

HOUSES[®]

SUBLIME
SETTINGS

Homes in harmony
with their surrounds

READING

BOOKSHELF

01

Gentle Modernist

The Nine Lives of
Anatol Kagan

Simon Reeves

01

Gentle Modernist: The nine lives of Anatol Kagan

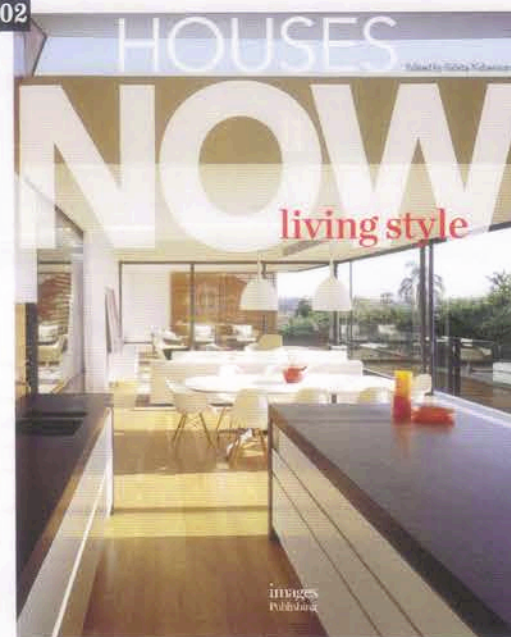
BY Simon Reeves

(Vivid Publishing, 2014)

PP 216 • RRP \$59.95

Gentle Modernist tells the fascinating life story of mid-century modernist architect Anatol Kagan (1913–2009), whose contribution to Australian architecture has largely gone uncelebrated. The nine lives referred to in the book's subtitle are certainly no embellishment – Kagan began his life in Russia and spent his young adulthood in Germany before moving to London to start his architectural career. He arrived in Melbourne in 1939, first working for leading architects and government departments before starting his own practice in 1949. Kagan is most widely known for his designs of luxurious modernist houses built around Melbourne's eastern suburbs. He later moved to Sydney to work for the Department of Public Works. This fascinating book is well illustrated with archival drawings and photographs.

02



02

Houses Now: Living style

BY Sabita Naheswaran (ed)

(Images Publishing, 2015)

PP 232 • RRP \$69.99

Houses Now: Living Style presents a wide range of contemporary architect-designed homes from around the world, all of which are impeccably styled and nicely inhabited. From sleek inner-city townhouses to sprawling country mansions, converted warehouses to futuristic beach houses, this richly illustrated title covers many styles and many typologies. Australian contributions include Balmoral House by Fox Johnston (cover image), Bach House by Jamison Architects and Garton St Residence by Form Architecture Furniture, among others. The photography displays a good balance of interior and exterior spaces, and a very clean and courteous layout allows the architecture to take centrestage.

If you're looking for a good source of architectural eye candy, this book should provide plenty of nourishment. The book is a follow-up to *Houses Now: Material Style*.

03

Furniture: Furniture that transforms space

BY Anna Yudina

(Thames & Hudson, 2015)

PP 272 • RRP \$35.00

Furniture delves into the exciting intersection between furniture design, interior design and architecture to showcase pieces of furniture that radically transform the spaces that they occupy. Furniture designers have been thinking beyond the single-use object since the mid twentieth century, but there has been a resurgence of late and it's generating all sorts of ingenuity. Some of the best examples include an in-built module that forms the core of Nicholas Gurney's transformation of a 27-square-metre apartment in Sydney, allowing a small space to be used in multiple ways with ease and style; and an installation by Studio Mieke Meijer that seamlessly combines a staircase, workspace and storage system. Concepts such as these are crucial in ensuring we maintain a high quality of life in a future of less space.

04

The Sustainable Design Book



Rebecca Proctor

04

The Sustainable Design Book

BY Rebecca Proctor

(Laurence King Publishing, 2015)

PP 320 • RRP \$55

This wonderful publication showcases emerging materials and products that are at once beautiful, functional and kinder to the planet. Handy symbols marking things such as "no toxins," "low energy," "well-managed resources" and "social enterprise" are used to make each product's sustainability credentials clear at a glance. Broken down into five chapters – Materials, Furniture, Lighting, Home Accessories and Personal Accessories – the book covers many facets of product design, celebrating sustainable materials and processes. Featured products range from pendant lamps by Benjamin Hubert made using waste from the manufacture of wine stoppers, to a super-strength cardboard bed by Studio NOCC and Leaf Supply. A number of interviews with the designers help to better explain some of the concepts and technology behind the work.

03

