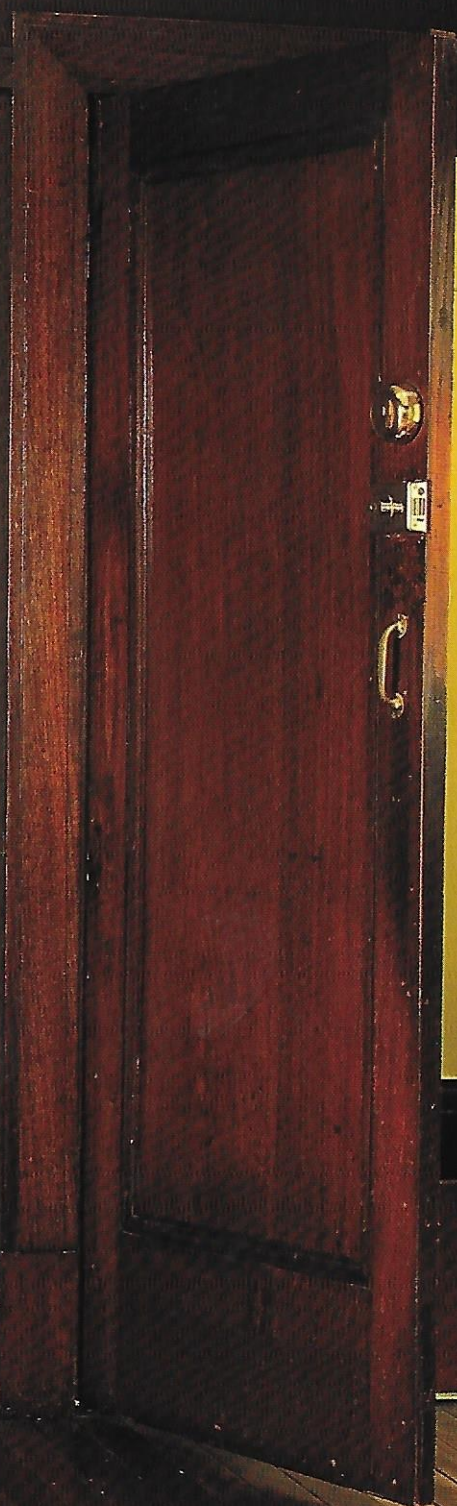
Strong colour, applied with the skill of designer George Freedman (below) of Marsh-Freedman Associates, can be supremely soothing and livable. His scheme for an older inner-city Sydney apartment started with a deep brown (“a shade my associate Ralph Rembel and I had wanted to use for a long time”) for the entrance hall. “It’s the pivotal colour,” says Freedman. “It



George Freedman (above) selected a rich, muted red for the guestroom/study (above right) and strong, clear blue for the living room (lower right and opposite). Brown sofa, ‘Elvina’ lamp and ‘Radius’ coffee table are from Anibou, Redfern, NSW. Kilim rug and cushions pick up the blue, red and cream theme.

