



Southern splendour

Arrowtown | Otago

When the homeowners were planning their dream home in Arrowtown, they wanted it to be big enough to host a cavalcade of family and friends, but cosy enough for two. They spent two years in the design phase with architect Anna-Marie Chin and builder Paul Rogers before the home got off the ground. “There was a house on the site, which we tried to remodel, but we realised that was never going to work,” says the homeowner.

The clients sought to maximise views of Lake Hayes, the Remarkables, and Coronet Peak. Their new home had to complement the landscape, using materials and colours that would blend in and weather over time.

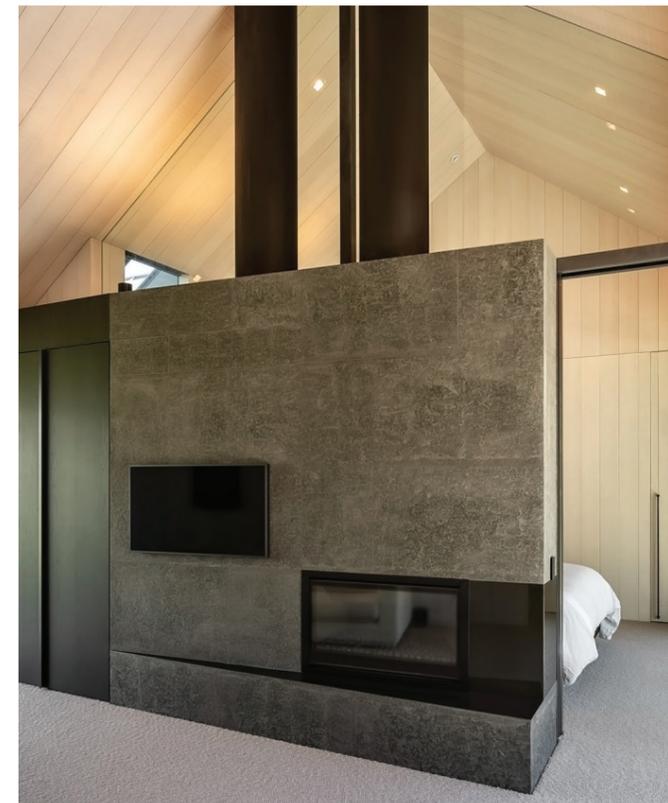
With 35 years’ experience in the Queenstown area, RBJ knew they could bring the homeowners’ wishes to life. “We have been fortunate to do so many great projects, we feel there is really nothing we cannot build.”

The steel structural and concrete precast work was one of the first hurdles of the 1000m² build. “The precast work is completely visible on four sides, so everything had to be absolutely perfect,” says Paul.

The homeowner was impressed with Paul and the RBJ team during the entire process. “They were very open to changes and were focused on the correct outcome rather than what was easier for them.”

“It matches our needs perfectly and the quality is fantastic. Paul and the RBJ team are more than builders: they are artists.”

The crew built 16 bespoke interior doors – some panel, some pivot, and some with metal skins. Natural materials bring the outdoors inside, with gorgeous woods like Southland beech, recycled rimu, and American oak. The gap between the wooden ceiling and wall panels is only three millimetres, so every window, panel and piece of steel had to be precisely installed. Tongue and groove construction contributes to the seamless sophistication of this solid home.



The exterior is robed in schist, zinc, and iron-pasted steel sheets. A lush, green roof of tussock and native shrubs conceals the underground garage.

Inside, the interplay of a vaulted, beech kitchen ceiling with large windows creates an atrium feel. A sunroom plus nine chimneys, with six fires, provide additional sources of light and warmth. Paul says despite the build's grand scale, it still feels homely. "It has nice, soft textures with all the wood. It is very liveable."

The homeowner says the new masterpiece is everything he and his wife wanted – and more. The home is perfect for entertaining and hosting. Separate living areas mean guests can have as much togetherness or as much privacy as they wish. "We are absolutely rapt with the outcome," says the homeowner. "It matches our needs perfectly and the quality is fantastic. Paul and his team are more than builders: they are artists." 🏡

NZCB Member / Paul Rogers

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