

WONDER WALL

Brushbox veneer wall panelling adds warmth in the home while mirroring the timber steps – also in brushbox. When hanging timber veneer, care must be taken to align joints perfectly, as they cannot be covered and painted. Check out Laminex's Natural Timber Veneer in Brushbox (one of a range of 90), from \$72 per sqm; call 13 21 36 or visit www.laminex.com.au.

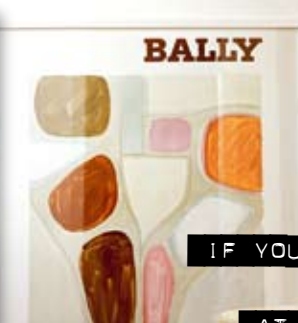


WORDS & SOURCING BY KERRYN RAMSEY
MAIN PHOTOGRAPHS BY DIEU TAN. STILL-LIFES BY CRAIG WALL

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO... BERNARD VILLEMOT

Born in 1911, Bernard Villemot was a French graphic artist who created iconic images for the likes of Air France, Perrier and Vespa. His relationship with Bally shoes began in 1967 with the creation of a poster of simple lines and bold, dramatic colours. His signature minimalist style went on to win many awards, including the Martini Prize Gold Medal for his first Bally poster. Villemot collaborated with Bally until his death in 1989, and his advertising posters are now highly sought by collectors.

Prints by Bernard Villemot (left) include **Bally Diptyque Woman** (below left), 120 x 173cm, \$1100, and **Bally Abstract**, 120 x 160cm, (below right), \$1000, both from Galerie Montmartre. Contact (03) 9486 8686 or www.galmont.com.au.



IN DETAIL

ideas from the Choker home

Contemporary charm

This two-bedroom apartment has an enviable combination of light and warmth. A disparate mix of artwork, furniture and treasured objects from Caroline and her flatmate, Katherine, injects modern sophistication. While small in scale, their rooms are big on atmosphere, with each item – from intricate ceramic vases to substantial bespoke tables – confidently standing alone. Planters, mementos and vintage accessories provide a sense of casual ambience, with a collection of impressive artworks grabbing attention with hits of intense colour.

3 really great

ANTIQUUE LETTERS

A French mirrored letter, bought from Parterre in Sydney's Woollahra, works as a strong vintage element. For other alphabet options, try Bay City Cargo, www.baycitycargo.com, or Home Furniture On Consignment, (02) 8338 8000, www.hfoc.com.au. Custom-made letters are available from Two Smitten, visit www.madeit.com.au/TwoSmitten.

1. Theatre marquee 'O', \$US29.95, from Bay City Cargo, www.baycitycargo.com. 2. Distressed 'U', from \$145, from Parterre, (02) 9356 4747; www.parterre.com.au. 3. French 1940s zinc box-form 'P', \$345, from DavidmetNicole, call (02) 9698 7416 or visit www.davidmetnicole.com.



IF YOU'RE NOT PLANNING A TRIP TO TUNISIA (WHERE CAROLINE GOT HER RUG CUSHIONS), YOU CAN BUY LOCAL LOOKALIKES. THE EXAMPLES AT RIGHT ARE \$69 EACH FROM JUST AFRICA, WWW.JUSTAFRICA.COM.AU

IN DETAIL

LOVE THAT, TRY THIS

→ **DINING CHAIR** Manufactured by Carl Hansen & Son and first issued in 1949, 'CH_24, The Wishbone' chair, by Danish designer Hans J. Wegner, is sculptural and timeless. The woven seat in natural paper cord provides superb comfort. Price is \$1811, from Corporate Culture, call 1300 768 626 or visit www.corporateculture.com.au.

→ **HEAT VISION** The built-in fireplace is surrounded by a wall of Calacatta marble slabs, imported from Italy's Carrara region. The surface's creamy white tone and irregular grey veining anchor the room beautifully, yet the feel remains light and sophisticated. Each lot of Calacatta marble has a unique colour and veining pattern, so it's worthwhile spending extra time searching for pieces that fit perfectly with your decor. Calacatta marble is priced at \$715 per sqm from Granite & Marble Works, (02) 9519 9900, www.granitemarbleworks.com.au.



artists in residence

The painting that caused Caroline to screech to a halt outside a gallery one rainy night was by George Raftopoulos, a Sydney artist who has exhibited around the globe, including New York, China and France. His signature is rich colour, layers of texture and the subtle inclusion of numbers and letters. In pleasing contrast to his abstract work is the enigmatic photography of Christian Thompson, who is also featured in Caroline's apartment.

(Left) George Raftopoulos's *Afrodite* oil painting on Belgian linen, 132 x 152cm, \$18,000. Contact Singapore's Gallery Reis, www.galleryreis.com or www.georgeraftopoulos.com.

(Right) Christian Thompson's *Untitled (Red Kangaroo Paw)*, limited-edition photographic print, 100 x 100cm, \$5500 from Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, visit www.gabriellepizzi.com.au.