

beelle

AUSTRALIA

HOLLYWOOD
STYLE ELEGANCE

BY KELLY WEARSTLER
DAVID JIMENEZ
AND GREG NATALE

NEW YORK
STATE OF MIND
A DESIGNER'S
BIG APPLE
ADDRESS BOOK

END SPY
ney and gold,
geous glass and
new geometrics

WHITEMAN
NETH COBONPUE
HI LEVIEN

LUXURY & GLAMOUR

Amazing ideas from the world's most beautiful homes



LEFT Deer antlers, clean lines and the pitched roof add to the Scandinavian aesthetic at Fjäll. RIGHT Rustic outside, luxurious inside. BELOW Dining room with a view.



Mountain high

Traditional elements combine with designer chic in these alpine apartments.

IN STARK CONTRAST to interior designer Paul Hecker's vast portfolio (which includes the Ivy in Sydney and Melbourne's Bistro Guillaume) is his first alpine project: a ski lodge in Falls Creek, Victoria, transformed into six residential apartments in association with Salter Architects for Rise Developments. "The existing building was pretty ordinary," says the Hecker Phelan & Guthrie designer. "The project was to turn the shell into five apartments and a one-off penthouse for the owner." The space embodies the traditional elements of a Scandinavian chalet while remaining modern and responding to the surrounding environment of Victoria's alpine country.

With tongue-in-cheek references to the quintessential ski lodge scattered throughout, Paul is quick to point out that everything has been adapted to suit the modernity of the building. "We didn't want to slavishly make it identical to the images from movies. For example, we have used a solid timber dining table with classic chairs." The Eiffel-base chairs were designed by Charles and Ray Eames. Combined with deerskins, cowhide and timber wall panelling, the addition of timeless pieces creates a dialogue between the traditional and the new. Other pieces range from custom-made tables from Mark Tuckey and chess-like Zeus stools to the iconic butterfly chair.

Colour is purposely kept neutral so as to make the natural surroundings the focal point for residents. "So many people try to create a city feel in their holiday homes. In my mind, if you want to create an alpine house, it should look as if it's in the mountains."

So why has the apartment building been named Fjäll? "It was simply a sly way of making the apartments sound Scandinavian," explains Paul. "The building has raked ceilings, a pitched roof, and is clad in timber - there is no mistaking what it is." With the deer antlers on display over the fireplace, it seems Falls Creek is the new Finland.

For more information on Fjäll, visit fjall.com.au

