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Liverpool Crescent House (Tas)

Terroir Pty Ltd

Commended: Residential Interior Design Commended: Colour in Residential Interiors

Cubic in shape and dark in colour, the Liverpool Crescent House almost disappears into the surrounding wild and dramatic Tasmanian landscape. A marriage between the house and an austere landscape is forged and this connection carries through many of the house's features.

The stoic exterior and its monochromatic dark-coloured base maximises the Liverpool Crescent House's isolation even though it's curiously located just 1.8km from Hobart's GPO.

This house was commended for Residential Interior Design, Colour in Residential Interiors and Emerging Practice. The main drama of the house is inside – it has a surprisingly rich and vibrant interior, though its exterior is harsh. A dark base, including a black stain used for the kitchen's plywood floor, is offset by cool tones in each of the rooms and a flashy red, which creates a paradox.

The house has a labyrinth quality – it has a series of interlocking areas and spaces as opposed to an open plan. It's a house you feel you can work through as though you are meandering through the bush, says Scott Balmforth, Architect and Director at Terroir.

Large windows that run the length of the walls allow light in, and also further connect the house to its fierce and formidable surroundings. Furniture is minimal to enhance space despite the interlocking rooms.

The flat Zincalume sheet ceiling and the dramatic skylight in the entry area – which pulses red throughout the house – are also features that, from the outside, almost disappear into the surroundings.

Hannah Spurr

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