



The living area is a spacious, double-volume space. Three bedrooms are on the first floor, and one is on the second.



## ALL IN THE DETAILS

Interior designer Rasli Tulsyan shares with **ARTS MAGAZINE** how the tropical wallpaper informs the design of her warm and soothing home.





**WHO LIVES HERE**

A couple with their toddler and helper

**HOME** A four-bedroom penthouse in Bukit Timah

**SIZE** 3,600 sq ft

**ID** Home Philosophy

[www.homephilosophy.com.sg](http://www.homephilosophy.com.sg)

As a couple, interior designer Rashmi Gulshyan and her husband, Rahul Daswani, a civil servant, enjoy entertaining and spending time with their family and friends. So, when searching for a new home, they wanted one with distinct living and dining spaces. With a second child on the way, the couple also wanted the bedrooms to be close together.

Their new home, a four-bedroom penthouse unit in Bukit Timah, fulfilled these requirements and more. The unit comes with four bathrooms, a roof terrace, and a spiral staircase. After renovating it over four months, the family moved into their home in March 2023.

During the design stage, Rashmi knew she wanted a tropical wallpaper to be a starting point for her home. With so many tropical wallpapers to choose from, how did Rashmi decide on one that would anchor the interior design? "As a designer and a homeowner, I'm very decisive. I often tell my clients to go with their gut feeling. For example, if you find yourself thinking about a particular curtain or colour at night or in the morning, that is the right decision for your home," the founder of Home Philosophy says.

When she saw the print from Milton & King, she knew that was the one. Reflecting that the tropical wallpaper speaks of Singapore, she shares, "I wanted something



**LEFT**  
The foyer is kept understated and functional with a slim console, an armchair, and a spot for holding daily must-haves.

**BELOW**  
An arch separates the living and dining areas, framing both spaces.

**OPPOSITE**  
The dining area is a vibrant space that enjoys natural light.





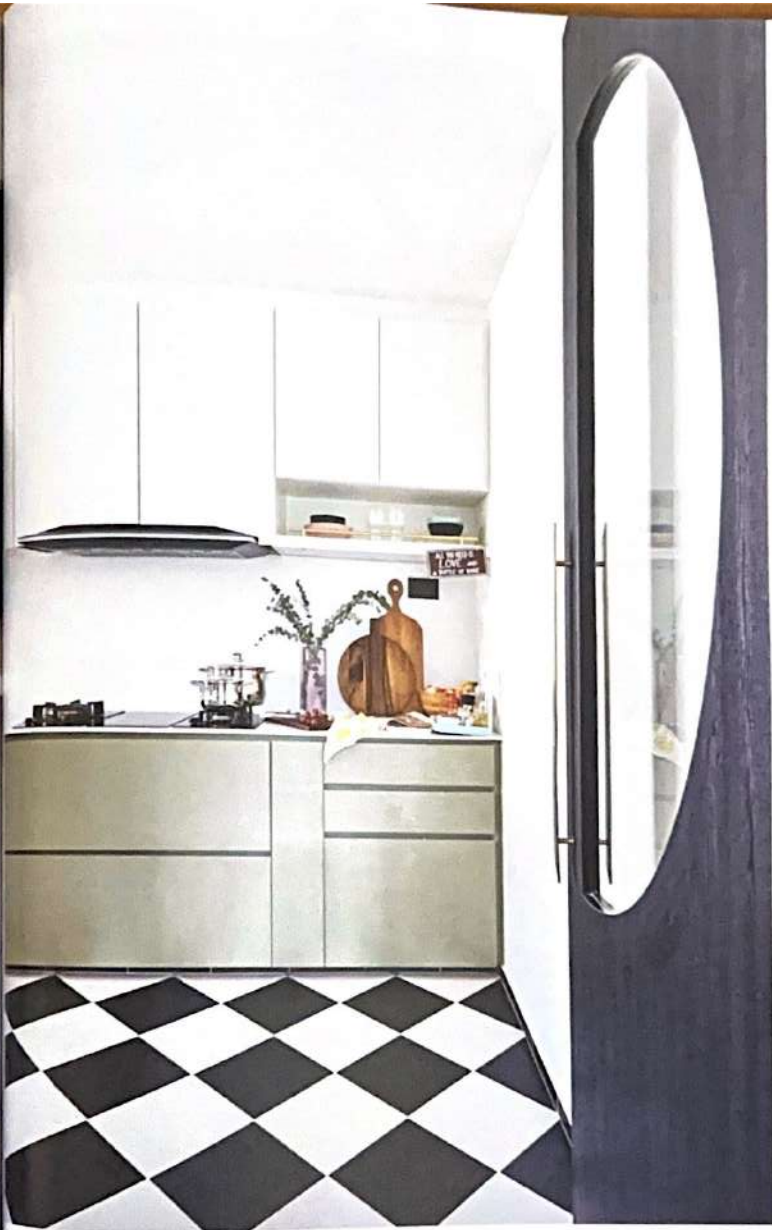
**"AS A DESIGNER, YOU ALWAYS DO PEOPLE'S HOMES, AND THEY GET TO ENJOY IT. ALL YOUR IDEAS, LABOUR, THOUGHTS, AND THE WAY YOU CONCEPTUALISE. SO NOW I GET TO ENJOY THE LITTLE DETAILS I PUT INTO THE HOUSE."**

