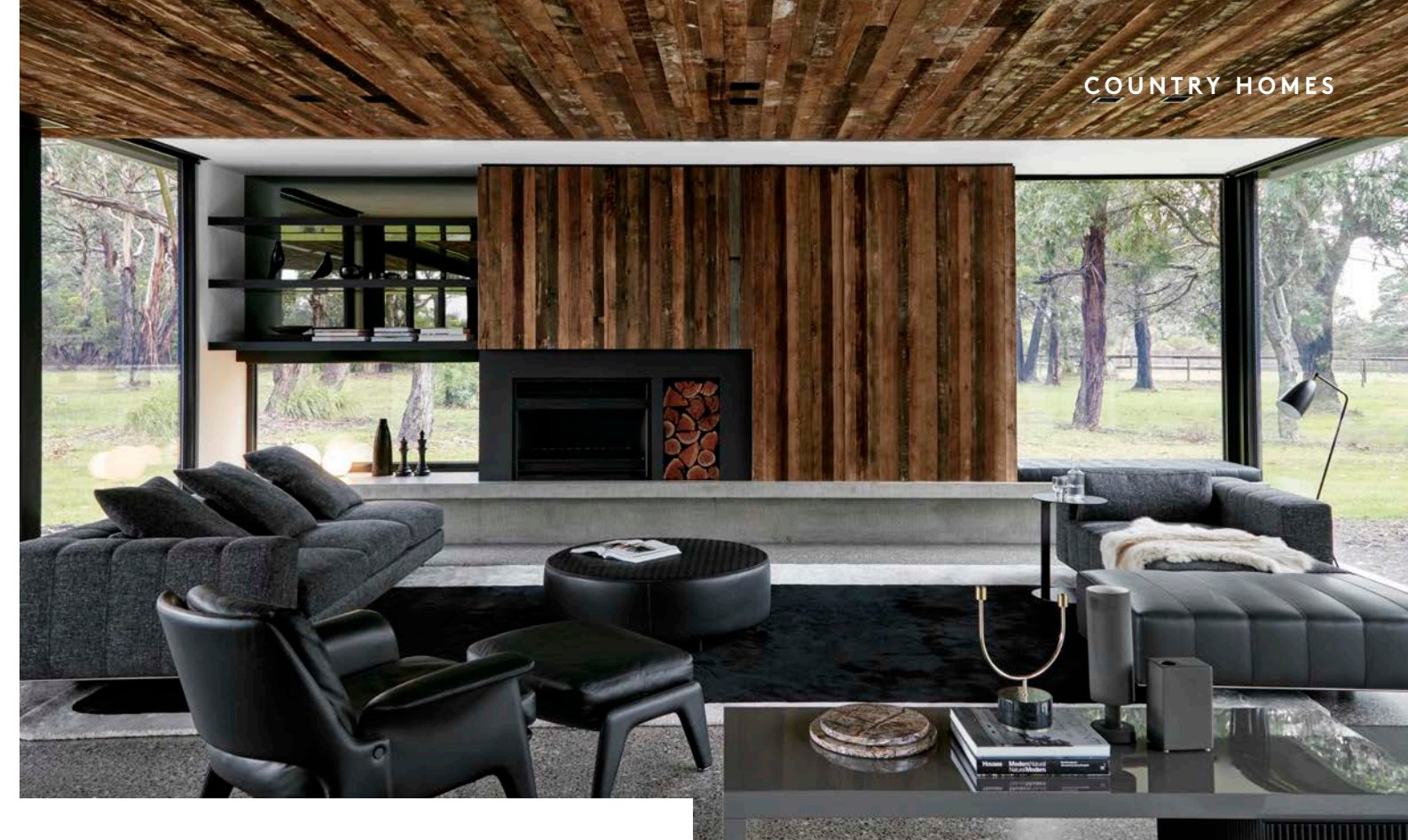




QUIET TIME

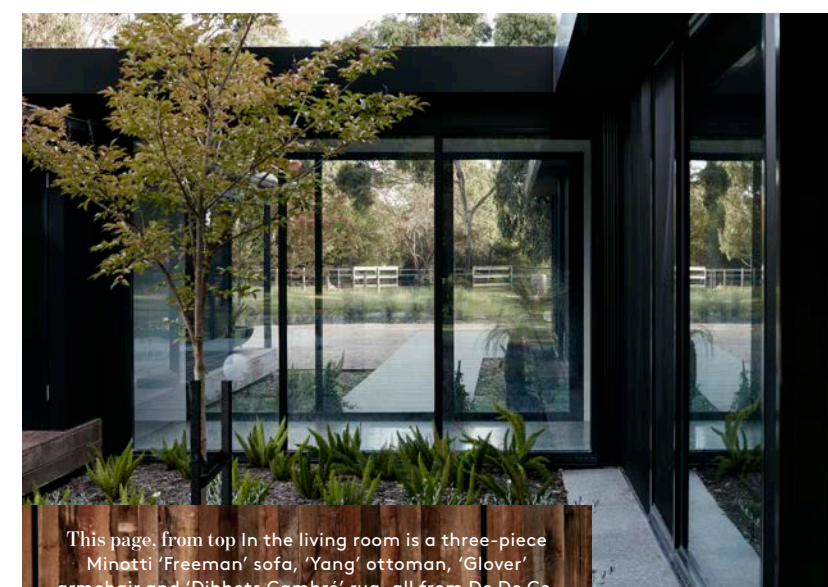
Expansive windows wrap around this Red Hill home and open up the serene scene outdoors.

Photographs **ELISA WATSON** Styling **SIMONE HAAG**



COUNTRY HOMES

Creating a connection with the outdoors was a key concern for Travis Walton and his team of architects and designers in ensuring this rural Victorian home was a luxurious escape that also allowed the owners to feel at one with the surrounding environment. *How did you become involved with this project and what was the brief?* This is the second residence we have created for this family. The brief was to extend the existing residence to create more living space for their growing family while also addressing a neglected 1970s kidney-shaped swimming pool. *What were the challenges of the site and how did you resolve them with your design scheme?* Careful spatial planning was required to ensure the new addition complemented the nearby native gum trees. This ultimately drove the size and proportion of the new addition, resulting in a series of single-width, open-plan spaces. The final is a freestanding box clad in recycled rough-sawn Australian Messmate timber set on top of exposed polished, aggregate concrete flooring. *How would you describe the completed project and what are some of your favourite design elements?* This residence is a modern rural retreat, a second home away from the client's inner-city residence. It is designed to be minimalistic in detail, robust and functional while maintaining a warm but strong connection to the landscape. The residence