

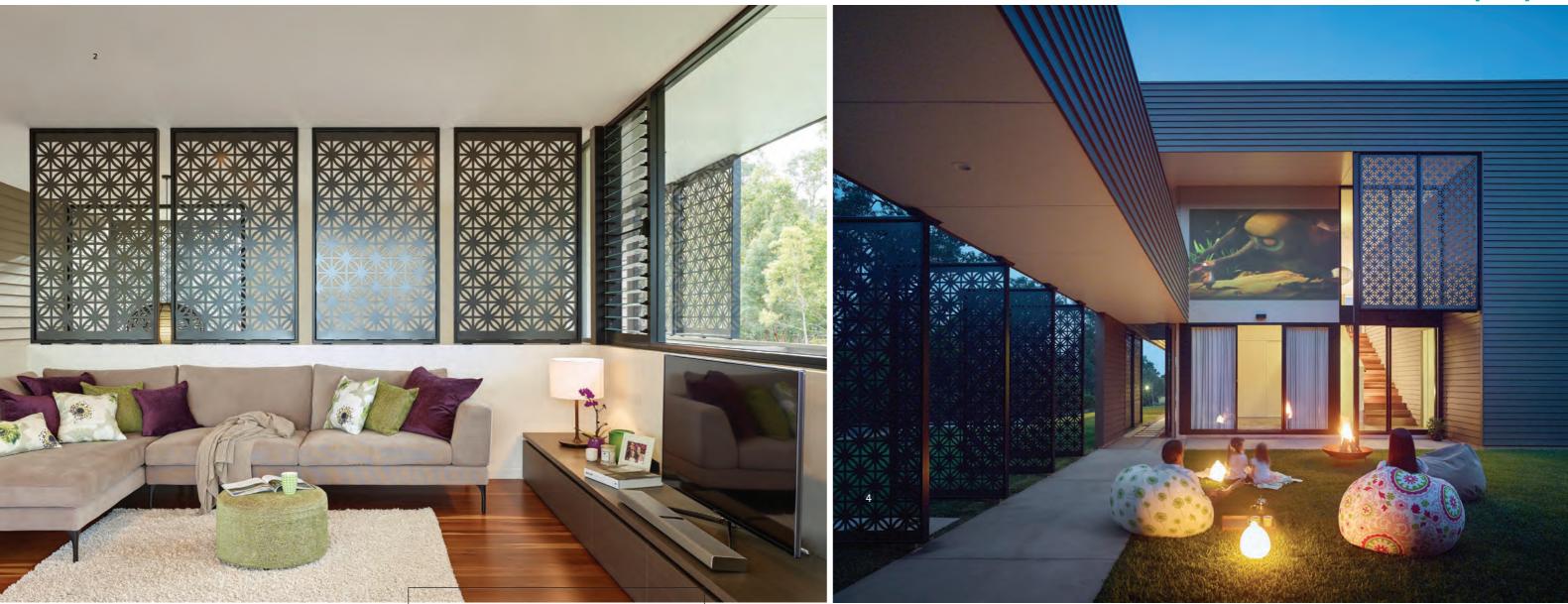
Shadow Play

Designed by Mark and Angela Jamison of Jamison Architects, Bird House places its owners amongst the tree canopy in an idyllic Gold Coast location.

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1. Central grassed courtyard 2. Open plan living 3. Exterior 4. Outdoor cinema Images by Scott Burrows. More images can be viewed at our online magazine - www.indulgemagazine.net



 $D^{\mbox{escribed}}$ as 'two pavilions connected by a central grassed courtyard', the design focuses on bringing the natural world into the home. Visually, beautiful views can be enjoyed from various points in the home. Experientially, breezes and sunlight move through the house, creating a comfortable living environment through the seasons. The clients are a family of four, and the architects worked a modest budget to create a high level of architecture to provide enjoyable living for years to come.

Although the home commands a strong presence, the architects' clever use of negative space gives the building lightness and a feeling of connection with its immediate surrounds. "We wanted the house to sit softly in the landscape and chose a refined palette of materials and colours in earthy tones to reflect this," says Mark. "In terms of atmosphere the aim was a light, airy open home that enabled the family to connect with and appreciate the beautiful landscape and

wonderful climate they were to live in." Three bedrooms are found on the The courtyard is the green heart of the ground level along with the bathroom, home, separating and connecting two ensuite, powder room, laundry and a pavilions. The large screened panels that multi-purpose room (acting as a quest enclose this space provide privacy, allow bedroom as needed) that opens onto the breezes to move about freely and bring courtyard. inherent decoration to the home. "We At the opposite end of the courtyard is love how the areas of full shade and the the owners' workspace and studio in the dappled decorative shadows from the second (single level) pavilion. The luxury screens change over the course of the day of being able to work at home, while and even night when the shadows are being physically removed from the main created by the moonlight," says Angela. house, was crucial to the brief.

Family life takes place in a two-storey pavilion, and it is the upper level that gives Bird House its name. The upper storey houses the living, cooking and dining, and an outdoor living area. This functional space includes the DAC (domestic administration centre) off the kitchen.

"With minimal walls in the upper living areas, a strong visual connection to the tree canopy and the layering of the transparent screened facade, one really feels like they are up in the trees living with the birds," says Angela.

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Fundamentally, the design is as much about the voids as the built, namely the courtyard and its perimeter of large, movable screens. The large lasercut panels gently enclose part of the landscape; in doing so the courtyard is not totally cut off from the greater surrounds, and allows a safe, yet open space for children to play. The simple design opens up endless possibilities for play, socialising, star gazing, open-air theatre, and many more opportunities for enjoyment for years to come.

BY ALICE THOMPSON