**- RASHI TULSHYAN, FOUNDER OF HOME PHILOSOPHY**

with a bit of a story. Like the element of having animals and flowers and that it looks almost like a mural with a watercolour, hand-drawn effect."

The interior design concept was built around the wallpaper. The home is also an amalgamation of her design principles and the learnings she has picked up along the way. With a penchant for warm and soothing interiors, she introduced textures and textiles into the home. Arches and curves soften the spaces bathed in plenty of natural light.

She also introduced light and dark colours throughout the home to contrast. The living area sees dark wood finishes against white surfaces. The kitchen is decked out in black and white checkered flooring, adding vibrancy to the soothing green cabinets and white cabinets. With the spiral staircase entirely in black, the walls were kept white. Notably, there is no television feature wall, a conscious decision to maintain lightness in the space. The master bedroom features



**LEFT**  
A door provides the option of closing off the kitchen. The semi-circle window is a creative solution to aid the visual flow between the kitchen and the living area.

**OPPOSITE TOP**  
The spiral staircase stands out from the light surfaces in the area. The look is also balanced, thanks to the kitchen door also in black.

**OPPOSITE BOTTOM**  
One bathroom is also decked out in a cool palette.





Rashi customised the arrangement of the ceramic mosaic wall tiles to ensure well-balanced colours.



patterned grey wallpaper that contrasts with the headboard. While shades of green and wood lines ground the home, pops of colour add to its personality.

"Finding that balance was one of the main design ideas. I didn't want to have too many colours, but I still wanted it to have personality and a voice of its own," Rashi says.

Her team overhauled most of the unit to achieve this balanced mix and cater the home to their needs. However, they retained the marble flooring in the living and dining areas. They also kept the original structure of the spiral staircase, which had



**TOP LEFT**  
The wallpaper transforms the nursery into a cheerful space.

**LEFT**  
A mix of built-in furnishings and loose furniture in the master bedroom produces a laidback character.

**TOP RIGHT**  
Curved wooden slats were individually cut and pasted to form the back of the display unit.

**TOP**  
Rashi introduced small touches of gold throughout the home, like these leaf-shaped handles.





"old-school railings, acrylic and silver metal parts". Now refreshed with new stair planks and railings, the showstopping spiral staircase is the first thing seen upon entering the home.

Rashi reworked the layout for the kitchen, service yard and bathrooms. For instance, she repositioned everything to accommodate a double vanity in the master bathroom. Niches and concealed fittings conveyed a luxurious setting. The slasher panels also went higher than the standard practice.

Looking into the finer details, she introduced small details like brass handles that resemble palm trees and bits of gold through the lighting and hardware. "Gold adds that luxurious touch to

everything, which I really enjoy," she shares.

Having studied design and management at the Parsons School of Design in New York, she saw the need for styling and personality in interior design in Singapore. Her home was where she applied her design philosophy and principles, emphasising styling and diving into the nuances of materials, colours, shapes, and textures.

She says, "As a designer, you always do people's homes, and they get to enjoy it. So now I get to enjoy the little details I put into the house. Living in a space that encapsulates me as a designer and a person, and being able to extend that to my day-to-day life, is very rewarding." ■



**TOP**  
The maroon wall tiles and black and white floor tiles give the guest bathroom a dynamic look.

**ABOVE**  
The small details like the handles chosen for storage solutions contribute to the overall design concept.



The guest bedroom is an airy space complete with a compact desk.