

TAKE ME TO THE RIVER

BY KARIEN SLABBERT
PROJECT CONSULTANT LORNA IOAKIM
PROPERTY COORDINATOR GINA WALDMAN-BALKIND
PHOTOGRAPHY IRMA BOSCH

ELECTRONIA 016 932 3999

Modern homes and lifestyles are benefiting from up-to-date automation. Focusing on turnkey development of automated systems, Electronia was responsible for the home's high-tech requirements. The automation involved the design, customisation and installation of all electrical systems, audio and video distribution, as well as an IP camera-integrated security system. Electronia's offerings include integrated lighting and climate control, audio and video distribution, security and camera surveillance, and home theatres. The designs of the various systems are captured onto CAD drawings, ensuring that the proposed automation elements are exactly what the client has in mind.

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For the communal areas, the brief was for a homely feel, with ample seating for a large, close-knit family. To demarcate the area, Living Divani Interiors used a paint technique on the walls and roof in a spectrum of greys and cool hues. The large, open space was furnished with a custom-designed sofa in a durable grey fabric. The design team added mirror tops to the round upholstered coffee tables, to reflect the ceiling finish and add to the laid-back vibe. Jewel-hued scatters, artworks and accessories tie the look together. Now the owners can kick back and relax in a stylish, yet super-comfy chill-out zone.



SCS ARCHITECTS 011 869 8280



TRELLIDOR 031 508 2873

ABOVE RIGHT: The owners' brief to SCS Architects was to create a curvy house that suited both their needs and their budget. To complement the home's contemporary, clean-lined design, SCS Architects chose a palette of natural colours and finishes. This ensures that the house blends seamlessly with its natural surrounds.

"I loved our previous family home, as it catered for all of our family's needs. When my husband first mentioned building a new residence on the plot we had bought next to the Vaal, I was hesitant. But as our four boys started moving out one by one, I realised that our seven-bedroom, Tuscan-style house didn't suit our lifestyle anymore. So the idea of a brand-new house started growing on me."

The owner's main prerequisite was that the new house should look nothing like the previous one.



With sweeping views and architecture that epitomises modern design, you would be forgiven for thinking this stylish home was built for style, not comfort. Not so. "Hallo, Goeiedag, Ciao, Ola, Welkom, Bonjourno" – a thesaurus of greetings printed on the sleek tiles leading to the front door suggests something more.

Step inside and you soon realise that this is, first and foremost, a family home, one that includes all of the creature comforts you would expect of a house that's geared for communal living – but with a stylish twist.

ABOVE: Both safety and style were top of mind when the owners of this property decided on Trellidor Rollerstyle aluminium shutters to secure their home. Powder-coated in matt charcoal, the shutters complement the modern architecture of the house, and include punched slats to allow for occasional flooding, alternated with double-wall solid slats for strength and stability. Full automation ensures convenience and security; the family can operate the system using either hand-held keyring remotes or wall-mounted control panels.



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CLT PROJECTS 021 883 9421

The antithesis turned out to be a curvilinear design based on multiple S-shapes. "I've always been drawn to angular, clean-lined design, but I thought it would be exciting to experiment with something out of the ordinary," she notes. "Creating the home's curves was quite a challenge, and had to be redone three times, but despite minor setbacks, we're more than happy with the end result."

The blueprint of the interior layout was based on the family's lifestyle. "When we started planning the interiors, we asked ourselves what our needs were. Where do we spend most of our time? How do we live?" The answer was clear-cut. "We're a close-knit family, and we love having our four sons, their wives (and wife-to-be) and our three grandchildren around all the time. Whether it's an

TOP: In the pause area, bespoke decor and design company Living Divani Interiors mixed muted-grey tones and wooden accents to create a cool, calm space. The matching coffee table and server were custom designed to complement the look. Ghost chairs on either side of a striking artwork, and a beautiful rug, tie it all together.

TOP: A contemporary interior calls for a kitchen that merges seamlessly with its stylish surrounds. The Kitchen Studio, a designer of customised kitchens, created a modern, clean-lined space that meets the owners' every culinary desire. The team chose a mix of high-gloss acrylics, high-pressure suede laminates and Duco-sprayed supawood, which was rounded off with sleek quartz worktops. With its focus on bespoke design, The Kitchen Studio has ensured that this kitchen strikes a perfect balance between aesthetic appeal and functionality.

