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TOP 50 rooms

The elements that make a winning room are many and varied. After all, everyone's idea of a place they'd like to spend time in is different. *H&G's* 19th annual showcase rounds up new projects from homes all over the country, revealing current wants and whims. Submitted by Australia's top interior designers and architects, the greatest number of entries ever – all amazing in their own way – were eagerly evaluated. Turn the page to enjoy our judges' picks.

You can vote for your own favourites online, and read about all the winners next month.

Produced by Lisa Green & John McDonald

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DINE IN

5 The equine artwork and vintage French parquetry table were starting points for this clean-lined, restful dining room in Brisbane. A lowered ceiling, simple pelmet and downlights provide interest without detracting from the painting, while billowy sheer curtains soften the contemporary architecture. Artisanal cane carver chairs balance the modern seating. “We mixed furniture styles to create a room that’s modern, classic and inviting, so it works for casual or formal dining,” explains designer Christopher Gyzemyter.

THE RIGHT CIRCLES

6 “The owners wanted a decorative yet welcoming entrance to set the tone for their home,” say the W&W duo. Blue-and-white encaustic tiles do the job beautifully. Laid beneath the existing arch and metal gates, they set up a modern take on traditional hacienda style that carries through to the kitchen and bathrooms of this Sydney home. An iron loveseat, ISM Objects pendant light, old-style bell and crucifix, and Mediterranean potted-plant selection convert this passageway to a personality-plus place that invites you to stay awhile.

PHOENIX RISING

7 A space gutted during the renovation of a Sydney home has emerged from the plaster dust as a captivating dining room. “It’s now a central gathering space for noisy meals with my teenagers and their friends, but also great for quiet cups of tea and contemplation,” says the owner. A decorative blind in Katie Ridder’s pretty ‘Peony’ fabric plays up the vertical dimension, while the ‘Florence’ table from MCM House and Billiani chairs set up a strong material, texture and colour contrast. The topper, literally, is a delightfully eccentric chandelier. ▶

DESIGN NOTES **5** Custom cushions (on cane chairs) in Carlucci velvet. ‘Oscar’ dining chairs, Globe West. Custom sisal rug, International Floorcoverings. **6** Popham Design ‘Fretwork on Four’ encaustic tiles, Onsite Supply +Design. Bench, Domo. Dulux Stowe White. **7** Billiani ‘Take’ chairs in custom blue, Cafe Culture+Insitu. ‘Florence’ table on custom base, MCM House. ‘French Bird’ pendant light, Elements I Love.



Photography by Hannah Puechmarin (5), Simon Whitbread (6) & Elise Hassey (7). Artwork by Jodie Wells (5).