



these pages:

During the build of the house the client was offered the opportunity to purchase the land in front, which provided a large play area and garden space, rare in such estates. It consists of: cinema room, gym, children's nursery, change room and covered terrace. The long lap pool is the visual and physical link between the two buildings. Lawn and lounging terrace flank the entire length of the pool.

The owner / director of Extra Dimensions Property Group, an award winning developer in prestigious estates, required a personal signature home which would represent a hallmark property in Kwazulu Natal, SA. This met with his company's maxim to be on the cutting edge of popular ultra-contemporary design and to establish worthy investments in property. Having been prominent in Zimbabwe over the last eight years and in Johannesburg for ten, this was their first venture into Hawaan EDP Group are now establishing themselves internationally in Mauritius and the USA.

Floating Planes

location: Hawaan Estate, Umhlanga, KZN | architecture: Kevin Lloyd Architects | contractor / property developer: Extra Dimensions Property Group | interior design: Extra Dimensions Property Group in collaboration with Matthew Towee – AMIA and Charnre Towee photography: Peter Oravec of PodStudio & Grant Pitcher KZN-based architect Kevin Lloyd and his team consolidated two sites to create this elegant modern structure; this amalgamation has resulted in the addition of a pool house site of just over 1 100 square metres. The total finished build of the house including terraces is almost 600 square metres with the pool house being just over 150 square metres; the lap pool measures 25 metres by 3 metres.





Originally this was indigenous coastal forest before being planted with sugar cane by the large sugar estates. This rolling land was later purchased by the Durban Country Club for a future golf course, but was subsequently sold to Havaan Investments, who developed it as an exclusive 'limited edition' residential estate consisting of two phases with a restricted number of plots.

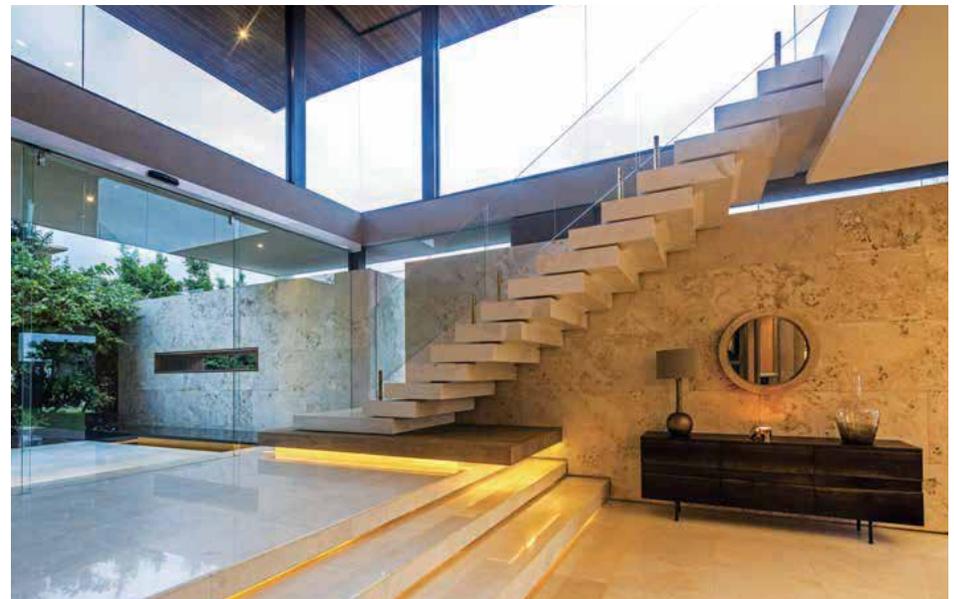
Says Kevin Lloyd: 'Our client purchased the house site first and then later, after deciding he needed more garden area, opted to secure the site in front when it became available. This client is involved in property and he wanted a contemporary house in keeping with the well-established architectural signature of his existing developments.'

'The direction here was for strong primarily horizontal lines with key vertical accents. This was achieved with a mix of materials that include: applied balu timber, stone cladding, large frameless glass fenestration and marbleised epoxy plaster for walls. The site development allowances were used to the full extent and to the advantage of the architecture with a view of the ocean being a primary objective. Contemporary South American architecture with dramatic spans and cantilevers influenced the overall design.'

these pages:

The stone clad floating staircase in the open plan double volume entrance area appears as a series of layered slabs rising subtly to the first floor.

Reception spaces are predominantly open plan and include: lounge, dining room and kitchen all linked by direct flow onto covered and open terraces. To take advantage of KZN's year-round balmy climate, outdoor lifestyle is celebrated here with bar and fireplace. There is also a fire pit and spa hot tub located off the main area.





these pages: The interior features leather, timber, copper and stone wall cladding, specific and unique for each space. Kitchen cupboards by Kitchen Classics.

The architect adds: 'The prerequisite was for a design that would make a statement within the parameters of the Estate Architectural Guidelines. This was to be a family home with an open plan master bedroom suite consisting of en suite dressing and bathroom area. Added to this was a screened private TV lounge off the bedroom, plus a balcony.'

Three children's bedrooms are all en suite, with each having its own identity and the planned staff quarters were upgraded to create a guest suite, separate from the main house but linked by undercover access. Kevin Lloyd says: 'We conceived a dramatic entrance hall with water feature from which a sculptural staircase accesses the upper floor.'

He recalls the brief: 'The pool house was to be a very strong horizontal statement with floating planes and timber screens. The result is that it has the same design language as the main house, its function was also to mask the view towards a less attractive house on the site in front.'

'Originally the client wanted his development architect to handle the design and for our firm to complete the documentation. This was soon to prove fruitless as the nuances of the estate architecture were not able to be transformed into an acceptable signature. We then went back to the drawing board with concepts that worked within the estate. With added client input the dramatic result he desired was eventually achieved. ➤



this page:

The main suite adjoins a multifunctional bathroom, plus a spacious covered terrace. Sanware by Classic Trading.



'The coverage is set at 35 percent of the site area, but exclusions of certain service / utility and other covered spaces allowed the built structure to be larger. Fortunately, the site has a row of indigenous high shrubs to the rear along the estate road; this provided essential privacy to the outdoor living areas and the ground floor as a whole. We placed the house at 90 degrees to both the road and sea, so the view of the ocean was increased to a 270 degree angle of view.

'On the ground floor, parallel to the road boundary, the covered terrace stretches the full width of the site as it extends from the living areas. The remaining land area behind is used for a fire pit and for the Jacuzzi bath, while the area in front is now the lawn and pool; it rolls out to give the feel of a suburban house, rather than a typically tightly packed estate home. A stone clad

spine wall, punctuated with openings, runs at 90 degrees to the terrace and parallel to the house to act as a counterpoint to the openness created by vast stretches of glass envelope.

'An inspiration was the client's liking for the work of Brazilian architect Marcio Kogan – the drama of the contemporary South American 'endless floating concrete box', with timber screens. The quintessence of our practice is to listen to and interpret our clients' desires and needs in ways that enhance – more than merely reproduce – other architects' work, or popular styles of architecture. Each house must be distinctive, yet in no way garish, rather it 'exists' in the manner in which it encapsulates the space on every different site and for each client. The end product has to be their house, not ours, and it should make that statement with style and grace.'

h