ABOVE RIGHT: Being a multilevel home with a central air-conditioning system, there were many structural beams and air-conditioning ducts to be taken into account when designing the ceiling. Interior design and project management company CLT Projects made use of various ceiling levels and feature bulkheads, combined with lighting effects, to accommodate the necessary services, while creating an understatedly elegant ceiling that add to the aesthetic of the home.

early-morning breakfast, an afternoon picnic on the lawn or flapjacks on Sunday evening, our house is always filled with people. A Sunday lunch for 16 people is standard practice," she says.

"Designing a family home is about much more than visual appeal; it's about creating comfortable, lived-in space," says the owner. A lifestyle-optimised layout filled with well-devised open spaces bridges the gap between contemporary design and practicality – fitting comforts for this busy bunch.

This practical approach is reflected in the generous scale and layout of the home. "Our family has always spent most of our time socialising around the kitchen counter. We hardly ever used the formal living room or dining room in our previous home. So we decided that the kitchen should form the heart of the home, with all the zones arranged around it. I wanted to feel part of the action while preparing meals, so everything had to be in close proximity," she notes.

This led to an open-plan design, with a dining area, living area and patio all arranged around the spacious kitchen. "Thanks to the design, we can always keep an eye on the grandchildren without running around," says the owner. Her grandchildren were also top of mind when she decided on a practical marble counter for the kitchen. "We didn't want anything to be too precious, so we opted for a hardy, low-maintenance finish. The grandchildren must feel free to climb onto the counter while we bake cookies."

Another prerequisite was feminine touches in a colour palette of her choice. While her busy brood of boys was still



CINEMA ARCHITECTS VEREENIGING 016 455 1000



INTERIOR MOTIVES 011 894 7877

TOP: Lights, camera, action! To keep the system as user-friendly as possible, Cinema Architects designed, installed and programmed a tablet and smartphone-friendly cinema automation system which controls the sound, projection, satellite TV, Apple TV, media server and the lights in the cinema. Now the owners can just kick back and relax, whether they are watching their favourite movie or entertaining friends.

LEFT: In the main en-suite bathroom, the falling flower design laserjet cut-out was custom designed by Interior Motives. The idea was to create an interesting focal point with a three-dimensional look. The shower rose was imported from Spain. Interior Motives manages the entire project for the client by supplying floor tiles, decor designs and sanitaryware.

living at home, everything was focused on practicality. "I was one of those jeans-and-sneakers moms who spent her afternoons next to the rugby field. There was very little space for anything girly," she quips.

"I wanted a fresh, versatile colour that would make a statement without being too imposing," she says of the colour choice for the interiors. A palette of silver, pewter and greys, and champagne for a touch of warmth, fits the bill perfectly. Coincidentally, the base palette of muted hues accentuates the home's clean-lined, uncluttered design, and blurs the boundaries between inside and out.

"The colour scheme wasn't planned, but it turned out to be a great choice.



CINEMA ARCHITECTS VEREENIGING 016 455 1000



CINEMA ARCHITECTS VEREENIGING 016 455 1000

ABOVE: In the '50s retro café-themed home cinema, sound and picture quality are top of mind, while the lighting design speaks of true craftsmanship. Cinema Architects built a system that enables the owners to listen to music, watch movies and enjoy satellite television, all in the comfort of their own home.

LEFT: The owners' brief to Cinema Architects Vereeniging was to create a multifunctional room that could do double duty as an entertainment area and home cinema. The seating arrangement, with two rows of custom-designed red leather recliners, keeps the setup informal. At the back of the cinema, a curved bar counter ensures there's enough entertaining space.

BELOW: Hello, Big Apple! Living Divani Interiors used a New York theme as inspiration for the son's bedroom. A masculine palette of blue, yellow, grey and touches of leather sets the scene, while splashes of white ensure a calm counterpoint. New York-themed curtains, distressed denim sofa and white recliners were added for the perfect chill-out zone.

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It doesn't restrict you as much as other colours, and it's easy to change a room's entire look and feel by adding a pop of colour or a few bright scatters."

