



In St Kilda, a dramatic mesh screen backlit from the house on to the street contrasts with a rear garden gently bathed in low voltage light. **Photos** Dianna Snape

Architect Richard Kerr activates the street as well as the front in Melbourne.

The house features a facade with a woven stainless steel mesh screen, allowing internal light to spill over to the garden. Two garden lights highlight the front garden as well as the mesh.

Low voltage spotlights positioned on the side of the house just above the walkway, are also used to guide visitors to the front door.

The rear garden of the St Kilda house is gently bathed in artificial light at night. Four Japanese maples are accentuated by lights, as is the pool.

An old brick wall, the remnant of a shed, is also part of the outdoor scene and is illuminated.

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"You won't see any globes in this garden, says Kerr, who often uses pencil bollards to define pathways.

"Every light is low voltage and placed in a fairly discreet part of the garden."

While the garden light is subtle, the lighting used in the outdoor service areas of the house is considerably stronger.

The service courtyard, used for bin storage and the clothes line, is lit with 100-watt floodlights activated by a sensor.

"You don't want to worry about light switches when you're taking the rubbish out at night," he says.