

# 55 BLAIR ROAD

Vintage Revolution



**Owner:**  
Ms Alexis Fosler

**Architect:**  
Ong & Ong Pte Ltd

**Engineer:**  
KKC Consultancy Services

**Contractor:**  
JIA Construction Co Pte Ltd

*Exactly restored, the spectacularly ornamented façade of this two-storey terrace house belies its ethereal interior spaces of uncluttered whiteness. The project team has pushed the envelope in transforming the long and narrow spatial quality of the prewar house into a distinctively modern living abode that pays homage, in its own way, to its architectural ancestry.*

## Lost and Found

The house had previously been renovated and reconfigured to accommodate many rooms with ensuites. So its transformation into a seamless volume of internal space on both levels immediately seemed enlightening and refreshing.

## Gentle Reminders

Standing at the entrance on the ground floor, one can get a glimpse of the house's original shuttered casement windows upstairs through the original void at the second floor master bedroom which had been thoughtfully reinstated. Overlooking the master suite itself is a new second bedroom which features timber framed windows consistent with the original look and feel. The introduction of the



*Terrace house restored with subtle charm*

spiral staircase at the area just before the open-to-sky courtyard is another inspired addition that harks to the steel and winding fire escape stairs of old. These are among the few subtle reminders that one is within a vintage terrace house.

## Unconventional Approach

The new interior spaces are very well ventilated with good light penetration and air flow. The open-air courtyard, one of the most prized elements of this pre-war abode, is retained but given a clean break from the rear of the house with the removal of the conventional covered connection between the front of the property and its rear block. This questionable decision to remove this physical link does steal from the authenticity of the house. The jackroof and the roof profile that were retained also keep the historical veneer of the house respectfully intact.

The project team is commended for reconfiguring the spatial quality to suit the taste and specifications of its new generation owners while retaining subtle charms of terrace house living.



*New spiral staircase - an inspired addition*



*Front façade with decorative mouldings restored*



*Bedroom with timber-framed windows consistent with original*



*Open-to-sky courtyard with water feature*



*Interior reconfigured to suit owner's taste and specifications*