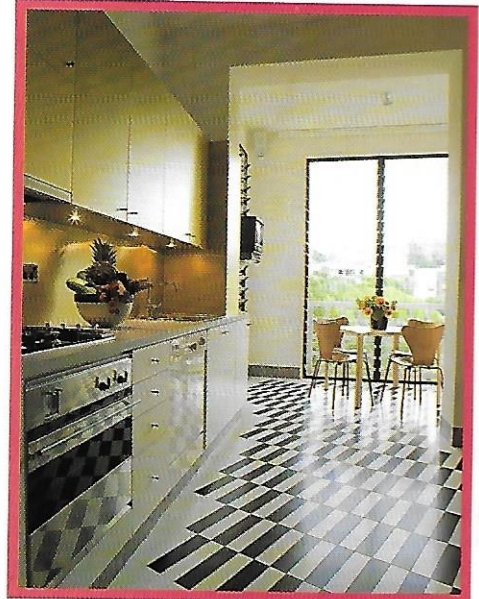






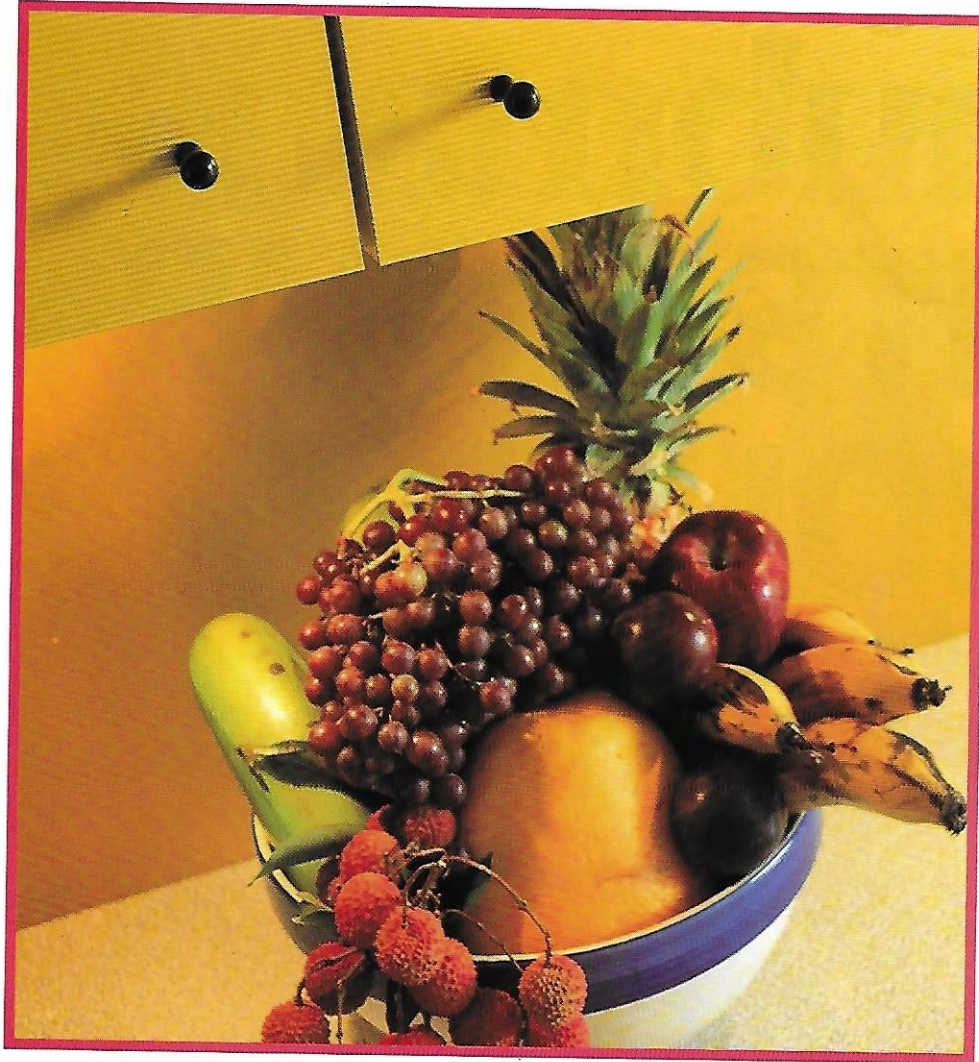
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holds the scheme together.” Elsewhere, blue, red and cream (“the colours of the storage boxes for Cassina’s Corbusier furniture”) are anchored by



earthy tones. “We treated each room as a separate box, so it was appropriate the inspiration for the other colours came from the design on a box!” All paints used in the apartment are by Evergard Industries: ‘Bistro’ brown, ‘Fantasy’ blue, ‘Poinciana’ red and ‘Honeytime’ cream.

