

# Relaxed optimism: a new café in Melbourne embraces sunny shades of marigold

BY BEC WHISH  
30 April 2019

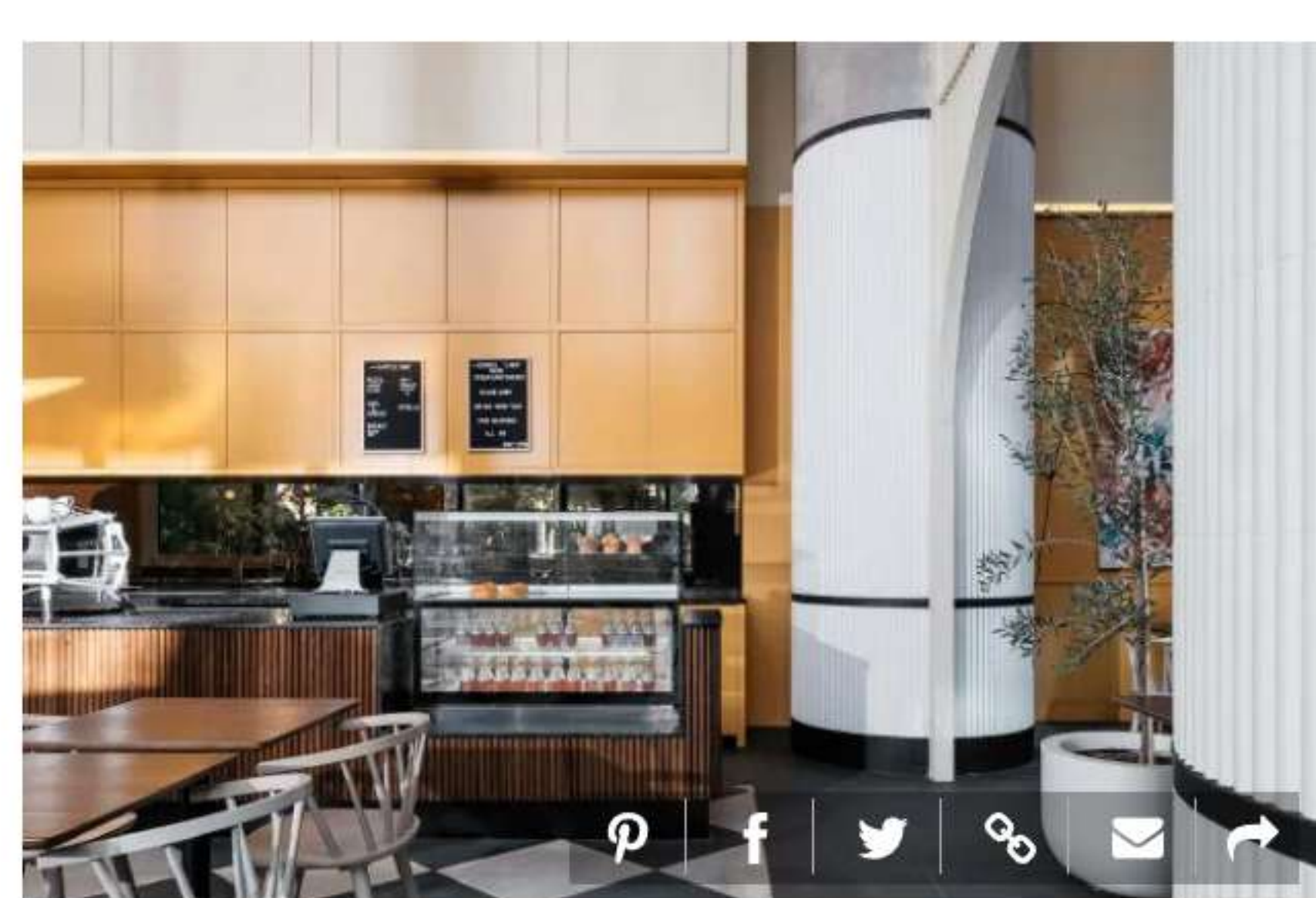
Look on the bright side. Photography by Felix Forest.



