

DESIGN FOR LIVING

There comes a time when only the best will do. A time when quality means more than quantity and true luxury means the chance to slow down and relax and to enjoy the good things in life.

With this in mind Chris Clout Design and Braeden Constructions have created a home that offers its fortunate owners all this and more.

Located on Queensland's Sunshine Coast this multi-award winning home has incredible views over the Noosa River. The owners wanted the house to be eco-friendly and sustainable with a modern easy living feel combined with a subtle tropical/Asian influence. The design had to consider the amazing views to the west and how to combat the resulting afternoon sun.

Externally, extensive use of warm tones and a mixture of natural materials gives the home wonderful street appeal and sets the mood for what is to come. The site is wedge-shaped and certainly presented extra challenges with sewerage restrictions and the client requesting that an existing gum tree (complete with koalas!) remain.

Upon entry a timber boardwalk leads down past the large resort-style pool, water feature and tropical landscaping to the impressive Japanese torii-style timber entry. All these elements fuse as one to give an impression of luxurious resort-style living. The water and tropical plantings combine to create a feeling of instant calm.

Inside the home the attention to detail is evident straight away with the impressive spotted gum timber staircase, tropical garden planter and shoji feature screens. The mix of timber, glass and stone, work together harmoniously and add drama at the same time. On the ground floor there's a study, three bedrooms and games room with bar that opens up to an impressive outdoor living area via large aluminium stacking/sliding doors. This has created a wonderful alfresco entertaining space so right for the Queensland climate. Aluminium doors and windows were used to reduce the ongoing



maintenance of timber, although Chris has used timber in judicious amounts to highlight the focal points of the exterior.

To make the most of the magnificent views the living area is situated on the upper floor with views from every room. Spacious open plan living is the order of the day with the kitchen, dining and adjoining media room all making for perfect entertaining spaces. The living room incorporates a framed picture window complete with eco-smart fireplace providing an incredible area to relax in that also makes the most of the view.

Stackable sliding doors to the balcony bring the outside in while glass louvre windows direct breezes into the home. Auto-sun external blinds on the western face and green low-e tinted glass help deal with the western sun.





The master bedroom is also on the upper floor and it shares the stunning view. The existing gum tree can be seen from these windows and it works to create a beautiful and private retreat. A large resort-style ensuite complete with sunken bath adjoins the bedroom.

The home has been finished to the highest standards by Braeden Constructions, the only building company on the Sunshine Coast to win the Master Builders National Builder of the Year award. Mick Devlin and his team specialise in building custom built homes in the area. The owners of this home found that "Mick listened to our wants and concerns and provided innovative ideas on ways to reduce costs and minimise ongoing maintenance whilst not comprising any aspect of the design we loved. Mick was very clear on all aspects of the contract with pricing well defined and clearly specified. He worked very well with us and the designer, Chris Clout, throughout the building process and we are all very pleased with the final result".

The house has won several awards which are testament to the ability and professionalism of Chris Clout of Chris Clout Design. At just 28 years old he, and his company have won over 36 awards in four years of business and just twelve months into owning his own business he won the BDAA National Design Excellence Award in 2009 – he is the youngest recipient to win the award and the only Queenslander to have won. He has projects across Australia, in Queensland, coastal New South Wales, Melbourne, Perth and Vanuatu.

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Chris Clout Design specialises in designing new homes, renovations, multi-dwellings, custom cabinetry and even lighting and doors as you can see in this home. And of course he is a natural when it comes to pools and water features. Chris Clout's design philosophy is simple – design for living. Form and function are driven by client lifestyle needs and as this home shows, executed to the highest of standards.

Photographer: Patrick Oberem



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NATIONAL RESIDENTIAL MASTER BUILDER OF THE YEAR 2010
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BRAEDEN CONSTRUCTIONS

Mick Devlin

p: 0418 505 117

e: mick.devlin@bigpond.com.au

w: braedenconstructions.com.au

BSA:1017247

CHRIS CLOUT
design

CHRIS CLOUT DESIGN

12 Weyba Street, Sunshine Beach

p: 07 5474 8107

e: info@chriscloutdesign.com.au

w: chriscloutdesign.com.au

BSA: 1127508