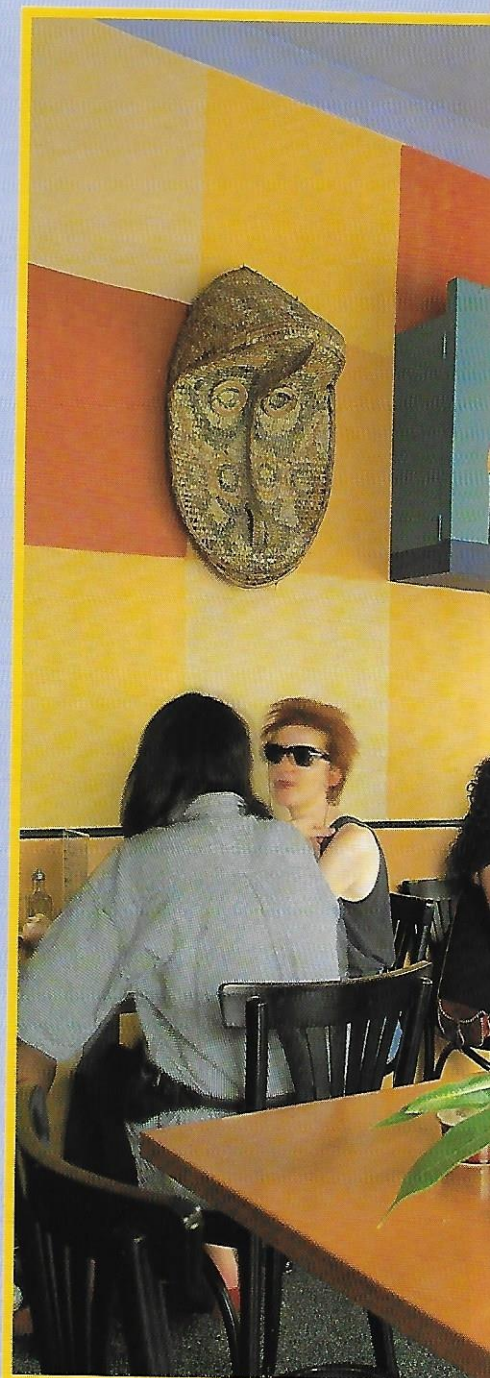
The entrance hall (opposite and lower left) shows that brown need not be just a boring trim. Here it is rich, warm and mysterious. The dramatic winged figure is a 19th century Balinese Garuda. The kitchen (above, left and right) is light and bright, incorporating five different designs in Abet Laminati laminate.



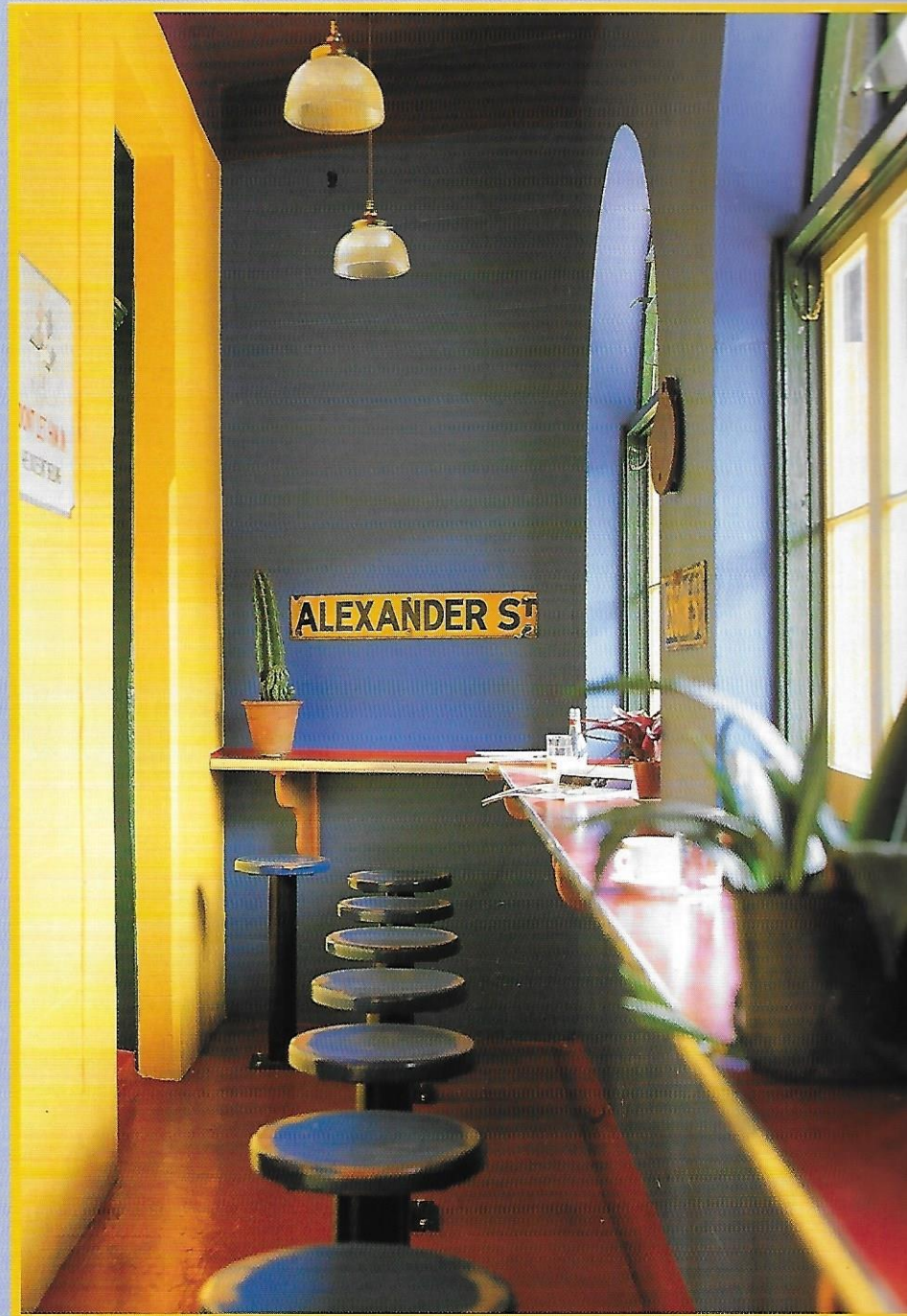
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These days, cafes are cooking with lively combinations; shops are in the pink, cherry red or wild candy stripes, as inventive use of colour becomes an important element of restaurant and retail design. These bold ventures are spirited excursions in higher colour consciousness that provide plenty of inspiration for customers to

