

# STYLE and FOCUS



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## MIK GREEN'S HOME

Posted by: [Jo Carmichael](#) on 07/04/2014 | categories: [homes](#)



Movie at the original front door. Photography by Jody D'Arcy, Produced by Jo Carmichael.

There's many names for having a home nose and one of my favourites is rubber necking. I remember walking down the residential streets of London with a friend and she loved calling it that. Trying to pretend not to look but at the same time straining our necks to get a good look.

Things haven't changed much for me now, however as part of my work, I get to go inside these fabulous homes and even style them for magazines, it's hard work but a great job, then when flicking through the finish photographs, I get to share the real detail of how everything makes that interior interesting. Between Jody and I we get to see the big architectural or interior designed houses which are awesome but quite often it's the smaller, more real houses that I love. The ones where families come together and make the space homely, needed and special. Often practical, decorated on a budget and the build projects done with the help of friends and family that create great stories.

Today's house is just that and is owned by the very talented artist, Milk Green. We visited him last year ([interview here](#)) and was shown his extraordinary techniques of chemical reactions with paint and the art that they created. Whilst on that visit we were taken through his house and down to his studio at the bottom of the garden. Both Jody and I knew we had to visit this home again and meet the family- his wife Tash and three children Movie, Chess and Perrie that are all living in this heart of a home.



Movie, Chess and Tash looking through from the living room to the kitchen. Photography by Jody D'Arcy, Produced by Jo Carmichael.



Artwork on the wall by Milk Green/Chris Malajczuk. Suspension series #12 - 15. Sculptural works by Milk Green from the icosia series. Movie, Chess and Perry relaxing on custom sofa. Photography by Jody D'Arcy, Produced by Jo Carmichael.

The house is based in Maylands: it was purchased 7 years ago on a good-sized block, something they could improve on over time with a growing family. It was advertised as 'newly renovated', however on closer inspection it was apparent that it had been spruced up by the dodgy brothers. It had a long list of questionable improvements, the funniest being that some of the kitchen doors were glued shut and the inner shelves had massive holes in where the old flue had been previously connected. Aside from the renovation pitfalls, they fell in love with its high ceilings, wooden floors and the Australian big back yard. Space is at a premium in Perth so the original decision to buy in this area has never been regretted.

After moving in, the initial challenge was the original renovated kitchen. It was ripped out within two weeks, and then they traded the old laundry for an office/ study. This was a smart move as it's used by the family and also allows Milk to work from home. 'Poor Milk' says Tash: 'the moment he tidies up the office it is 10 minutes before one of us has taken it over and the floor can't be seen again! However their proudest achievement was to build the studio on the rear end of the block. Tash continues: 'It's been great for Milk to have a space where he can meet clients, create, store artwork & for the artist talks he runs'. The property has rear access so the studio can operate separately to the home.



Milk in his office shared by all the family. Painting in office by Janis Nedela, surrounded by works by Movie, Chess and Perry. Sculptural pieces (eurythmics: resin, auto paint) on wall by Milk Green. Photography by Jody D'Arcy, Produced by Jo Carmichael.

As a family they spend most of their time around the kitchen. "We love to cook and we all love to eat - kids included! The kitchen bench is always busy with creating, baking, homework, Lego building and the many cups of tea that must be consumed throughout the day" says Milk. "The best spot in the house is the breakfast bar: it's where pancakes happen on Sundays morning, pizzas are assembled and stories are exchanged." Milk cast the bench tops in concrete in the studio; they add a textural quality to the house, and sit nicely between the heritage aspects of the house and the modern sections.

Of course being an artist, Milk and Tash have a lot of original art around their home. "We are constantly changing work around. Milk will often get a phone call from his gallery (Linton & Kay here in Perth) saying a client is interested in one of his pieces hanging on our wall. We also have works by Janis Nedela, Kyle Hughes-Odgers, Merrick Belyea, Janine Della Bosca, Tom Freeman and others.

When asked about the cluster of chandeliers on the back veranda, Tash says: 'I've always loved chandeliers. I think they're pretty, especially in a cluster or unexpected places - we even have one hanging in our outdoor toilet. I would next love a massive chandelier in my bathroom!'



The Green family, Photography by Jody D'Arcy, Produced by Jo Carmichael.

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Hello and welcome to our Blog. We are Photographer Jody D'Arcy and Stylist Jo Carmichael. This Blog is about the interesting people and the beautiful creativity that we see as we work and live in WA, we wanted to share these finds with you.

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