

HOME DESIGN EXPO 2014



Ferreiras
Tile + Bathroom

Out of the Ordinary™



BLUE HILLS
COUNTRY & EQUESTRIAN ESTATE

HOME DESIGN

06



▶ ARCHITECT

Nico van der Meulen
Architects

▶ BUILDER

Chalkline Construction

SPECS

- House size 859m²
- North Facing
- 4x Bedrooms
- 4x Garages
- 2x Staff Bedrooms
- Gym, Study, Home Theatre
- Pool & Water Feature
- Large terraced landscaped platforms

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HOME DESCRIPTION

Situated within the heart of Midrand this uniquely designed home boasts 859m² of luxurious space within a secured nature estate. Promising the best of country living within a bustling city, this house responds well to its natural setting.

The brief was for a spacious, comfortable, family home that encourages outdoor living and places priority on open plan design thus enabling the home owners to entertain with ease while appreciating the breathtaking views of their surroundings.

The concept was based around that of a contemporary farm house, with simple pitched roofs becoming the focal point of the design. The concept is more than just a style, it's a way of life, a practicality that translates into spaces and functionality within this home. It's the uniqueness of the design to gracefully take its place between an established forest of trees, a stream running through it and some large rocky outcrops, and in doing so creating a home that's perfectly nestled in nature.

The extremely private site is sheltered by a forest of trees and natural rocky outcrops. Having the sense that you have just stepped foot into a bush lodge, it appears that the driveway has been perfectly positioned to weave you through the rocks and trees all the while concealing the house. As you make your way down towards the stream, the terraced landscaped platforms seamlessly merge the natural with the designed bearing proof that you are closer to approaching this beautifully designed home. Finally revealed, the two main rectangular forms bear witness to the concept that was clearly aimed at containing most of the spaces within these two pitched roofs. Perfectly extruded cantilevered cubes catch your attention as you realize these blocks seem to hover in mid air while the roof floats on large expanses of glass.



▶ **THE CONCEPT IS MORE THAN JUST A STYLE, IT'S A WAY OF LIFE**

Large overhangs shade the living rooms ensuring this house is kept cool in summer and warm in winter. The layout allows for uninhibited movement and connections between rooms thanks to its open plan nature which makes this home great for entertaining. Incorporating natural materials like rusted steel, off shutter concrete and earthy colors, this contemporary farm house effortlessly blends in with its surroundings.

Designing for a steeply sloping site can often pose to be challenging but in this instance, it is these very conditions that shaped and inspired the design to allow for terraces that frame the landscape and pools that reflect the house while allowing for uninterrupted views of the stream to the south as well as the north. This design not only pushed boundaries on structure and materials but also in the way it responds to the landscape, making it a home to be admired.



▶ **HOME OWNERS CAN ENTERTAIN WITH EASE WHILE APPRECIATING THE BREATH-TAKING VIEWS**



NICO VAN DER MEULEN ARCHITECTS

The architectural practice, Nico van der Meulen Architects, was established in 1984 by owner and founder Nico van der Meulen and his wife Santa. Nico grew up in a farm near the border between South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe and spent most of his childhood building bridges and structures using whatever material he could find on the farm. This was the first expression of Nico's passion for architecture. He initially studied civil engineering, explored project management and finally registered as a professional architect.

Nico van der Meulen Architects focuses on designing innovative, luxurious homes, both contemporary and traditional, tailored to the tastes and needs of the client. The practice remains at the forefront of design by exploring new forms, pushing the boundaries and evolving with technology, without compromising on the authenticity of the design, aesthetics, materials and originality. Beautiful yet functional, all the projects reiterate the practice's approach to sustainable design which is grounded in passive design principles. Having worked on projects in environmentally sensitive areas such as Waterberg Biosphere and Brits Golf Course in South Africa, sustainability is more than a concept, but a standard that is regularly practiced.

CHALKLINE CONSTRUCTION

Chalkline Construction's goal is to change the perception of the residential building industry, we ensure that we deliver according to what we promise. Chalkline Construction offers a Specialist Building team for the construction of your home and Chalkline Design offers you the platform from which to design your home – our panel of Architects work hand in hand with you in designing your home and more importantly, hand in hand with Construction in building your home thereby ensuring there is no disconnect between design and budget. A massive differentiating factor is that our team of Specialist's guide you through the Construction process. 90% of clients are unfamiliar with the process and our Procurement, Finishing, Administration and Supplier Management team support our clients through every step of the process. Chalkline focuses on the Middle to Upper end of the residential property market with our projects ranging from R3m to R20m. We fully understand that your home is not only a massive financial investment, but it also a huge emotional investment. Chalkline guides our clients through the process.

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This home was specifically designed to fit into this prestigious lifestyle estate. It conforms to the Blue Hills' uniquely South African style of architecture which embraces "green living" and open space.

For more information on this estate or to arrange an exclusive meeting, please feel free to contact our representative:

Rob Emmett:
— 082 882 5087 —



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