take home with them. For Mexico (below), a store in Sydney's Paddington selling Mexican homewares, colour consultants Marcella Kaspar and Francesca Wezel took inspiration from Mexico's vibrant culture and decided on a palette of bright lime washes in custom colours from Porter's Paints, Surry Hills, NSW. Kaspar and Wezel can be contacted on (02) 361 3965. When Christine Juliet moved her popular cafe La Passion du

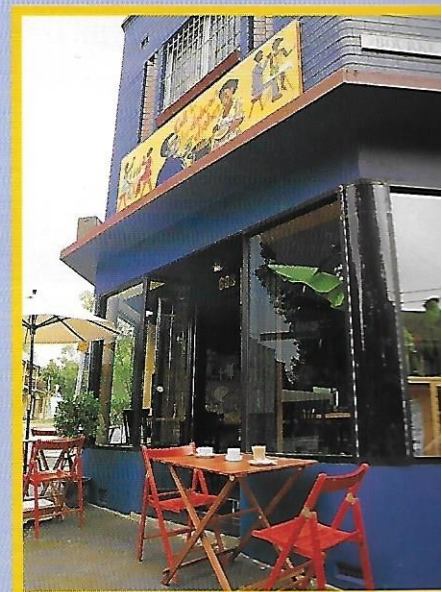


Fruit (above left and opposite, lower right) from Paddington to a new location in Surry Hills, Sydney, she decided on a warm colour scheme to counteract the cold corner site. Inspiration came from a book on West African women's art and three New Guinean masks bought from a missionary 20 years ago.



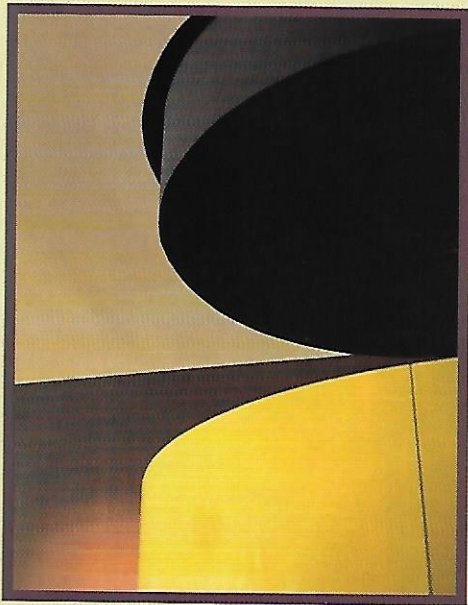
The Moroccan-inspired ceiling colour is Taubmans 'Jacaranda' while the squares on the side wall are painted in different shades of Taubmans ochre powder. "It looks like a demented kindergarten," says Christine, "which suits us really." Barry Rallis of the Rustic Cafe, Surry Hills, NSW, chose

"colours of the sun, from dawn to dusk" from the Dulux Master Palette range for the upstairs sunroom of the cafe (above right). The counter and stools are painted with Porter's French Wash which has been sanded back then lacquered. The painted concrete floor also has a protective lacquer finish.



