

— THE SUMMER ISSUE —

# HOME. NZ

## The Great Escape

Getting away from it all: eight retreats in the bush and at the beach



AN ANGULAR  
DUNE HOUSE AT HAHEI  
BY PAUL CLARKE

Family, extended:  
two new baches at Langs  
and Waiheke

A delightful 1960s  
tramping hut in the  
Rimutakas

Mary Gaudin visits one of France's  
finest private art museums

Kitchens designed  
for entertaining



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**K:**

**Kitchens—**  
**Four designs**  
**reveal how clever**  
**they are in their**  
**own unique, yet**  
**understated ways.**

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Herbst Architects used copper in the kitchen splashback and also on the exterior of this Muriwai home.

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## DARK MATTER

Timber and copper contrast against a home's pristine gallery-white walls.

**Architects** ..... Herbst Architects  
**Text** ..... Suzanne Dale  
**Photography**.. Jackie Meiring  
**Location** ..... Muriwai, West Auckland  
**Brief** ..... As a key part of the home's beating centre, the kitchen needed to strike the right chord in tone and texture.

**Briefly describe the project.** NICOLA HERBST  
 The house is an exercise in extraversion – focusing out to the pristine New Zealand bush and beach views beyond. And introversion – focusing in on the art and books that are the treasures within.

**“The dark heart of the house”, as you refer to it, looks striking against the white gibbed walls throughout. Did you use any design elements to link the two or was ‘contrast’ the point? Although the kitchen, the double-height bookcase and panelling of the stairwell are a stark contrast, they were chosen to reference the dark-stained exterior cladding. The copper is another material employed both inside and out.**

**This oak kitchen doesn't display its structure in the same way that much of your work does, yet there is a lot of texture and interest here. How have you achieved that?** The architectural expression is about skin, not bones or expressed structure. This idea of skin is used internally, too, so for this reason we've chosen not to express the structure of the cupboards as we usually do. We've set off the oak-stained panels against pre-aged copper. The stained oak planks of the island bench give additional texture without introducing another material.

**The copper splashback is a luxurious touch – how does this compare durability-wise with more traditional materials? It's a very tricky finish to get right. How to patina it and how to arrest the patina and seal the copper turned out**



to be a complex task – there is no one solution. In the end, Powersurge assisted hugely in getting the finish right. Our client wanted the copper to be free of fingerprints so sealing it was the only way.

**This kitchen works almost as a piece of furniture. How have you handled storage?** All the tall storage required in the kitchen flanks the back bench. Fridge/freezer on the left and pantry on the right. The island has double-sided storage – the dining side caters for the second crockery set, vases and platters; the kitchen side has the sink, bin and dishwasher.

**Appliances** Fisher & Paykel oven, gas and induction hob, and steam oven; Miele integrated fridge, freezer and dishwasher. **Benchtops** Black 'Pearl' honed granite from PSP Stonecraft; dark stain on solid oak boards. **Flooring** Engineered tongue-and-groove French oak from Floorex. **Full-height cabinetry** Dark stain on oak veneer with solid oak clashings. **Handles** Chrome-plated black D-handles from Katalog. **Kitchen mixer** 'Cox' by Painsi with pull-out spray. **Sink** 'Kubus' in Onyx by Franke. **Splashback, sides and soffit** Pre-aged and sealed copper sheet on substrate by Powersurge.