

your practical guide to beautiful living

home

SA's
No.1
home and garden
magazine

December 2023 | January 2024

COOK UP A STORM!

5 festive roasts

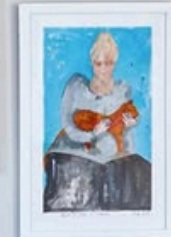
What to do with the leftovers

Christmas cookies for the kids

FIX IT
WITH FLAIR

MEET THE
TOP 12!

WHAT'S HOT IN 2024



A home that

6 000m²

Hydrangeas as the eye can
+ expert a

Décor trends

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HOMES

POTCHEFSTROOM

Contemporary & cost-savvy revival

KORINGBERG

Showstopper in the Swartland

KALK BAY

Holiday home for art, colour and

READER HOME

With the blue of the ocean as a backdrop, a Gauteng couple has filled their holiday home with colour, patterns and texture.

WHO LIVES HERE?

Alma Kennedy and her husband

Nico van Niekerk

WHERE Kalk Bay

SIZE 394m²

Art and heart IN KALK BAY

By Haidee Muller-Isaacs • Photographs Greg Cox
Production Marian van Wyk

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With a view of the whole of False Bay to the left, and the iconic Kalk Bay Harbour to the right, this enclosed stoep provides the perfect spot for relaxation and contemplation.

Table made by African Creations; chairs from Chair Crazy; pendant light from Ashanti Design; rugs from Monro; basket from street vendor

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Alma and Sihan transformed the house into a cheerful, stylish space filled with interesting elements, while Nico stayed well out of it, preferring to cheer from the sidelines. In the open-plan kitchen, the Moroccan tiles above, kit-kat tiles below and the rug with its strong graphic design create a striking look. Wire World pendant lights available from Mink Design; rug from Monn; Moroccan tiles from Opia Design; Ceramica kit-kat tiles from Douglas Jones; dining table from Eco Furniture Design; chairs from Mr Price Home



Wooden slats were a practical solution for a surface where shoes and feet could dirty the cupboards.





The tiles used for the interior were also used outside in the new courtyard behind the house. On the walls is a combination of Moroccan patterned tiles (left) and a square tile the same size as the floor tiles (above left), but with a handmade look.

Above left: Mint-coloured Ceramica tiles from Decobella; dining table from Patio Warehouse; chairs from Chair Crazy

Left: Moroccan tiles by Opia Design; blue metal chairs made by OSW Cape; yellow Wire World table available from Mink Design; side table from Esque; rugs from India Ink; plants and pots from Ferndale Nurseries

It ticks all the right boxes

This is not the first time we've featured Alma and Nico's home but after these latest changes, the house is almost unrecognisable since our last photo shoot (see *Home*, April 2019). The dust from the most recent building project – their third set of improvements to this beautiful old house – has scarcely been shaken from their shoes.

They bought the house in 2016 and within the first year had demolished a wall downstairs to create a bigger living area. Two small bedrooms upstairs were then converted into two bathrooms. Four years ago, they added a garage and this year the house was extended at the back to create a new open-plan kitchen with a dining room and sheltered patio.

In fact, they initially had a more modern look in mind, says Alma. "Like some buildings in Europe, old at the front and modern at the back. However, our first proposal was rejected by the Heritage Council, because the style of the extension had to match the house. And it had to look like the house had been seamlessly enlarged. Our third proposal was accepted."

The former wardrobe-less main bedroom was too cramped for Alma's taste. "When the house was enlarged at the back, our old bedroom became the kitchen. The main bedroom was moved to the top floor of the new addition." And it's this room that excites her the most. Because in addition to the spacious double-volume bedroom with its en-suite bathroom, there is a brand-new loft – Alma's reading nook. And right behind this, a former small bedroom has been converted into a study.

"We were in Kalk Bay again recently and I couldn't stop smiling. Everything has come together so beautifully – the furniture, the art, the tiles and the colours. We look forward to unlocking that front door every time; it's a wonderful space."

In their 33 years together, Alma and Nico, who works in the financial world, have already tackled eight projects and never really butted heads. "There is a clear division of roles and it works: I do the plans with the architect and take care of art, furniture, rugs and everything that happens inside; Nico is practical, so he deals with the contractors."

The current project was supposed to last six months. "Then it became a year. New things kept on popping up, as can happen with old houses. But I'm thrilled with the end result." >>>



Layers and colour in abundance invite you into Alma and Nico's home.

Artwork by Sue Pam-Grant on wallpaper from Mink Design; pendant lights from Ashanti Design; green chairs from Sofas & Chairs; rugs from Monni; nesting tables from Iconomy; cushions from Superbalist; brown vase from a charity shop; Sihan Wild of Mink Design painted the wooden bird.

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A dining area with a colourful bookcase as a backdrop is situated where the kitchen used to be. Although Alma has many antique and second-hand items in her home, over the years she has developed a more contemporary and eclectic style.