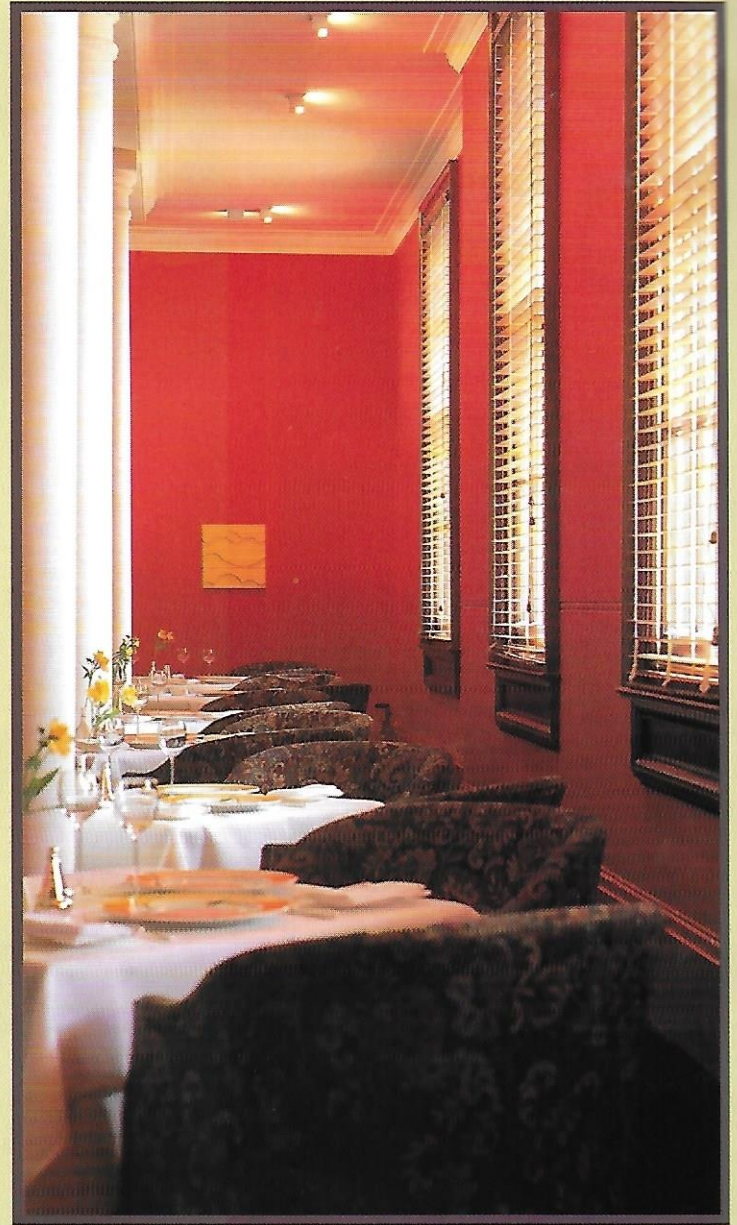
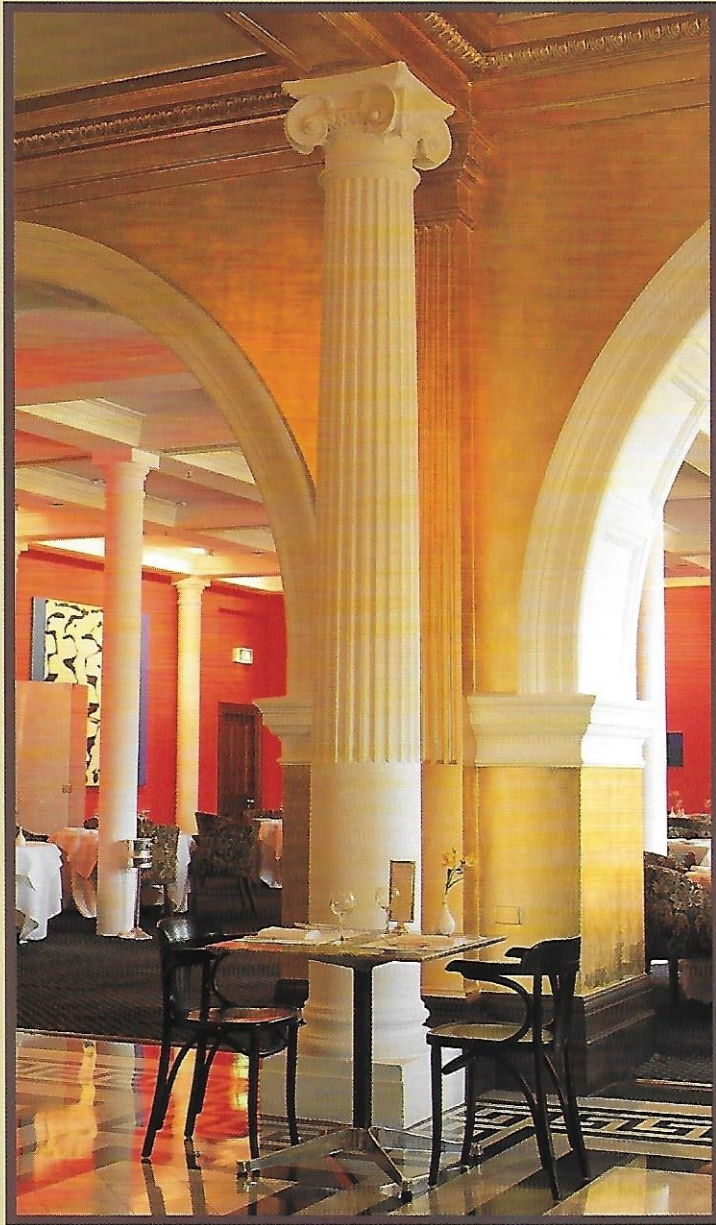
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For Qdos, a hip new restaurant/ bar set in the shell of an old bank building on Sydney's colourful Oxford Street, designer David Katon of Burley Katon Halliday selected the colours to provide impact and a moody after dark atmosphere. A dramatic black tiled wall (right) is offset by a DJ's box (below) in acid green. Chocolate brown on the other walls (lower right) acts as a great anchor for the space.

