

Farm TO FANCOURT



When Japanese cleaning consultant Marie Kondo wrote her bestselling book *"The Life-changing Magic of Tidying Up"* in 2014, little did she know she was setting a global design trend. This new home in Fancourt's latest exclusive canton, Noem Noem, certainly pays homage to the art of creating a neat living space.





PHOTOGRAPHS DIV MARITZ PHOTOGRAPHY

At Noem Noem, named after the Natal plum plant or Karoo num num, the orientation is all about taking in the views of the Outeniqua Mountains and the award-winning private golf course, The Links. The inspiration for the architecture of the homes is 'country living', in keeping with the estate's Links Ridge and Montagu Ridge. Slate tiles and earthy paint colours have been used, and glass and hardwood decking invite homeowners to enjoy both sunshine and the views.

True to Kondo, the Japanese organising guru's style, the brief for this particular cutting edge Fancourt home was 'modern and contemporary'. "The client, a farmer and keen golfer from the Free State, wanted a clutter-free design with clean and simple lines, and yet impactful for his holiday home," says Knysna-based interior designer Marié de Lange.

Marié was involved in the project at the foundation phase – in 2018. Before this, although she studied fashion design in Cape Town, Marié

transitioned to an architectural firm focusing on interiors. She then worked for a leading interior design firm before relocating to the Garden Route in 2014 to start Kaza Interiors.

"I would first consider the function of the room and the 'feel' it needed to have," explains Marié, "and every element was thoughtfully designed." For example, being aware that the client loved the effect of light, she had a lot of fun designing interesting bulkheads and elements that would project soft light.

"Although the client wanted to be involved with the design process, he gave me enough creative freedom to be able to be inspired and do my own thing," says Marié, who specifically chose the 'happy' focal piece – a sculptural yellow chair – for the neutral living room space.

She commissioned other local suppliers, including Stiles and The Tile House, and furniture was custom made by Fechtters and Meyer von Wielligh. In addition, a few of the items in the home were sourced from stores such as Weylandts in Knysna.



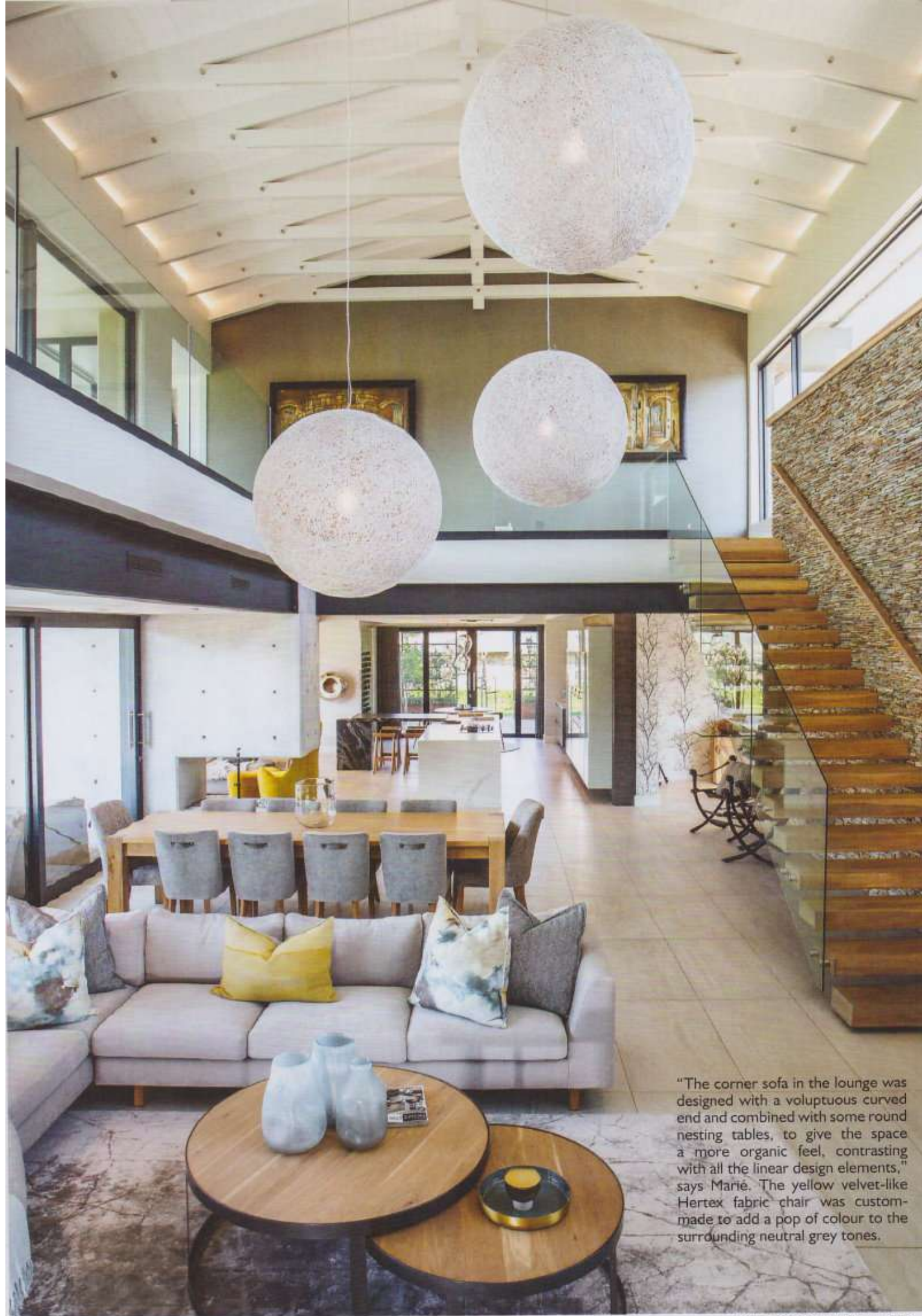
Marlé wanted the main bedroom to have a luxurious feel and used charcoal tinted glass and dark wood for the dressing room and coffee station, and a statement bulkhead with soft lighting above the bed. "We added a plush carpet and pebble burner fireplace to add a touch of glamour."



The kitchen is a clever mix of neutral tones and gloss and matte textures. Floating elements contrast with a heavy black cantilevering granite slab used as a breakfast counter.



The en-suite bathrooms are partially open towards the bedrooms, and privacy screens create interest while still being functional.



"The corner sofa in the lounge was designed with a voluptuous curved end and combined with some round nesting tables, to give the space a more organic feel, contrasting with all the linear design elements," says Marië. The yellow velvet-like Hertex fabric chair was custom-made to add a pop of colour to the surrounding neutral grey tones.