As in past years, this category has proved to be the largest, with more entries received for IDEA 2016 than ever before. The diversity of each of the designs is remarkable and every project reflects the talent and expertise of the designer. The shortlisted entries speak volumes about the sophistication of Australian homes, those who design them and those who live in them.

01 SORRENTO BEACH HOUSE
D | AM ARCHITECTURE
P | DIANA BRAMB
A new dwelling located on Victoria’s first settlement site of 1803, on Sullivan’s Bay, Sorrento Beach House begins as an austere and robust object in the landscape which then relaxes and responds to its natural environment as it approaches the water.

02 BOWER
D | ANDREW SIMPSON ARCHITECTS
P | PETER BENNETS
All houses in some way resonate with the history of lives spent together; as such the project inscribes the owners’ joint experiences, as accepted into the spatial character of the building. These previous experiences and memories have been architecturally manifested as a celebration of the owners’ shared aspiration for their home.

03 FITZROY LOFT
D | ARCHITECTS EAT
P | DEREK SWALWELL
Comprising a warehouse conversion inside the 125-year-old MacRobertson chocolate factory in Fitzroy, Victoria, the project brings light and air deep into the home, while maintaining the integrity and context of its historical significance. For example, three internal voids highlight the original factory heights.

04 FLUID APARTMENT
D | ARCHITECTURE SAVILLE ISAACS
P | KATE BAYER
This city apartment renovation denotes an intuitive response to the iconic location and unusually shaped building. Delivered as one large, open, light-filled space, all wet areas, services and storage are contained within curvilinear joinery walls that undulate to soften the space.

05 DOUBLE BAY HOUSE
D | ARENT&PYKE
P | FELIX FOREST
Bringing the personality and warmth of a young family into the cool, interior of this bayside house, the design points communication and flow as essential to living. As such, the grand staircase was remodelled as a visually dynamic, perpetually unfurling vector traversing the three floors.

06 KATE’S HOUSE
D | BOWER ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIORS
P | SHANON MCRATH
Driven by the owners’ need for ‘a house for living in’, the design of this single storey extension is centred in between the renovation of the original 1960s house. Filled with joy, texture and surprising spaces, the interiors symbolically embrace the owners’ thinking art and ‘stuff’ and continually frame connections to the outdoors.

07 DARLING POINT APARTMENT
D | CHENCHOW LITTLE
P | PETER BENNETS
Forging a focus on surface treatments; this apartment floor captures and embraces the feeling geometry of the original 1970s apartment building to give it renewed life. The client’s extensive art-work collection is innovatively displayed with flexible joinery, allowing the client a perpetually evolving curated life.

08 UNFURLED HOUSE
D | CHRISTOPHER POLLY ARCHITECT
P | BRETT BOORMAN
An articulated lightweight volume is sensitively attached to the retained Federation envelope as part of this environmental, economic and planning values. The design harnesses the fall of the site to the rear and unfurls a cellular front plan into a series of connected interior spaces that expand to its setting.