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MARTIN BATH NO. 3

The Well-lived Tub

It's one that's designed for long, loitering soaks with a good book at hand.

THE CLIENT Steven Byrson, banker, East Melbourne

THE DESIGNER Matthew Patrick Smyth

THE IDEA Smyth had to convert a very tight five-sq-ft black marble bathroom into something that felt like an open loft. The design started, literally, from the ground up. "When we walked into Paris Courtyard, Steven fell in love with these enclosed, limestone tiles," he says. "We felt similarly passionate about the Agape 'Spout' bathtub they found at Moss.

THE SOLUTION To contrast to the rest of the apartment, which has more extensive, deep colors, Smyth kept the bathroom neutral and warm. The tub went in the corner, in part because it's a showpiece, but also because that angle lets Byrson admire the East River views while relaxing.

The glass sliding wall
It allows the shower area to let in light from the rest of the bathroom while still creating a plenty of light.

The circular mirror
Popped by a halogen ring, it comes from Agfa Italia, so do the mirrored cabinets (although only one is visible). The round, Waterworks studs add to the design.

The wood accessories
Lightly polished, it provides a visual contrast to the walls, floor tiles but still ties into the overall color scheme.

The bathtub
It's positioned so that Byrson can see the Queensboro Bridge and the Upper East while soaking.

The shelves
Custom-made built-ins from locally sourced stone fill with smaller items.

The floor
Smyth derived the entire palette from these Agape's Aqueduct Stone tiles found at Paris Courtyard.



