

# Of Light and Air

This modern corner terrace house by Quarters Architects and Mosh Interior is shaped by nature and illumination, resulting in a calm, harmonious home

In design circles, collaboration is a word that is often cited, yet rarely fully realized. Deep, meaningful partnerships thrive on shared vision, mutual trust, and negotiation between individual freedoms and group goals. For design partners Felicia Toh and Kenneth Koh from Quarters Architects and Shermaine Maena Ong from Mosh Interior, the trifecta of ingredients were serendipitously in the brew.

The Breeze House is one such outcome of the trio's collaborative process, eased by a friendship that stretches back twenty years.

## INVITING NATURE

Tucked away in one of Singapore's residential enclaves, this five-bedroom abode is a gentle study in integration, defined by a reverence for the outdoors, prioritising natural light, thoughtful cross-ventilation, and biophilic elements. "If nature were a welcome and ever-present guest, how would it reframe the living space?" This was the question aligning the design concept in both the architectural and interior aspects.

Across design scales from within to without, the living environment breathes their shared intent: to create a lush, layered and light-filled haven for daily living, for the family and their pets alike.

From the outset, Quarters' architectural team, Kenneth Koh, Felicia Toh and Frances Lai, envisioned an environment of layered gardens that would feel like home for the family and its beloved pets. The resulting structure unfolds across multiple levels, connected by a staggered layout, an internal courtyard, and streamlined features that ensure the property's lush views can be enjoyed from every level.







“We share an appreciation for space, light, and nature”



**This spread, clockwise from bottom left:** The clean-lined kitchen opens generously to the outdoors; the living area with a staircase featuring “floating” timber treads that lend a sense of lightness; a light well beside the staircase invites sunlight and breezes in; Mosh Interior founder Shermaine Maena Ong

**Opening page:** The street-facing facade of the Breeze House

## MOSH INTERIOR

Mosh Interior was founded by Shermaine Maena Ong with a simple aim: to design homes that bring joy to everyday life. The studio’s work spans apartments, landed houses and elegant office spaces across Singapore—always prioritising liveability, ease, and emotional warmth. Eschewing fleeting trends, Ong and her team focus on timeless, human-centric solutions that balance beauty with purpose.



bathing the interior in intriguing shadow patterns that shift throughout the day.

Voluminous and serene, the living room sits at the confluence of these spatial gestures. Its lofty height amplifies the home’s modern look, yet it remains grounded by the surrounding greenery.

### IN SYMBIOSIS

“We share an appreciation for space, light, and nature, which enabled us to create a house that can fully open up to its surrounding garden spaces and green views,” they reflect.

Nature is always present within the home, shaping the living space on every level and around every corner. While this is one of the abode’s defining features, it also posed one of the greatest challenges. Putting a poetic brief into practice, the architects incorporated a series of complex features, ranging from a special timber staircase to a series of breeze blocks that characterises the house’s unique facade.

### A LAYERED HOME

The spatial narrative of the abode is anchored by a striking sculptural element: a “floating” timber staircase. Composed of suspended wooden treads that ascend through the courtyard, it offers more than a means of vertical circulation—it also acts as a visual focal point as well as a representation of the home’s spirit of openness.

The architecture of the house itself follows a split-level strategy, encouraging both air and light to weave through the structure. A generous light well, screened by a trellis, draws in dappled sunlight that cascades through the atrium,

### FROM THE OUTSIDE IN

Even when approached from outdoors, the house reveals its personality through a facade that is porous yet protective. Concrete breeze blocks form a defining motif, offering privacy while facilitating circulation to keep the house cool. Slits of light filter through the perforated surfaces, animating the walls with fleeting shadows. A verdant layer of cascading plants adds a biophilic touch.

A concealed external staircase, nestled among the facade’s rectilinear volumes, discreetly links one of the daughters’ bedrooms to the family room, functioning as a





**This page, from top:** A view of the home's split levels from the kitchen and dining area; a porous perspective from the study; the bedroom features the same "floating" carpentry to convey lightness

**Opposite page, clockwise from bottom left:** This loft bedroom incorporates both a window and a skylight; Quarters Architects co-founders Felicia Toh (left) and Kenneth Koh (right); this bedroom opens out to a balcony with a railing constructed from breeze blocks



private pathway that subtly deepens the home's sense of intimacy.

Inside, the home continues its quiet dialogue with the outdoors. The pantry opens out into the rear yard and side garden; sliding and folding glass doors dissolve the boundaries between the indoors and outdoors; and a bedroom opens out to a breezy balcony, seamlessly expanding its footprint.

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## QUARTERS ARCHITECTS

Founded by Felicia Toh and Kenneth Koh, the team at Quarters Architects are design multi-linguists whose design fluency crosses architectural, interior and branding consultancies to create immersive worlds that give tangible form to clients' stories. From landed homes and shophouse hotels to workspace design, the studio's empathetic approach avoids the formulaic and instead, thoughtfully creates spaces of beauty, wonder and well-being.



PHOTOGRAPH BY GUTTER CREDIT