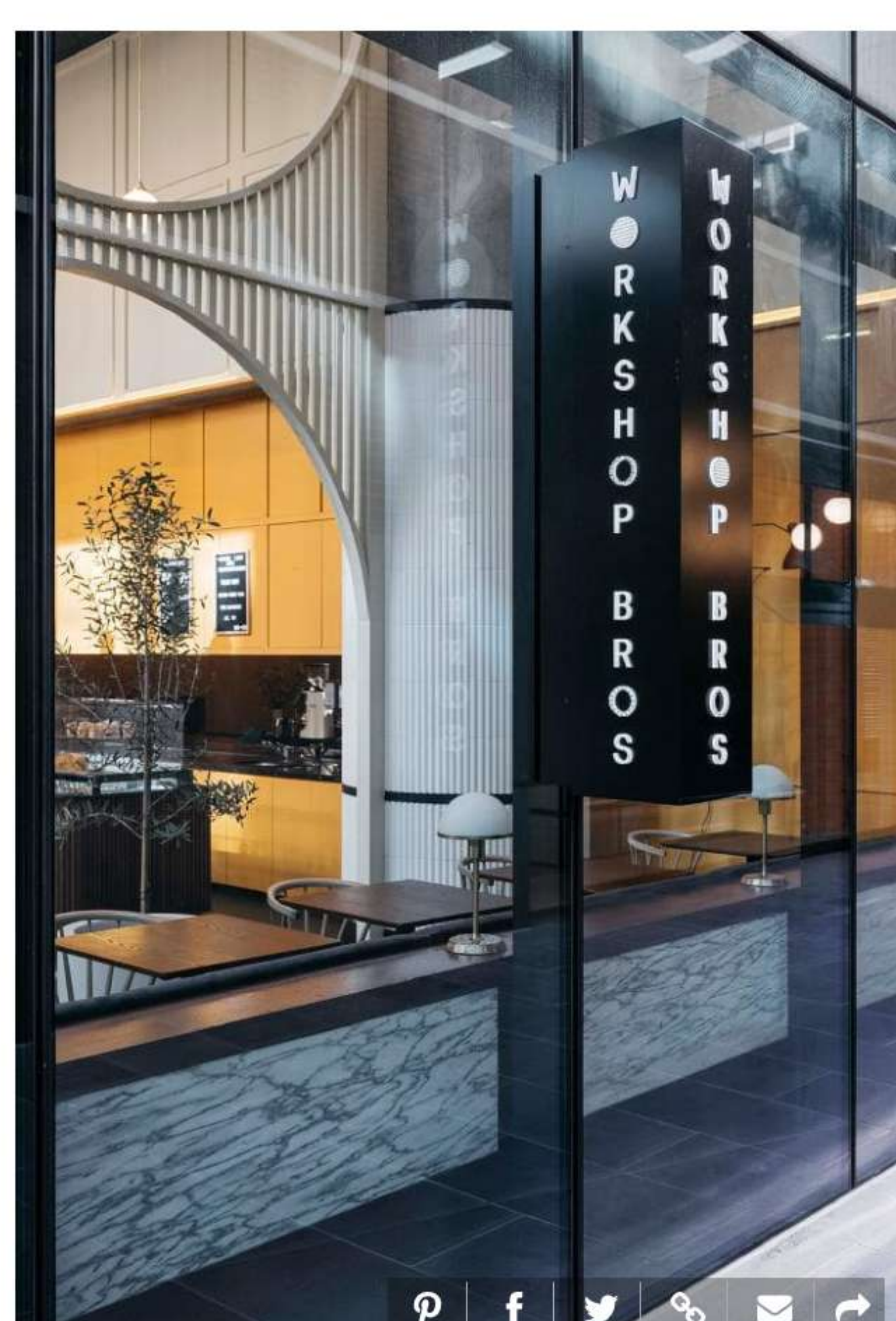
Melbourne-based design practice, Studio Tate, are no strangers to the pages of *Vogue Living*. They created one of the most beautiful office spaces in Australia. Redefined the meaning of beach chic with this coastal home in Mount Martha, Victoria. Renovated this art-lover's Melbourne apartment with a stylish nod to vintage Hollywood glamour. And that's just a small sample of their residential and workplace projects – they've also designed high-end retail and hospitality spaces, including the brand new Workshop Brothers café at Riverside Quay in Melbourne's Southbank.



