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## SIMPLE SCULPTURED STYLE

The Monterey was designed to fit and take maximum advantage of the site's constraints and benefits. The street frontage faces true north so The Ecology Group architects were able to design a house as a passive building which takes full advantage of the sun. The living room on the ground floor and the main bedroom to the upper floor both face true north.

This house has a contiguous philosophy that entails clean lines, smart concealed cupboards and, together with smart skirting and light, allows the house to breathe in an air of simplicity that is both relaxing and comfortable. With simple colours and lines, the building is brought to life via fantastic texture and use of materials.

The Monterey is all white and has simple, strong lines with a minimalist approach to all elements. It boasts a sharp, clean finish with a simple embodiment of a sculptured piece.

Due to site constraints and council regulations, this site afforded the opportunity to design the garage area underneath the house with a sloping driveway to the underfloor basement area. The design of the house enabled the construction of retaining walls which could carry 60,000 litres of water in the basement area. This water is available for all on-site washing, cleaning, pool top up, etc.

Above ground level, this home has been completed entirely of a light-gauge steel frame, structural steel and Hebel floor and wall panels. The roof is clad in Klip-lok roof sheeting. The use of these materials made the construction process very efficient, taking just 10 months.

As you enter the house under the large entry awning, there's a textured wall that you just want to touch. The front door opens into an air lock that protects the interior from losing warmth in winter. At this mid upper-ground level the entry opens to the living room, which boasts a feature fireplace and TV on the western wall, the main feature of the room. Sitting on the couch, the view to the street is clear and privacy is afforded as the room is raised 1.5m above the natural ground.

Turning south, the house opens to the rear yard space. Access is via five steps that cascade down to an eight-seat dining area with light on the western feature wall coming via a sculpted sandstone textured wall; light is provided by a roof clerestory. The dining area is open plan and connected to the kitchen with its oversized benchtop. The kitchen then opens to the rear yard and covered barbecue area and plunge pool. The rear pergola is a series of textures, with silver louvre blades creating a shaded space.

The upper floor is accessed via a single-run stair made of a steel stringer and hardwood steps; a glass balustrade connects at the upper level to a bridge that joins the bedrooms and bathroom. The bedrooms are spacious but the highlight of the upper floor is the ingenious bathrooms. Both main and ensuite have a solid wall to the east and a full-height glass wall to the west, about 1.1m away from the sandstone textured wall that cascades down to the living room. Absolute privacy is maintained in the bathrooms and both share the sunlight from the east-facing clerestory on the roof.

**JUDGES' COMMENTS:** A well-designed modern residence that incorporates all the needs of a family home. Finishes throughout are excellent, with the polished concrete ground floor being a standout feature. This entry includes all landscaping and a swimming pool. Great job.

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Licence number: 185903C  
Floor area: 310m<sup>2</sup>  
Design: The Monterey