

red design

Atticus & Milo



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Titus Pomponius Atticus and Titus Annius Milo Papianus were both public dignitaries, who championed the merits of Greek arts and culture in Ancient Rome. The resulting fusion of Greek form with Roman function laid the foundations of modern European design. Recognising this synthesis is a small design studio in Hawthorn, which adopted the names of the Ancient Roman visionaries.

Atticus and Milo was established in 2001 by former IT management and marketing consultant Caecilia Potter. Having studied interior design while working in the corporate sector, she was keen to forge a business from her creative pursuits. What began as a small, ground-floor shop has evolved into a double-storey design studio, which continues to balance aesthetic ideals (form) with the practical requirements of its clientele (function).

The showroom's Fornasetti wallpaper, depicting classic Roman buildings, reveals emphases on colour and texture. Natural fibre textiles and materials such as timber and stone are also prevalent. Products are sourced both locally and globally, with Potter a regular patron at international design fairs. Her endless list of favourites includes Carl Pickering's architectural pieces, wild fabrics from Timorous Beasties and Dutch-designed furnishings.

The studio keeps an open book, charging design and transaction fees but passing wholesale prices and trade discounts directly onto clients. Subsequently, its folio is a full one. It includes extensions for period and contemporary homes, as well as interiors for inner-city penthouse apartments and rural and beach retreats. A passionate art collector, Potter also advises clients on artwork selection and she's currently contemplating a Masters of Architecture. Messieurs Atticus and Milo could not have envisaged a better understudy.