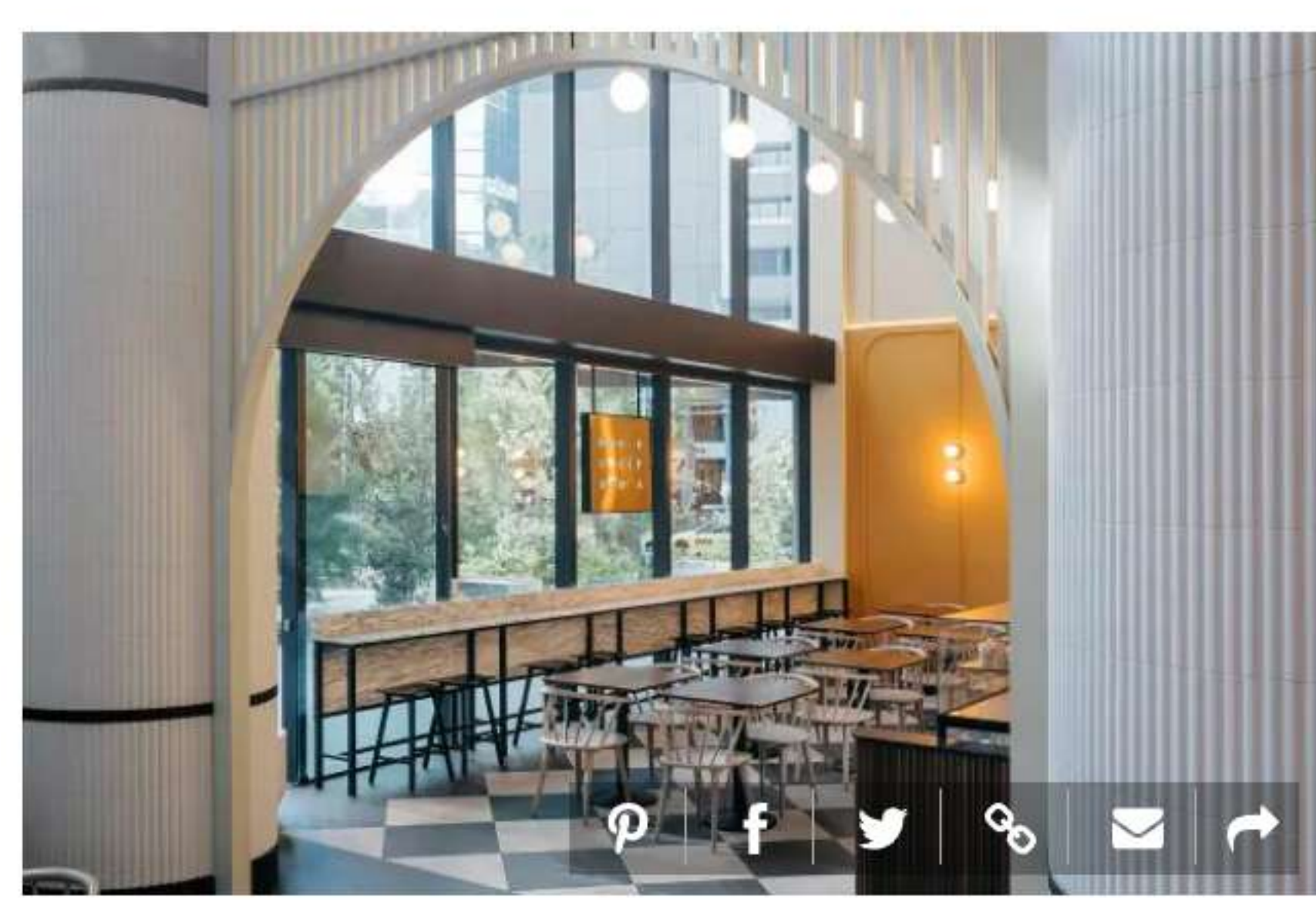
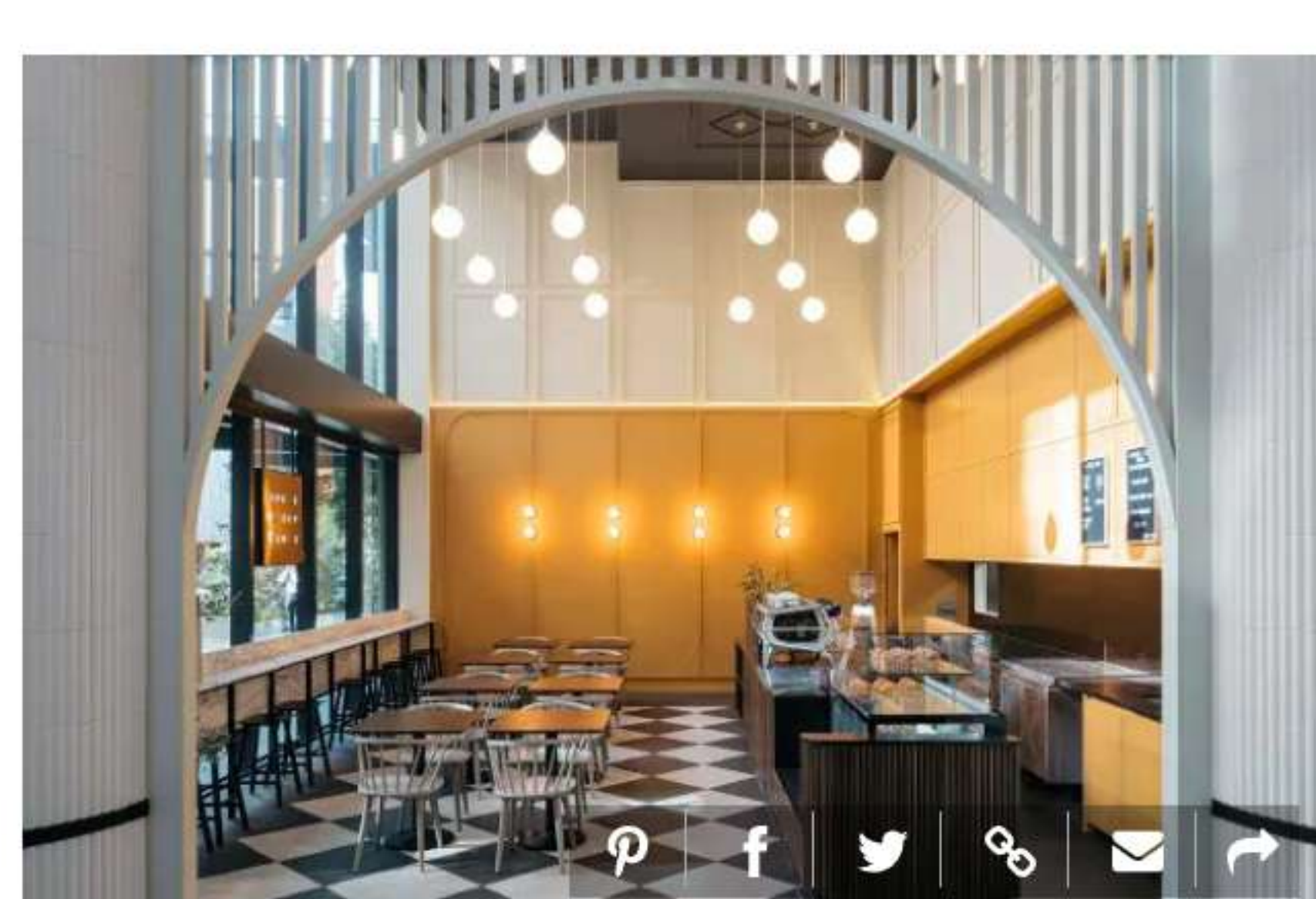
According to Studio Tate, the bright touches of marigold in Workshop Brothers are intended to create a mood of relaxed optimism. It's no secret that well-placed pop of sunny yellow can raise our spirits – design and lifestyle forecaster for Trend Union, Philip Fimmano, says marigold hues are one of the key trends for 2019. "Consumers' 'colourphobia' is gradually making way for the transformation of our spaces," he says. "A splash of yellow can wake up a room."



