

# RESTLESS LIVING

*"... restlessly dedicated to contemporary living."*







## HAWTHORN HOOD HOUSE

Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia

A project site often comes with caveats. Some caveats can be dealt with while other might become a deal-breaker. The latter scenario was experienced by a couple of professionals with primary school aged twins who wished to renovate and extend their home in a neighboring suburb to Hawthorn. The couple had approached BENT Architecture to be in charge of the project, but early investigations promptly revealed a critical necessity to compromise the final design due to limitations, e.g. poor solar orientation.

“Initial conversations sparked a hunt for a house and site that would better suit our clients’ long-term needs. A short-list of preferred suburbs, streets and orientation informed a letter-drop campaign that culminated in the purchase of the project site”, Director at BENT Architecture, Paul Porjazoski, says. “Design discussions commenced in haste, and the result is a light-filled and engaging ‘forever’ home that ticks all of our clients’ boxes!” In Hawthorn, the original house – which the family had finally purchased after their thorough search – was subject to local heritage protection and hence possessed a strong period character. “Rather than turn its back on the form and materiality of the original home, our response was to engage with and reinterpret the









characteristics that define it; in particular, the grand proportions of the existing interior spaces, and the highly articulated, terracotta roof form”, Paul tells. By introducing a contemporary flair to the original house, the aesthetics and the program was transformed to promote a dynamic design output. “The project commenced by ‘unclipping’ a previous extension-renovation at the rear of home and re-programming the floorplan to harness the sun-filled rear yard. Bedrooms and utilities occupy the original home and the spacious roof form, whilst new living areas, positioned to the north of the original house, draw upon the grandeur of the original interiors, harness northern sunlight and frame views of the backyard and pool”, Paul elaborates. Thus, the Hawthorn Hood House presents a strong contrast to the predicted redesign possibility of the family’s previous house of limitations. Extending across 451 m<sup>2</sup>, the dwelling is organized program specifically and is also defined structurally. “The new living areas are defined externally as a reclamation of the roof of the original house, folding down at the rear of the house in response to the function of the spaces within whilst offering a sympathetic nod to the original house and the surrounding rooflines of its heritage neighborhood”, Paul explains. In sum, the extension-renovation of Hawthorn Hood House indicates the importance of the right project conditions when designing a forever home.

Architecture by **BENT Architecture**

Photography by **Tatjana Plitt**





## Words of the Week



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*It is incredible and also a tad frightening how fast time flies. This week, we can celebrate Restless Living e-Magazine's four years anniversary. I am grateful and humble to have witnessed this journey firsthand. The e-Magazine has brought Restless close to the stories of the best contemporary projects from all over the world; building relationships and network across the architectural community.*

*A new chapter is about to be written and only time will tell what the future has in store for us. One thing I can guarantee is however; we will never stop being Restless.*

*Thank you for supporting us for four years. It is deeply appreciated!*

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Trampedach".

CHRISTIAN TRAMPEDACH  
FOUNDER, RESTLESS

