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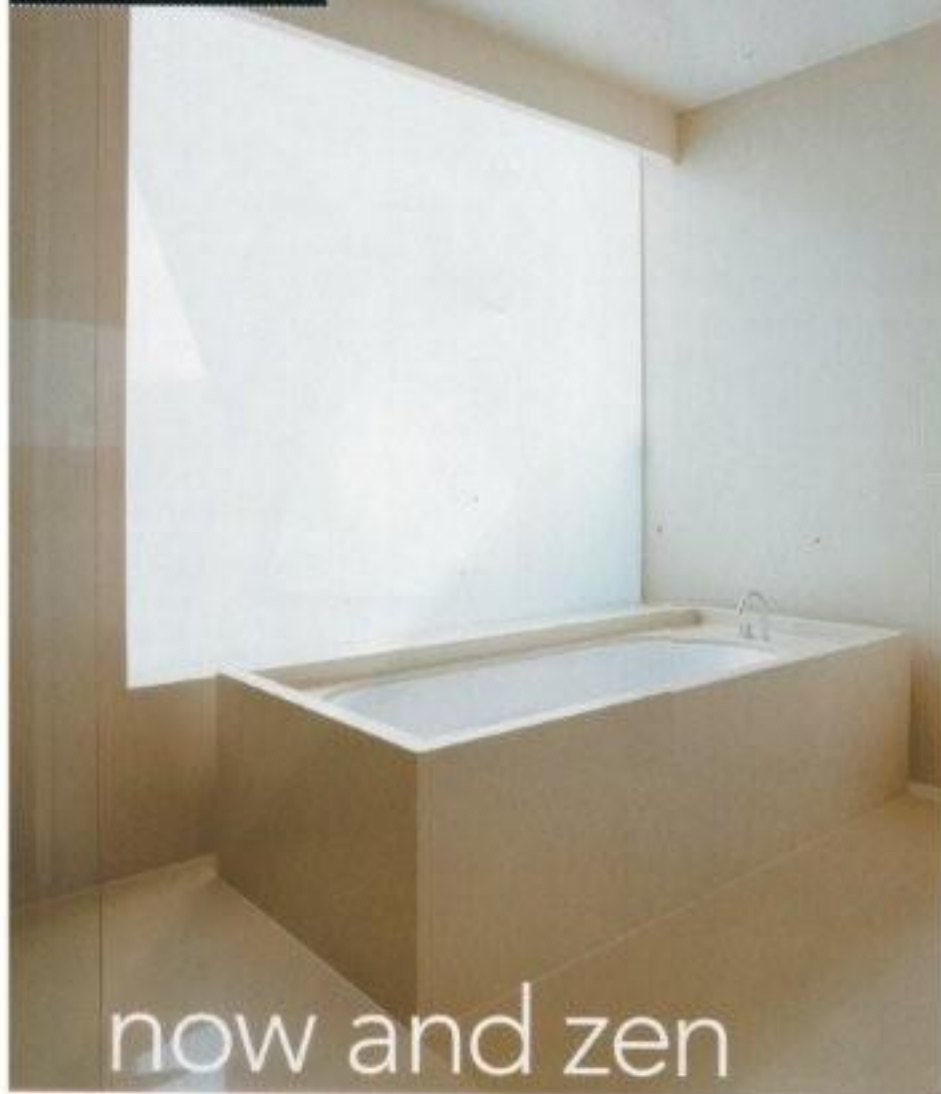
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ON THE WATERFRONT: NOOSA, PALM BEACH, MOSMAN
A PATTERN LANGUAGE: FLORALS, SPOTS AND CHECKS



now and zen

The bold lines of this freestanding bath 'box', **LEFT**, set the tone for a bathroom of understated elegance. An abundance of natural light and pale, reconstituted stone surfaces, **BELOW**, creates a calm and almost Zen-like space complimented by accessories in natural textures: raw linen Turkish towels, handmade Est soaps in a glass bowl and a pair of recycled timber stools, all from Safari.



Pale stone, natural light and understated lines create a bathroom of monumental simplicity.

REMODELLING THIS SPACIOUS ensuite bathroom in a Melbourne home extensively renovated during the 1980s called for an understated approach consistent with the scale and tone of the connecting spaces. Industrial and interior designer, Shareen Joel, worked with the prevailing palette of limestone in the house's interior, matching the natural stone with a non-porous reconstituted stone for practical purposes.

"I love the natural qualities of limestone, but it is too porous for bathroom surfaces," explains Joel. Part of her solution was to joint the walls and cabinets in a matching colour to create a seamless and relaxed space of almost monumental simplicity.

A glass block window at the end of the room was retained to maintain the house's architectural integrity from the street, but on the return wall the glass blocks were replaced with a single translucent opaque glass panel. Almost floor to ceiling, this large expanse of

glass acts as a giant light box, softly diffusing light through the day while also serving to screen an ugly rooftop view and providing privacy from the street. The freestanding bath beneath it is encased in a solid rectangular box set slightly away from the walls. This 'box' shape is echoed on the opposite side in a wall-mounted vanity designed to 'float' off the wall. A single stone slab, the vanity surface is recessed with two square underliding basins. Shallow, mirrored cabinets store bathroom necessities, while deeper drawers below take larger items. The toilet is enclosed in a separate room within the space.

A ceiling-mounted shower rose is suspended above the generous shower area which is screened by a frameless plate of glass. Storage here is provided by a recessed box shelf. A shaving mirror is set flush with the tiles. In keeping with the natural ambience of the room, recycled timber stools from Safari offer a sculptural seating post. bit.ly/retrovise

DESIGN: Shareen Joel Design.
BUILDER: J.A.R.D. Constructions.
FLOOR AND WALL TILES: Quantum Quartz 'Silky' reconstituted stone tiles from Granite Creations. **BENCHTOP:** Quantum Quartz 'Silky' reconstituted stone slab from Granite Creations.
WALLS: Bristol Paints half-strength 'Vanilla Bean' low-sheen acrylic.
JOINERY: Bristol Paints half-strength 'Vanilla Bean' two-pac polyurethane.
BATH: Kaldewei 'Visioduo' rectangular bath from Reecedesign. **BATH SPOUT:** Vola swivel bath spout. **TAPS:** all Vola mixers from Dedace. **HAND BASINS:** Scarabeo basin from Rogerseller.
SHOWER ROSE: 'Zen' round café rose from Rogerseller. **SHOWER SCREEN:** frameless glass screen by Super Glass Australia. **LAVATORY:** Duravit 'Happy D' from Mary Noell. **TOWEL RAIL:** DSC heated towel rail from Mary Noell. Details, last pages.