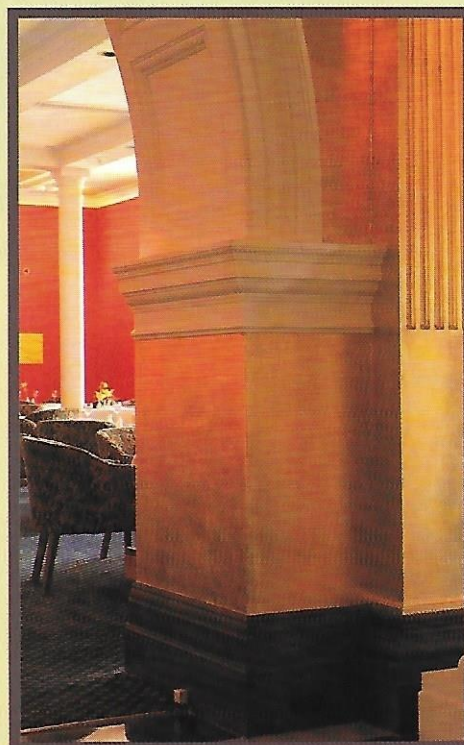


Kudos for Qdos and its moody colour scheme. DJ box (above) in Dulux 'Hot Pepper' ("We needed a *POW!* *WOW!* colour," says David Katon); walls (lower right) in Dulux 'Stratford Brown', ceiling in Dulux 'Heron Grey'. Black tiles (top) cover one wall. The contrast of matte and shiny surfaces adds to the atmospherics.





