

Layered luxury: Melissa creates a look that's "soft but not too feminine", with lustrous fabrics and finishes in metallic and oyster, and a feature wall in Osborne & Little's Edo wallpaper, Bedhead Jurex fabric, Mokum Textiles. Rug, Robyn Cosgrove Rugs.

**BELOW** Osborne & Little Edo wallpapers from the Saboteur collection, \$130/10m roll, Mokum Textiles. For where to buy, see page 177



**Melissa Collison**  
Site Interior Design Studio, Sydney



**With a tight budget, where would you splurge?**

A feature wall in wallpaper. Cole & Son has just released a screen-printed, contemporary collection based on artists from the '50s and '60s, available through Charles Radford Furnishings.

manufacture streamlined, square-edged ones in amazing fabrics for our clients.

**With an unlimited budget, where would you start spending?** On hand-woven rugs and imported light fittings. A hand-painted Fortuny chandelier or a modern chandelier from Mordo Luce can be pieces of art in themselves.

**Your best space-saving solution?** Built-in bench seats.

**Your favourite fabrics right now?** Velvets, metallic sheers and antique fabrics. For example, with a teal and bronze colour scheme, we'd use Metaphores Gypsy Sheer in Vision, from Boyac, and for a metallic scheme, Osborne & Little Edo from the Sakum collection and Kravet Couture Platinum velvet, both from Mokum Textiles.

**Essential textures and surfaces?** Mirrors, textured natural stones and timber.

**Your preferred lighting?** Fewer and fewer downlights, as they tend to make a room look sterile when used on their own. We use a mix of wall and floor lighting, with downlights, feature pendants, wall sconces and lamps. We prefer to add texture by using interesting pendants and standard floor lamps.

**What colours are you using now?**

Rich colours in natural tones. Teal, peacock, bronze, silver, pewter, berry, fuchsia, orange, all with a natural feel. For a teal with bronze scheme, we're using Watty Pearl Hercules, Dulux Santa's Beard and Vivid White, Marabond Peppercorn and IDC 'gold leaf' finish.

**Your preferred window treatment?**

Simply hung curtains. We use simple goblet or pinch pleats, and never pelmets. Fabrics are textured, crushed or embroidered sheers – all kept simple, like a hung bolt of fabric. The fabrics speak for themselves.

**Best flooring?** Timber floors with colourful, modern, custom-designed rugs.

**Your all-time favourite piece of furniture?** Upholstered bedheads. We



*Period play: a graphic rug and glass coffee table turn traditional into modern*