

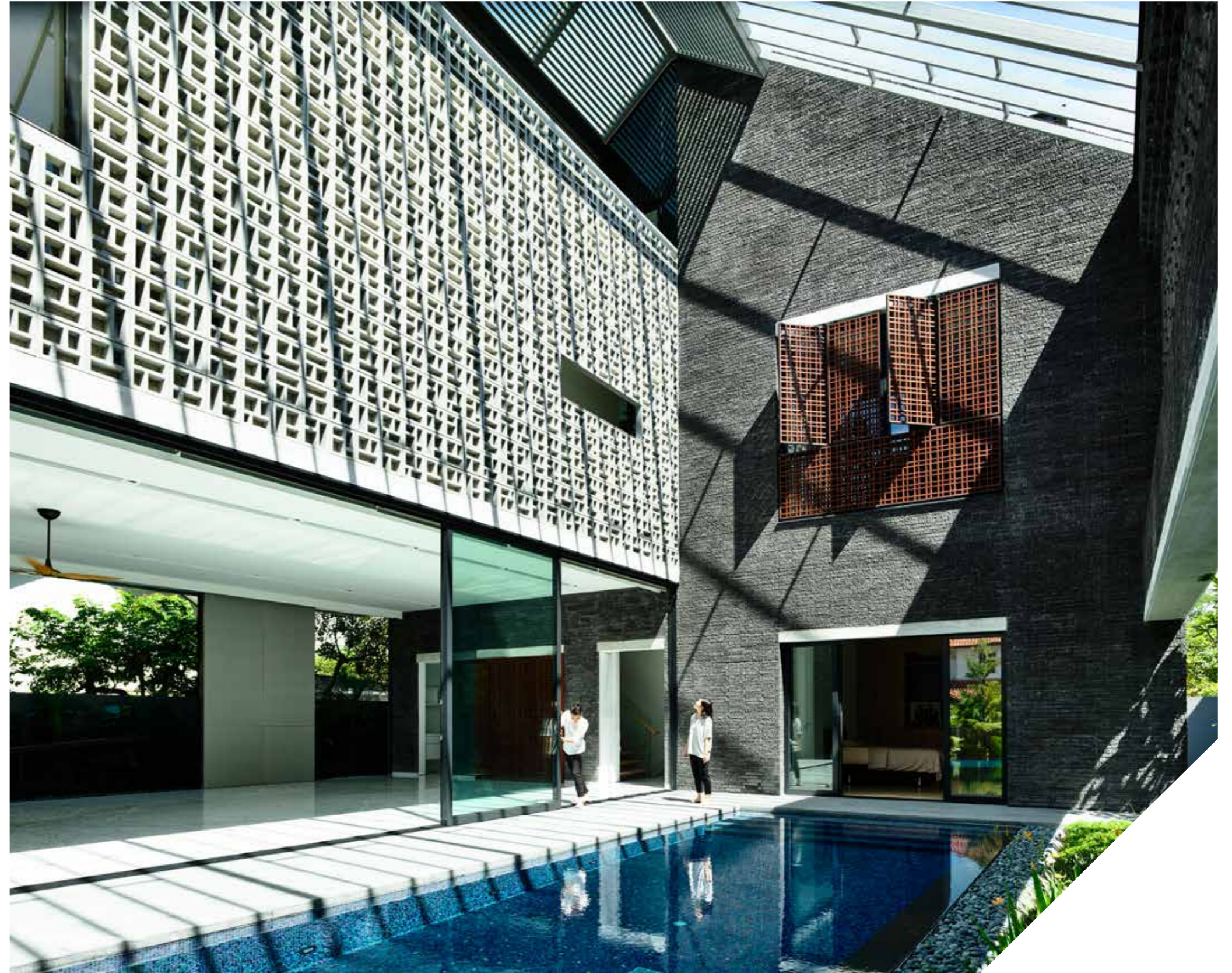


## Room without roof

This unique architectural design takes the concept of indoor-outdoor living one step further by removing one of the main components of a traditional home - the roof!

words by KARSHA GREEN

Living in a tropical, Asian city, a lot of homeowners want to make the most of the delightfully warm climate by integrating as much indoor-outdoor space into their home's design as possible. However, I can't imagine most people consider removing the roof. When designing this two-storey, detached residence in Siglap Plain, Singapore, HYL A Architects chose a gable roof concept with an unusual twist - half of the home is actually an external courtyard which plays as the central living hub for the residents. The open, gable architecture gives the house privacy while also creating this 'room without roof', outdoor interior.







Not just in its architectural form, almost all the elements of this residential design aim to enhance an indoor-outdoor lifestyle. A modulated dark grey and textured brick cladding make up the home's façade, creating a natural, organic external aesthetic. A precast concrete screen on the second level provides protection from sun exposure while an external timber grid screen gives a warm contrast to the brick and concrete, and adds to the home's refined material palette.



Internally, a swimming pool in the external courtyard and small pockets of greenery also continue the indoor-outdoor theme. A tiered landscape wall provides a lush backdrop for the cantilevered staircase, and the attic lounge and home office space has its own planting strip which is a continuation from the courtyard planting palette below. It is a selective choice of materials and an innovative architectural form that creates a luxurious, contemporary home which makes the most of its tropical, Singapore environment. ☑

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ROOM WITHOUT ROOF

**Location**  
Siglap Plain, Singapore

**Architects**  
HYLA Architects

**Size**  
720 square metres

**Structural engineering**  
GNG Consultants Pte Ltd

**Main Contractor**  
GNG Consultants Pte Ltd

**Project team**  
Kompiya Rattanangkul, Goh Chiou Hwa, Thomas Ong

**Landscape Contractor**  
Nyeo Phoe Flower Garden Pte Ltd

**Product Manufacturers**  
Facebrick from Wienerberger, Custom made concrete block, Bianco Venatino marble for living, dining, American red oak timber flooring for bedrooms, Bathroom fittings from JEE-O, Duravit, Hans Grohe, Ceiling fans from Haiku, Custom joinery designed by HYLA Architects built by Shanghai Hup Seng

**Photography**  
Derek Swalwell



*“Principal Architect and founder of HYLA Architects, Han’s designs have won both local and regional awards and are regularly published in architectural journals, monographs and online sites.”*

Mr Han Loke Kwang,  
Principal Architect and founder of HYLA Architects