Interior designer George Freedman took one look at the heritage colour scheme of The Treasury Restaurant in Sydney's Hotel Inter-Continental and declared: "This looks like the bottom of Grandma's handbag!" Asked to devise a scheme befitting the restaurant's historic surroundings and chef Tony

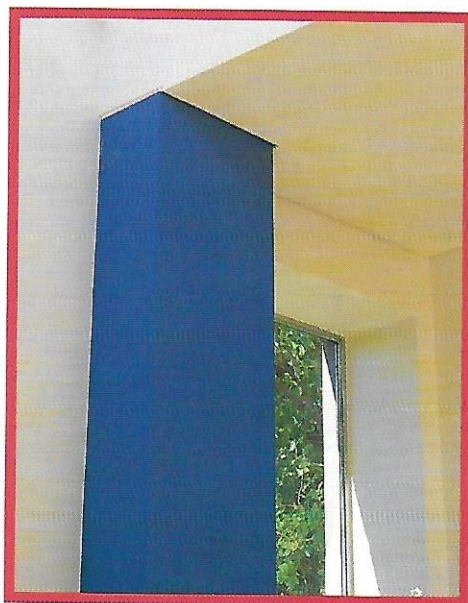
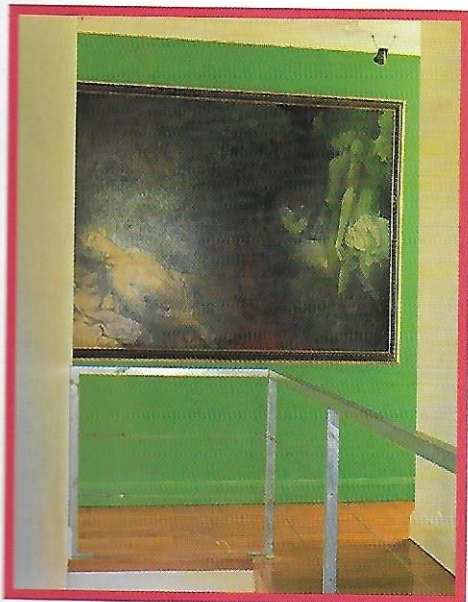
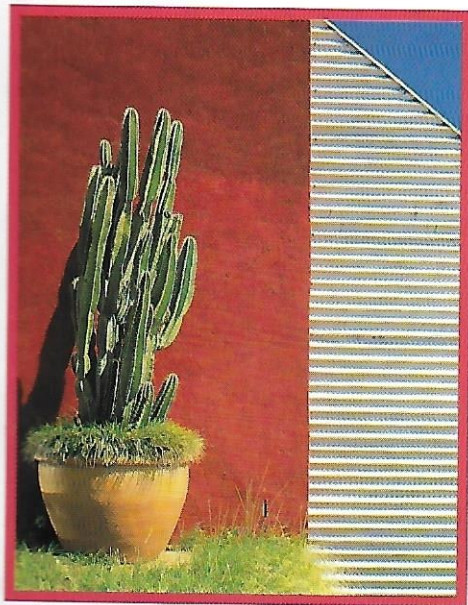


Bilson's celebrated food he set out to change the perception of the room: to "turn a Victorian space into a contemporary space while honouring the historical value of the room".

George Freedman revitalised The Treasury (this page) using paints by Evergard Industries: 'Segovia', a deep pink, for the walls; golden 'Dutch Metal' for architectural details; and 'Ceiling White' to accentuate the columns. "Regular diners walk in now and ask 'Why did you add the columns?'," says Freedman.

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Primarily a home is somewhere in which to relax and feel safe," says interior designer



Terry Brooks used Dulux Master Palette paints (above, far left and left) and 'Chinese Red' Aqua Stain by Hodgkins Dye Agencies for a concrete wall (above left and opposite). "The great thing is that Aqua Stain can be used both indoors and out," says Brooks, "which allowed a continuity of the wall as it passed from inside to out."

Terry Brooks of Distinctive Design, Glebe and Bowral, NSW. "Colours should not be overpowering or intimidating, therefore balance becomes very

important. Transient spaces can be more daring than spaces where we spend longer time and dull days outside don't need to be dull days inside." In

his own house, a renovated worker's cottage in inner-city Sydney, Brooks used blocks of strong colour to punctuate and balance the spaces. "It was important to balance the strength of the cityscape outside and balance the impact of the large pieces of art I have gathered over many years."