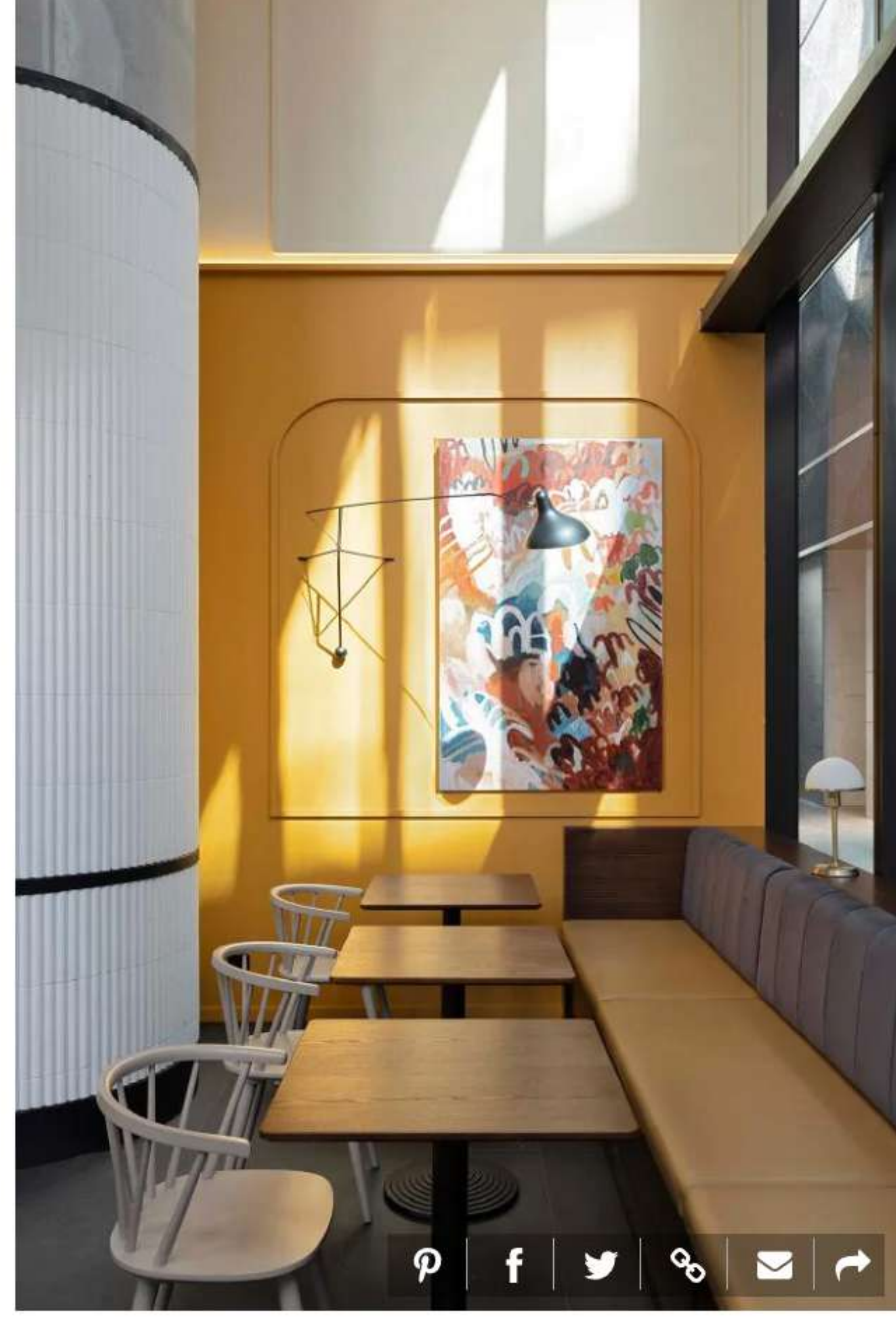
Workshop Brothers' artful use of yellow creates a space that is vibrant, without feeling like a preschool. It's energetic and sophisticated at the same time, inspired by the great brasseries of New York City – with a touch of Aussie sunshine.



Luxurious eight-metre ceilings are accentuated by orb lights (from Schots Emporium) that beam like small suns – they cast lively shadows on the curved timber mouldings around the pillars that flank the entrance.



An arched threshold creates the feeling of entering a special place as you pass underneath it, while the bold checkerboard floor adds a touch of *Alice-in-Wonderland* playfulness.



The space is visually striking, but the designers have not forgotten to indulge our sense of touch as well. Leather and suede bench seats invite fingertips to skim over them, and tired backs to relax into their softness. The hard-wearing granite benchtop is tempered by natural timber dowel cladding beneath it.



The net result is a vibrant café that invites patrons to recharge with a strong brew and a sunny disposition. Order a flat white and look on the bright side.



2 Riverside Quay, Southbank VIC. Visit: [workshopbrothers.com.au](http://workshopbrothers.com.au)