

GRAND DESIGNS



November 2011 £3.85

Inspiring you to create your dream home

TV special! Exclusive look at the artists' barn

PLUS TV architect George Clarke's home • Modern new-builds • Victorian renovation

INCREASE YOUR LIVING SPACE

6 clever projects you must see

RENOVATE OR REBUILD

Expert advice to guarantee you make the right decision

BEST OF BRITISH

Latest UK designs for lighting, storage, furniture & more

New kitchen styles to update your interior

GONE OVER YOUR BUDGET?

Money-saving bathroom solutions from £200-£3,000

STYLE FINDERS Wood-burning stoves • Kitchen bar stools • Desks • Flooring





EYE CATCHER **Black bunker** *Words Sarah Baldwin Photography Peter Bennetts*

With its imposing, steel-plated facade, this is the kind of house you'd want to live in were there to be an apocalypse. But rather than an emergency bunker, it's the two-bedroom home of architects Bruno Mendes and Amy Muir (+61 3 9686 6868; muirmendes.com). Located in a narrow lane in South Melbourne, Australia, this house was designed by the couple to reflect the site's industrial heritage – it used to hold a nineteenth-century

workman's cottage, and the new pitch roof mimics the old shape. Termite-proofing was another motivation for the material choice; the house features steel doors, window frames and joinery, as well as a tallow-wood floor that's equally unpalatable to the bugs. Despite its impenetrable look, the interior is filled with light, thanks to the drawbridge-like flap to the front window and the skylight that runs from the entrance to the rear of the property.