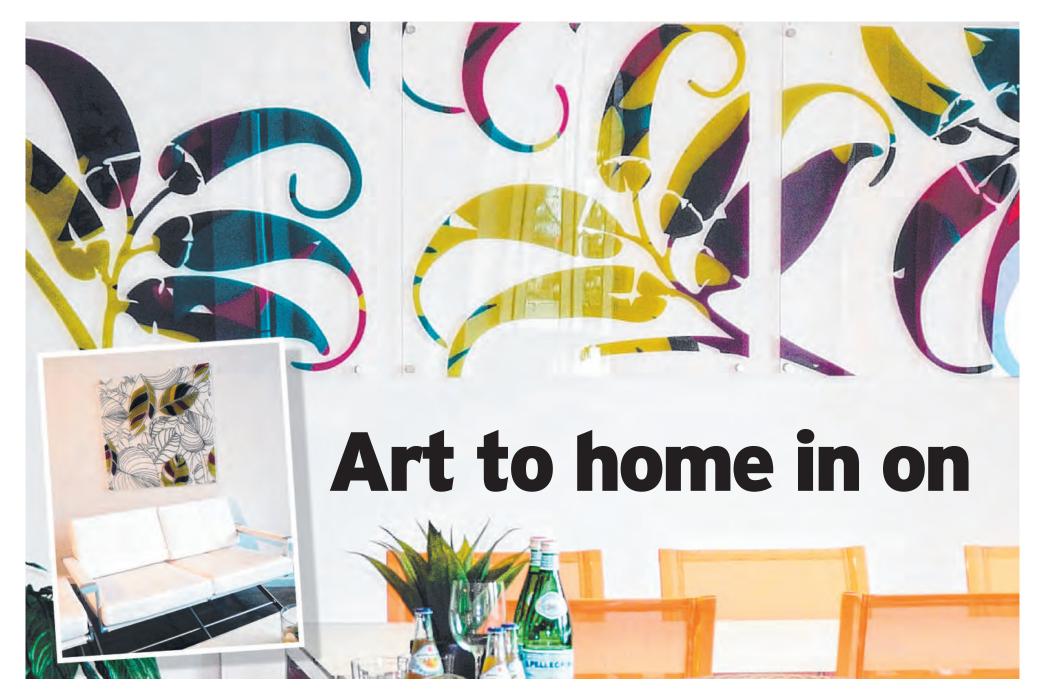
HOMETRENDS



A bit of outdoor art on durable materials can give your living areas a lift, writes James Weir

N summer, we spend just as much time outside as we do inside.
And while lazy days spent entertaining on the patio sound appealing, what do you do when your outdoor area isn't all that inviting?

Artwork is a simple way to merge living areas, inject colour and create personality in an otherwise bland space.

Rather than spending money on expensive renovations, it's a simple and cost-effective way to transform your outdoor area into a summer haven.

Sarah Leslie is the creative director of Signarture - an Australian company that produces contemporary art prints for inside and out. She says it's important to create the right ambience in all areas of the home.

"In a small enclosed space, a blank wall is unappealing - the area feels hollow and empty," she says.

"It feels sterife until there's personality."
And she understands the importance of outdoor living in Queensland.

"The outdoors, particularly in Queensland, is a large part of people's lives," she says.

"These artworks are really the finishing touch to what people call an outdoor room."

Signarture's latest collection, "Balance", is inspired by natural elements like river pebbles, sand and trees and features a

muted palette with turquoise, lavender and apple accents.

Leslie says each piece is designed to fit

in with current interior trends.

"The new range reflects the current mood of simplifying our lives and finding a

little bit of balance," she says.
"The form is simple and organic in this collection and the quality of materials is paramount."

Aiming to seamlessly merge the indoors and outdoors, the artworks are available in two different materials.

The canvas prints can brighten up the home's interior while the perspex is a durable option suitable for both the inside and out. Leslie says outdoor canvas and FOCAL POINT: Signarture artwork adds life and colour on Perspex and (inset) outdoor. timber hangings can become mouldy in Queensland's humidity but perspex can withstand natural elements.

A 60cm square canvas by Signarture retails at \$299 while a perspex piece retails at \$599.

A larger 120cm square canvas costs \$999 while the same size piece in perspex is \$1999.

Leslie says pieces can be custom-made to any size and different colours can be incorporated into the design.

More info at: www.signarture.com Signarture's Brisbane showroom is centrally located at Cosh Living, 8 Wandoo St, Fortitude Valley. For more details phone: 3666 0377.