"My rugs don't necessarily go with everything. For me, the overall picture needs to come together and I play with colours and textures until it works." Interior designer Sihlan Wiid had a number of pieces custom made for this space. The old closed-combustion fireplace was retained, but moved to the corner where a window was bricked up.

Table and console made by African Creations; bookcase by A Novel Idea; rug from Oriental Carpet Gallery; chairs from Chair Crazy; pendant light from Mink Design

On one of the upper streets in the idyllic village of Kalk Bay stands a house full of art and vibrant colour. With its unobstructed view over False Bay, this home encourages a kick-back-and-relax attitude.

A dynamic blend of collectibles, with thoughtful contrast in every corner, welcomes guests to this laid-back and inviting heritage home – and that's exactly what Johannesburg couple Alma Kennedy and Nico van Niekerk intended. Their style is striking, innovative and eclectic, as well as fun and

unpretentious. For them, it's all about a 'mi casa es su casa' feel when friends visit their century-old holiday home between St James and Fish Hoek. Capetonians call this part of the coast "the deep south" and Kalk Bay, in particular, has been a sought-after address for years.

"It's important to us that our friends feel totally at ease, so the house had to be a comfy space," says Alma, a mining attorney. She has always loved Kalk Bay and the couple spend a long weekend here once a month. >>

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A small bedroom downstairs was turned into a guest loo and the previous guest toilet and bathroom were combined to create a laundry and linen room, explains Alma. "All the bedrooms now have built-in cupboards, and two bathrooms upstairs have been completely redone."

Ceramica tiles from Douglas Jones; blinds by Milly's Soft Furnishings; cushion from Superbalist; tray and hand soap from Mr Price Home

Green sideb
Vamp Furni
from Chair
from Icono
lamp from
pendant lig
rug from G

Green sideboard from Vamp Furniture; chairs from Chair Crazy; table from Iconomy; table lamp from Mr Price Home; pendant light from Mink Design; rug from Gilles Botbyl



There are guest bedrooms on either side of the upstairs hallway, and another narrow enclosed stoep at the far end.

Bedroom above right: May Wentworth wallpaper from Wallpaper Online; blanket (left) from The Home Quarter and (right) from White House; rug from Monn; headboards from African Creations; bedside lamp from Builders; cushions from Superbalist; bedside table made by Begin with the End in Mind

Left: Stoep rug from Gilles Botbyl; hallway rug from Persian Elegance; pendant light by Mink Design



STOCKISTS AND CONTACTS African Creations africancreations.co.za
 Ashanti Design ashantidesign.com Begin with the End in Mind begininteriors.co.za
 Builders builders.co.za Ceramica ceramica.co.za Chair Crazy chaircrazy.co.za
 Cielo cielo.co.za Conicraft conicraft.co.za Decobella decobella.co.za
 Douglas Jones douglasjones.co.za Eco Furniture Design ecofurnituredesign.com
 Esque esque.co.za Ferndale Nurseries facebook.com/ferndalenurseries
 Gilles Botbyl gillesbotbyl.com Iconomy iconomyonline.com
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 Milly's Soft Furnishings millysoftfurnishings@gmail.com Monn monn.co.za
 Mr Price Home mrphome.com Mungo mungo.co.za
 Novel Idea facebook.com/noveldesign450 Opia Design opiadesign.co.za
 Oriental Carpet Gallery orientalcarpetgallery.co.za OSW Cape oswcape.co.za
 Patio Warehouse patiowarehouse.co.za Persian Elegance persianelegance.co.za
 Sofas & Chairs ridbeck@gmail.com SofaSushi sofasushi.com
 Sue Pam-Grant facebook.com/sue.pamgrant Superbalist superbalist.com
 The Home Quarter thehomequarter.co.za Vamp Furniture vampfurniture.co.za
 Wallpaper Online wallpaperonline.co.za White House bedbathhome.co.za
 Wire World wireworld.co.za



This house is all about chilling, so there are numerous nooks where friends can relax and socialise – like this one adjoining the enclosed stoep.

Leather sofa from Sofas & Chairs; pendant light, coffee table and hexagonal wall shelves from Mink Design; rug from Persian Elegance; cushions (from left) from Economy, Mr Price Home and SofaSushi

To see the house as it looked previously, go to news24.com/home



Sihan Wild suggested mosaic tiles with wide grouting for the floor in the new wing where the kitchen is now located. It opens onto the outdoor entertaining area. "At first, Nico and the builder thought the grout would get dirty too quickly, but Sihan said it just needed to be sealed," says Alma. "I'm quite pedantic about floor tiles and there are very few I like; we usually go for screeded floors. This tile was something completely different and much cheaper, and it looks beautiful," says Alma. >>

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Kitchen designed by Mink Design and installed by Novel Idea; Wire World pendant lights available from Mink Design; bar stools from Cielo; rug from Persian Elegance; floor tiles from Ceramica

Nico was puzzled as to why we were installing a bigger kitchen, since neither of us can actually cook! - Alma