

# habitus

LIVING IN DESIGN

ISSUE 08 JULY - SEPTEMBER 2010



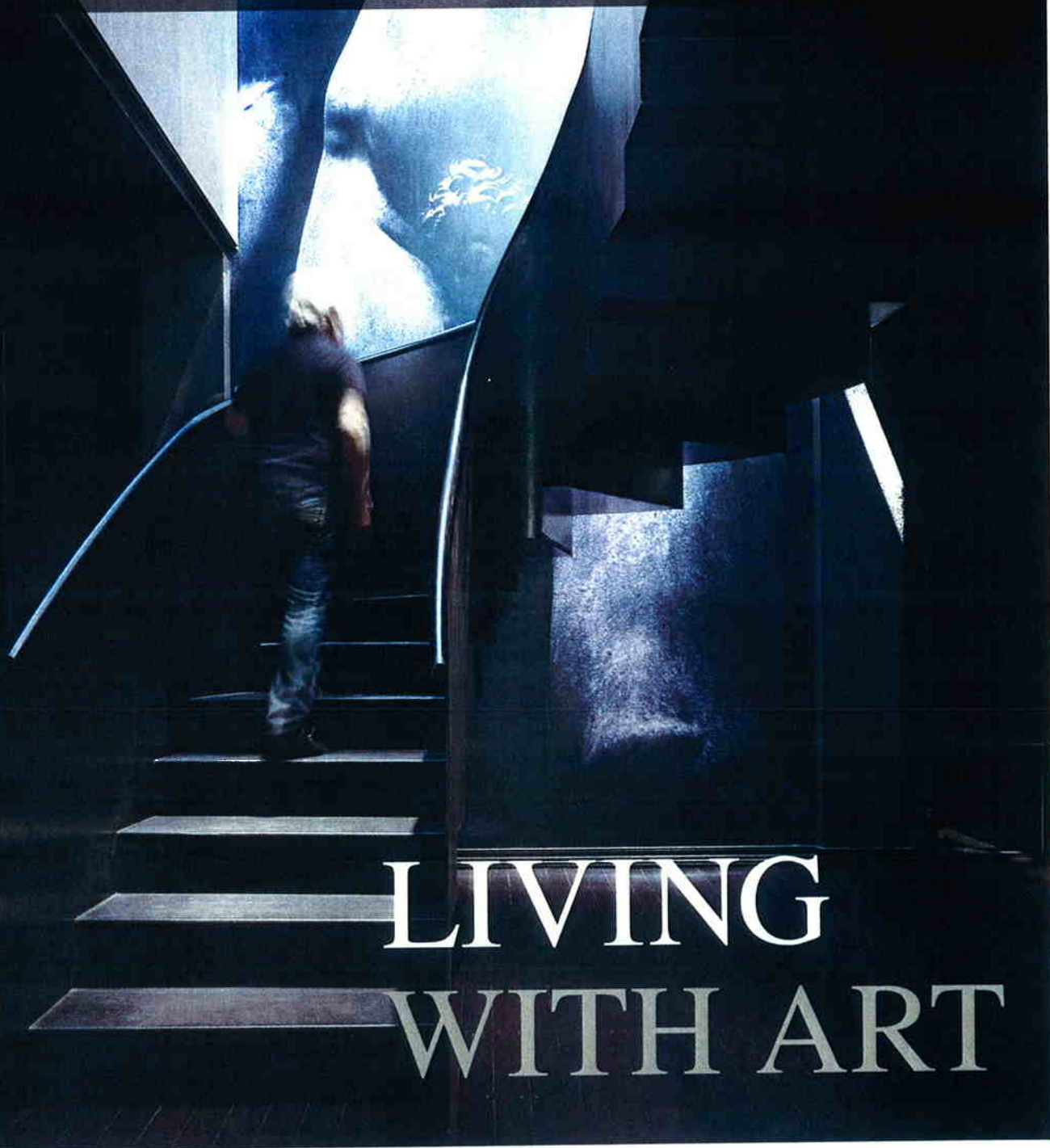
08

habitusliving.com

AUD \$12.95  
NZ \$13.95  
USD \$15.95

CDN \$16.95  
GBP £8.50  
SGD \$10.95

ALTERNATIVE URBAN LIVING IN THAILAND SEVENTIES ALBUM ART INSPIRES ADELAIDE  
ILLUSTRATOR LIGHTING, THE NEW CLASSICS THE RISE AND RISE OF SINGAPORE  
DESIGN BBQS HEAT UP DANISH ICONS AT HOME IN MELBOURNE EASTON PEARSON  
TOUR BRISBANE INSPIRING ADDITIONS IN SYDNEY THE NEW INDIAN ARCHITECTURE



# LIVING WITH ART

# PROWSE'S PARADISE



The tropical oases of landscape architect **Andrew Prowse** are defined by local climate, culture and site, and shaped by his distinct creative hand. **Tempe Macgowan** discovers the gardens of this Far North Queenslander.

## slow dissolve

*andrew prowse — QLD, australia*

Andrew Prowse's love of the exotic was evident early on, when he was a landscape architectural student at Canberra University (formerly College of Advanced Education). Now based in Cairns, Queensland, he's found his niche, and the residential gardens, resorts and public projects that he works on befit his exuberant imagination. This characteristic has always been tempered, though, by a strong sensitivity towards culture and place and a pragmatic, down-to-earth, country sensibility.

Author Michael Ondaatje, writes that "gardens, as we know, must follow all the rules of local climate and site and the visionary hand of the gardener and 'the needs of life at the time'". Ondaatje was writing about Sri Lankan landscape architect Geoffrey Bawa here, but the observation is just as applicable to the work of Andrew, who visited Bawa's home in the early 1980s, on travels throughout India and Sri Lanka.

Andrew grew up amongst big landscapes on a property at Quirindi, NSW, and his mother's background in the fashion and design industry was also influential. He recalls visiting Florence Broadhurst's studio in Paddington when he was young and the silver foil wallpaper she selected for their country home.

After College, Andrew's design ethic was refined whilst working at Sydney City Council with Leonard Lynch (now with landscape architects, Clouston Associates in Sydney) who he says, "encouraged a sense of place and how it is important to be comfortable in an environment".

In the 1990s, Andrew moved to Cairns in Far North Queensland with Andrew Pawsey, who he met at Sydney City Council. Together they formed landscape design firm Pawsey & Prowse. Whilst Pawsey has since moved on, Andrew has stayed with the practice. As the northernmost city on the east coast, the tropical climate of Cairns contrasts with the rest



02



03