



**The main colours...**

- Cobalt** Duram Cool Shadow
- Red** Duram Spring Cosmos
- Turquoise** Duram Fantasy Faire

**Abstract masterpiece**

A picture of a liquid paint swirl in cobalt-blue with accents of black, red, yellow, oranges, turquoise and teal is where it all started. Daleen Greyvensteyn and André le Grange wanted to create a “one-of-a-kind” marble effect on their wall.

They asked artist and interior decorator Sihan Wiid of Mink Design and her artist mother Raag Strydom to work their magic after seeing some of their earlier work in yellow marble.

The mother-and-daughter duo started off by preparing the wall with a universal undercoat followed by Midas Ultra Fine Aggregate Primer.

“On the second day, we applied Earthcote Pandomo, a textured paint, so that cracks could form, which would mimic marble lines,” explains Sihan. The first coat of colour – cobalt-blue – was painted on top, with black in the corners to create depth.

“On day three, we started working with various colours in the cracks to create different marble shades,” says Sihan. “At this stage, we used a variety of paintbrushes, sponges and techniques to create the abstract look.”

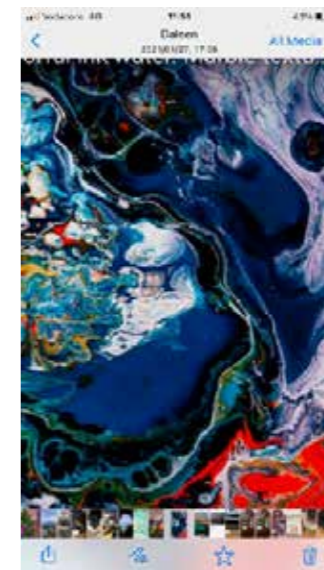
Finally, the wall was sealed with two coats of Fired Earth Glazecoat Clear in gloss.

Says Sihan: “A bold statement wall like this can work in any home. For a more classical or traditional look, opt for earthy tones. If you prefer more bling, include metallic gold, brass and silver in the marbling effect.”

“When attempting a technique like this, don’t be scared,” advises Sihan. “Get over the fear of making a mistake – you can always paint over it. Plan ahead and have reference images to look at for colour and inspiration.”

Daleen adds: “The wall is a showstopper and every single person who visits our home feels its magic. We never tire of it. Its movement and fluidity is just beautiful and the colours are calming yet energising.”

There are so many ways to create a focal wall: wallpaper, canvas prints, paintings, photos, paint colours and patterns – let your imagination run wild! – *Adelai*



*The inspiration*



**Raag Strydom at work.**



**Birds of a feather...**

Adelai Alberts (*her beautiful bedroom is on page XX*) wanted to surprise her daughter Alexamari (Alexa) with a colourful wall but couldn’t find the right wallpaper. “I always say that if you can’t find what you like, make it yourself!” she says. “Since we all love painting, I decided to let the kids have fun participating in the creation of the mural.”

“Alexa is a dreamer; she loves birds and the colour turquoise. The mural feels like it combines her interests and personality in a perfect fantasy world.”

Of course, her grandmother, talented artist Mari Vermeulen Breedt, lent a hand. “Ouma just fixed a line here and there where it got a bit out of hand, but I will definitely give Ouma the credit!” says Adelai with a laugh.

“Alexa is growing into a teenager now and she still adores the wall. I would say this is a timeless piece.” >>