



PURPOSE-BUILT: Dotty and Brian at their amazing Noosaville home.

Breathtaking Asian

Embracing a free flowing plan, **Alicia Butwell** reveals the inspiration for this ultra chic home

SURROUNDED by about 7million people on a daily basis could be considered claustrophobic.

And with that many people living in a land area of just over 1000sq km, it meant living spaces were small.

Hong Kong is a thriving city but it is also a busy one and after living there in a small unit for some time, Noosa residents Dotty and Brian yearned for space.

They rented in Noosaville while they built their dream home through Noosa designer Chris Clout and builder Braeden Constructions.

"We found Chris Clout through a friend of a friend and we had just found out that he had started his own business and he was so young, but his website was up and running and we thought he was a prodigy," Dotty said.

"We wanted an Asian-style house because we were living in Asia for so long and we liked that total

indoor/outdoor free flow so after speaking with Chris, he came on site and walked around and he saw the views and said 'I've got some ideas for this,'" Brian said.

"And the first idea he came up with, the concept diagram, is pretty much what we've built, so we were blown away, he's made the most of the block and has managed to fit in most of the things we wanted, so basically the brief we gave him."

From the street, Brian and Dotty's home attracts the eye with its three-car timber garages, timber feature external cladding, timber louvers, basalt stone feature wall, pavilion-style roof line and foxtail palms.

Through a stunning timber and frosted glass gated entry, you walk across a timber deck alongside an award-winning water feature and pool to a huge pivoted front door which also replicates the gated entry.

This same timber and frosted glass door is featured throughout the home in various areas and maintains

the harmonious Asian-theme.

The feature doors are used on the lower level to close off the study from the rest of the house as well as close off the media room, should privacy be required.

In the master suite the doors offer a tranquil retreat when using the plunge bath in its ensuite and in the kitchen it is a striking feature for cabinetry.

There are three double-size bedrooms on the lower level, one of which is ensuited.

All boast quality finishes and the hallway down this end of the home has floor to ceiling storage cupboards while the laundry offers plenty of bench space.

"We have lots of storage space and a great laundry room which is great especially coming from a tiny little flat in Hong Kong to all this space, it was amazing," Dotty said.

Access to the pool area is through a games room where Brian and Dotty spend a lot of their time.





at a glance

AWARDS FOR CHRIS CLOUT'S DESIGN Building Designers Association of Queensland award winner for: Best New Home 451-600sq m and Best Water Feature or Pool

inspired harmony

It offers seamless integration between inside and out with the same tiles featured throughout, however inside the tiles are polished and out they are acid etched.

A kitchenette provides a place to keep drinks cool and store poolside snacks and there is a half-size dishwasher to complete the functional space.

There is a powder room which serves to restrict the amount of water entering the home after a dip in the pool and a television screen offers spectators a view of your favourite footy match while enjoying a cool beer in the summer sun.

Upstairs there is an impressive lounge space offering spectacular views over the Noosa River.

A formal sitting room on the upper level opens out to a deck overlooking Noosa and is perfect for capturing the winter sun.

"The big window offers views of the Noosa River and we have one of those eco-fires which is just

“Chris and the builder Mick Devlin from Braedon Constructions got together and it was a brilliant collaboration.”

magic," Doty said. "Originally we were going to have a fireplace with a gas fire with a flue, but when Chris came over he said 'you can't put anything in front of that view' so he came up with the idea of the eco fire and we were amazed by the heat it generates."

Doty said with all three of the eco fires on, the entire upper level is heated.

Walking through to the kitchen, there are two decks that open off the kitchen, both offering panoramic views.

Doty and Brian both said there was little need for the ducted air-conditioning as the orientation of the home together with the use of louvers and stacker doors meant cross-ventilation cools the home quite comfortably.

The media room is slightly elevated and sits off the dining room, it also boasts the feature timber and frosted glass doors as sliding doors, so the room can be closed off or kept open.

"The original plan had the television screen against far right wall, and we said we wanted to be able to see the screen while sitting out on the deck or when cooking," Brian said.

"Originally we had glass louvers in the picture window and Chris suggested we have timber louvers instead which meant it darkened the room up a bit, and then instead of having the screen on the right wall he built a bulkhead and installed a drop down screen from the roof, so we can still open the louvers and get air or close them and have the screen down."

Brian and Doty's home has been a well thought-out culmination of design and quality build which both are equally happy about.

"Chris and the builder Mick Devlin from Braedon Constructions got together and it was a brilliant collaboration," Brian said.

This home is part of the couple's long-term plan and they couldn't be happier.

