

THE OFFICE

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STUDIO? Our studio is an ever-evolving creative platform. It is constantly adapted to showcase our collaborations. I love that this allows my creative world to be visualised instantly and often. **WHAT INITIALLY APPEALED TO YOU ABOUT THE SPACE?** The greatest appeal was, and continues to be, the sense of community in and around the courtyard that we share with Woollahra locals. More like a small piazza, the space oozes style and is reminiscent of our trips to Milan. **WHAT ARE YOUR DESK ESSENTIALS?** I love to layer my desk space: it must be full of creative pieces, aesthetic beauty, a little glamour and references to architectural and design icons to inspire me. My desk is also laden with the latest perfumes, bespoke designer candles

and, of course, a vase with fresh roses, gardenias or other intensely beautiful smelling flowers. **WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT YOUR SPACE?** It's unique in layers of thought. I find it interesting to see how people feel when they are in the space, how they are received, how they work and how they enjoy it. I grew up always changing spaces around – adding, collecting, adapting. I think what we do with our projects is give our clients the freedom of design – real design is like giving a golden key to unlock the doors to a world of understanding how to live with a better sense of your space. It's not just pretty objects. It's about how spatial creativity, together with well thought-out textures, tones and object placements, can lead not only to a better layout in your home, but to

a complete change in mental wellness and response to life. **IF YOUR STUDIO WERE LOCATED ANYWHERE ELSE, WHERE WOULD THAT BE?** Athens or Istanbul. Both cities have such a unique sense of style and understanding of design. **WHAT PROJECTS ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO?** We're opening an office in Singapore by mid-year and have three new residential projects that will show the studio in a different light. We're also working on the creation of the new Olsen Gallery, which is exciting for me, and designing yachts for Longreef Yachts which I find challenging and inspiring. We've only ever worked on a decorative level; now we will get to dive deeper into more of an architectural style. infinitedesigstudio.com.au

THE BBO, 2010-2017, BY JOHN OLSEN (RIGHT). ON THE TABLE ARE THREE PIECES BY YASUHIISA KOHYAMA, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: SLICE OF EARTH MITTAGONG V, 2004, WIND IN MITTAGONG IV, 2004, AND HOMURA, 2014.

Michelle Macarounas is standing in her studio, wearing a white patterned blouse and a black skirt. She is positioned in front of a large abstract painting with warm tones of red, orange, and black. To her right is a white floor lamp with a dome shade. In the foreground, there is a black chair and a table with a large, textured sculpture. The overall atmosphere is modern and artistic.

Michelle Macarounas
Future thinking

The interior designer is reaching for new boundaries from her Sydney studio.

Photography **KRISTINA SOLJO**