

Go Visit

Loving Home

It's seldom you meet a homeowner who is totally satisfied with every aspect of his or her renovations. Most have 'if only' stories, and 'in hindsight' regrets. Not so for Jeffrey Tan, the founder of AOX Water. He loves his home, and so does everyone in it.

Roomshot images courtesy of 2nd Phase Design.



A common staircase connects all four levels



Jeffrey serenades Christy



Group hug and huddle in the master bedroom

Home is a place where you can let down your hair, relax and enjoy the peace and tranquility. It is a safe haven – where you feel warmth and love.

– Jeffrey Tan



FOUR LEVELS OF LIGHT AND SPACE

Situated in a group of cluster homes off Braddell Road, the Tan family home is filled with sunlight and space. It is home to six people, namely Jeffrey Tan and his wife Christy: his daughter Christabel, a young working adult in the creative industry aged 23; younger daughter Joy, a university student aged 21; son John, a committed student at Serangoon Junior College, aged 17; a helper, two dogs and countless koi.

The noteworthy layout of the home includes a basement garage and guest room, with a staircase leading up to the first level that accommodates the large

kitchen and living area. The second level houses the three children's bedrooms, and the uppermost level is occupied by the expansive master bedroom.

THE BRIEF, MET AND EXCEEDED

The Tans purchased their home in March 2013 and renovated shortly after. Their brief to the interior design firm was to create a home with minimal maintenance requirements and generous storage space. At a glance, it is clear that the sleek uncluttered rooms, draped in soothing neutrals and fitted with copious customised cabinetry, fully met the design brief.

An original but redundant feature of the first level of the house, a four-person jacuzzi that looked out onto the garden, was removed and replaced with rustic wood lookalike flooring. It now houses a timber outdoor table setting, the venue



The only item from the Tans' former home: a salvaged church pew



Abundant concealed storage space fulfils the brief to the ID firm

for many happy family barbecues and steamboats, and a koi pond.

A LITTLE PIECE OF THE PAST

One thing that was almost conspicuous in its absence was the lack of nostalgic clutter – all those bits and pieces and dust-collecting knick-knacks found in multi-generational family homes had no place in this sleek, clean, contemporary home. The only concession to the past was a salvaged wooden church pew that augments the seating in the outdoor table setting. Jeffrey confirmed that it was in fact the only thing that the family had brought with them from their previous home.

We marvelled at the discipline of so much 'letting go'. And yet, based on the very evident closeness of the Tans, we realised that this was the type of family that would never let go of the strong family bonds that united them. They were making new memories, together, every day, including the day of our visit!



John jamming in his bedroom

FAVOURITE PLACES

When asked to single out a favourite room, Jeffrey cited the master bedroom on the fourth level. Conspicuously large, with a vast bathroom attached, it is edged by a deep balcony that affords an uplifting view of the skyline and swimming pool. Warm parquet flooring, a futuristic transparent light fitting, and an opulent padded headboard create a look of contemporary understated luxury.

Though officially Mum and Dad's hangout, the master bedroom is a favourite spot for

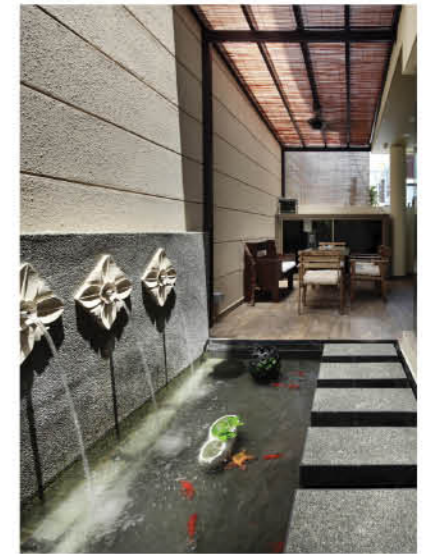
A favourite spot of the entire family is the living room, a soothing sunlit enclave of neutral colour, deep cream-coloured sofas and wooden paneling. A mirrored wall behind the TV console optically enlarges the space, and a large floor rug in caramel tones anchors the focal point around a marble-topped round coffee table.

It is here in this cosy living room that movies and favourite TV shows are watched, music is played and conversations are enjoyed. Apparently mum Christy is a fan of Korean dramas, and enjoys sharing her personal evaluations of the male leads' relative handsomeness with her somewhat disinterested daughters.

DRINKING TO THE FAMILY'S HEALTH

Obviously a close-knit family, the Tans like to do the usual things at home, including cooking with the namesake product of their family business, AOX water. The house is fitted with four AOX water dispensers, in the kitchen, in the dining area, in the kids' communal bathroom and in the master bedroom.

Jeffrey shared that all the household cooking is done with AOX water. Every member of the family starts the day by drinking a glass of detoxifying AOX water, and splashes it over their bodies and



The koi pond



One of the household's four AOX water dispensers

faces as a toner. In fact, Christy's radiant complexion makes her the ideal living, walking advertisement for the product of the family business.

DOING MUCH... AND NOTHING MUCH

Two impeccably coiffed and adorably friendly little fluffballs of dogs, Sheltie and Mao Mao, ensure that there's always a friend to play with at home. Christabel likes to teach them tricks for treats – both dogs can sit and shake hands on cue. John loves to play drums in his room, Jeffrey likes to read books in his iPad, Christy enjoys her Korean dramas, and Joy, the intellectual of the family, loves to read. And everyone, without exception, enjoys just being at home.

Jeffrey spoke for everyone in that loving home when he said: "Home is a place where you can let down your hair, relax and enjoy the peace and tranquility. It is a safe haven – where you feel warmth and love."

Thank you, Jeffrey and family. We felt the warmth and love.



L to R: Sheltie (held), Christabel, John, Joy, Mao Mao (held)

the whole family to gather, swap stories and share jokes. This loving family was more than happy to oblige our photographer with an energetic romp and group hug on the bed. Jeffrey added that he loves his koi pond, a long rectangular expanse with Balinese-inspired water features. He finds that the sight of the fish gracefully weaving their way through the water is conducive to relaxation and meditation. His older daughter Christabel enjoys feeding the koi and beholding the mini feeding frenzy that a sprinkling of fish food incites.