East meets west

The brief: The internal courtyard on the Sunshine Coast was designed as an outdoor space — a sense of calm and exclusivity tipped the owner’s wish list. And we liked it so much we put our own spin on it.

Why it works: With its retractable roof system, it’s an all-weather haven, an indoor-outdoor space framed by the oversized scale of the house’s architecture. Interior designer Warren Naylor of ADD+ worked with architect Richard Kirk to create a tranquil setting with teak sunken seats and solﬂed bronze rain drums as a theatrical flourish. “The aim was natural glamour, connected with an Asian aesthetic, a collector’s space where art and nature could be contemplated in peace.” — Warren Naylor.

... (the doors) have a scale that befits the room’s dramatic setting of tree canopies and filtered light.” Richard Kirk

48 Timber treatment
The brief: The owners of this home on a steep Brisbane site wanted a central kitchen that embraced its bush setting.

Why it works: “All the walls are completely moveable via a series of stacking sliding glazed timber panels – they have a scale that befits the room’s dramatic setting of tree canopies and filtered light,” says architect Richard Kirk. In response to the bush landscape, the kitchen is finished in rich timber joinery and blends seamlessly with the entry way and the generous outdoor spaces that make the most of the Brisbane climate and lifestyle. Richard Kirk Architect; (07) 3295 2526, www.richardkirkarchitect.com.

49 Among the branches
The brief: This open-plan living room was designed to make the most of the view, while retaining warmth and intimacy.

Why it works: On the mid-level of a three-storey Sydney home designed by Marsh Cashman Koolloos, this room has massive walls of glass and a crisp off-white concrete floor, but the sandstone fireplace has been added to make it cosier, says architect Steve Koolloos. “While the fireplace shuts down the view to the north, it has created a lovely little corner.” The living area seems to sit among the branches of the pecan tree that abuts the house.
Marsh Cashman Koolloos; (02) 9211 4146, mckarchitects.com.