While each space has its own character, they all have one thing in common: a stylish aesthetic with a playful edge. Whether bold, light-hearted or sophisticated, the owner's personality shines from one space to the next. "The home is a true reflection of my taste. The entire house is kitted out in custom-made furniture, all of which I helped design. Although it took many hours of planning and rehashing ideas, it was definitely worthwhile," she notes.

This customised approach is seen



GEMINI FRAMELESS 016 933 0483

ABOVE LEFT: In the main bedroom, a glass-enclosed designer bath suite represents the epitome of luxe. The owners did not want unsightly frames to detract from this imposing reinterpretation of an en-suite bathroom, so they requested Gemini Frameless to create a seamless glass design. As a solution, frameless technology was used to create a wraparound divide between the bedroom and bath zone.

ABOVE RIGHT: The owners complemented the clean-lined design of their bathroom with a Geberit Monolith Plus sanitary module. The elegant white glass front conceals all unsightly plumbing pipes, and integrates a host of technology to raise the bathroom's comfort levels. Geberit's user-focused design includes an integrated odour-extraction function, intelligent sensor technology and a convenient flush actuation.

RIGHT: Interior Motives gave the powder room a stylish, feminine touch by installing sanitaryware, floor and wall tiles in an ice-white palette. The decor was designed especially for the client and includes a stiletto-theme wall design, as well as laser cut-outs with Swarovski crystals for the bathroom console.

throughout the residence. From the circular-design swimming pool on a large, covered terrace, to the outdoor firepit, the home is an entertainer's dream. The 12-seater 1950s retro-themed home cinema and bar area was specially built so that the owners' sons could watch rugby or cricket without ransacking the entire home. "We're like a close-knit community, all living on one property. "The idea was to make our residence the home base. I firmly believe in the idea of *mi casa es su casa*."

There's an ever-present holiday vibe in the home, one that every family member relishes. It's one that makes you want to take off your shoes, sit back and relax, all while enjoying the slick, modern functionality of the ultimate family home. Undeniably, this is a prototype for comfortable, stylish living. 🏡



GEBERIT SOUTHERN AFRICA 011 444 5070

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GEBERIT SOUTHERN AFRICA 011 444 5070

LEFT: Like the rest of the house, the bathroom is filled with functional detail. As soon as someone approaches the toilet, Geberit's innovative Comfort Light provides a discreet, indirect warm glow behind the Monolith Plus sanitary module. The integrated odour-extraction unit rids the bathroom of unwanted foul air, filling the space with clean, fresh air.

BELOW: The owners requested a soft, feminine bedroom for their soon-to-be daughter-in-law. A base palette of whites and creams was used, while accessories, upholstery and bedding in pastel shades added pops of colour. Thanks to a curated mix of furniture and finishes, Living Divani Interiors devised a sophisticated, yet playful bedroom, with touches of girly glam.

CONTACT:

CINEMA ARCHITECTS – home theatre systems
016 455 1000, info@cinema-architects.co.za,
www.cinema-architects.co.za

CLT PROJECTS – interior design
and implementation
021 883 9421, info@cltprojects.com,
www.cltprojects.com

ELECTRONIA – home automation
016 932 3999, kobus@electronia.net,
www.electronia.co.za

GEBERIT SOUTHERN AFRICA –
concealed cisterns
011 444 5070, sales.za@geberit.com,
www.geberit.co.za

GEMINI FRAMELESS – frameless
glass technology
016 933 0483, info@geminiframeless.com,
www.geminiframeless.com

INTERIOR MOTIVES – custom decor
and sanitaryware
011 894 7877, 073 399 7140

LIVING DIVANI INTERIORS – interior design
and decor
082 555 4344, alida@livingdivani.co.za,
www.livingdivani.co.za

SCS ARCHITECTS – architecture
011 869 8280, info@scsarchitects.co.za

THE KITCHEN STUDIO – kitchen design
and manufacture
011 312 4060, 031 462 7722

TRELLIDOR – home safety
031 508 2873, rfq@trellidor.co.za,
www.trellidor.co.za

RIGHT: To make the most of the large space, Living Divani Interiors kitted out the main bedroom with lavish furnishings, such as a deep-button headboard, matching ottoman and a curved couch in a rich palette of mushroom and gilded beige tones. Dummy curtains, tactile soft furnishings and scatters offer an extra layer of interest.

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