depicts an authentic and unpretentious interpretation of the modern Australian rural home. My favourite design elements are the strong forms of the in situ concrete which are equally complemented by the natural earthy tones of the recycled rough-sawn timber cladding. *How does the home respond to the surrounding landscape and its rural context?* Inspiration was drawn from the abundance of natural beauty in the surrounding environment, incorporating highly textured, raw and recycled materials. These raw materials are married with polished accents to achieve a balanced aesthetic that is sleek yet also offers an unequivocal connection to the outdoors that continually frames, reflects and references the native landscape. *What do you think is the appeal of country living, and particularly the location of this project?* Although only an hour's drive away from Melbourne, this style of country life allows the homeowners to escape the day-to-day city hustle and disconnect. The appeal is to have time to take things in and create connection in the family home while being surrounded by natural beauty. After all, time is the modern-day luxury. traviswalton.com.au



This page, from top In the living room is a three-piece Minotti 'Freeman' sofa, 'Yang' ottoman, 'Glover' armchair and 'Dibbets Cambré' rug, all from De De Ce. A glass bridge connects the new and existing buildings. In the entry corridor sits a Minotti 'Aylon' sideboard. Opposite page A Greta Grossman 'Grasshopper' floor lamp from Cult sits in front of generous windows that deliver uninterrupted views of native gums, blurring the lines between inside and out.

