

NATURAL COMMUNION

BY HEIDI OLIVIER • PROJECT CONSULTANT CANDICE JIN
PHOTOGRAPHER CANDICE ASKHAM





QUOIN CONSTRUCTION 011 464 7145

ABOVE: Quoin Construction designs, project-manages and builds a full range of properties, including homes, townhouse complexes, cluster homes, flats, offices, warehouses, schools and factories. With this property, the company achieved exactly what the owner (and the architect) envisioned: a home that oozes personality and projects family living.



"I would describe this space as semi-outdoors. It was for this reason that the veranda was turned sideways, so that the house 'embraced' the garden in an L-shaped plan," explains the owner.

Corner windows emphasise the principle, and there are no corner columns on the north-east of the living room.

Another important part of the home is the double-volume area, which is a purposefully dark and totally interior space. "This is the heartbeat of the house and the 'space of communion' where the family can gather around the table to share meals and life," he says. >

"The kitchen is positioned at a crucial point between the dining room, living room and veranda."

RIGHT: Human Voice Architects, also the owner, designed this home combining brick, stone and wood, which gives the property an earthy, natural look and grounds it in its environment. At the same time, the home maintains an ultra-modern feel through the use of large flat white planes interrupted by glass and steel structural elements.

BELOW RIGHT: Infiniti Fires manufactures a range of high-efficiency wood-burning stoves that are ideal for the open-plan spaces typical in today's homes. Due to their full vermiculite lining, the stoves produce large amounts of infrared heat through the glass door. This moves heat rapidly across the room and is perfect for heating large spaces.



HUMAN VOICE ARCHITECTS 011 268 6165



This talented architect and family man knew what he wanted in a home from the get-go. "The stand for sale was opposite the church and I like to attend daily mass. Being so close makes it possible, and, of course, working from home is a great advantage. It is very serene, with plenty of trees and birdlife. It is also centrally located, close to hubs like Rosebank and Sandton, but with the amazing 'green lung' of Delta Park just down the road," he says.

The primary space is the garden, which is treated like a "suburban piazza", around which the house, the veranda, the planter beds and the boma are arranged.

At ground level and upstairs facing the garden, the connection between indoors and outdoors is direct. Doors open right onto the lawn. The living area is an interior extension of the veranda, and with the doors open, it is difficult to know whether you are indoors or outdoors.



INFINITI FIRES 010 900 4111



“The primary space is the garden, which is treated like a ‘suburban piazza.’”

“In the evenings, the pendants above the table are switched on and all other lights are switched off; eating becomes transformed into an almost sacred rite, within a ‘room of light’ created within the greater dark room. The whole house plan is organised around this most important space,” he adds.

The kitchen is positioned at a crucial point between the dining room, living room and veranda, for ease of access. “Today’s lifestyle requires a host and hostess to be visible and accessible to their guests, and not cooped up in some enclosed room,” says the owner.

The kitchen island has been raised on legs to emphasise that it is an integral part of the furnishings of the open-plan space, rather than part of the “built-in kitchen” of the house.

This unusual home has brought the owner his own little piece of paradise. 🏡

CONTACTS:

HUMAN VOICE ARCHITECTS – contemporary architectural design
083 289 8951, architect@voxhumana.co.za, www.voxhumana.co.za

INFINITI FIRES – fireplaces
010 900 4111, malcolm@indefinitifires.co.za, www.indefinitifires.co.za

QUOIN CONSTRUCTION – construction
011 464 7145, iandabuilder@telkomsa.net,
www.quinconstruction.co.za

ROOFTOP LANDSCAPES – rooftop gardens
073 486 6288, justins@rooftoplandscapes.co.za,
www.rooftoplandscapes.co.za

