

HOMESTEAD

HOMES & INTERIORS FOR THE HAM & HIGH AREA



ISSUE IV

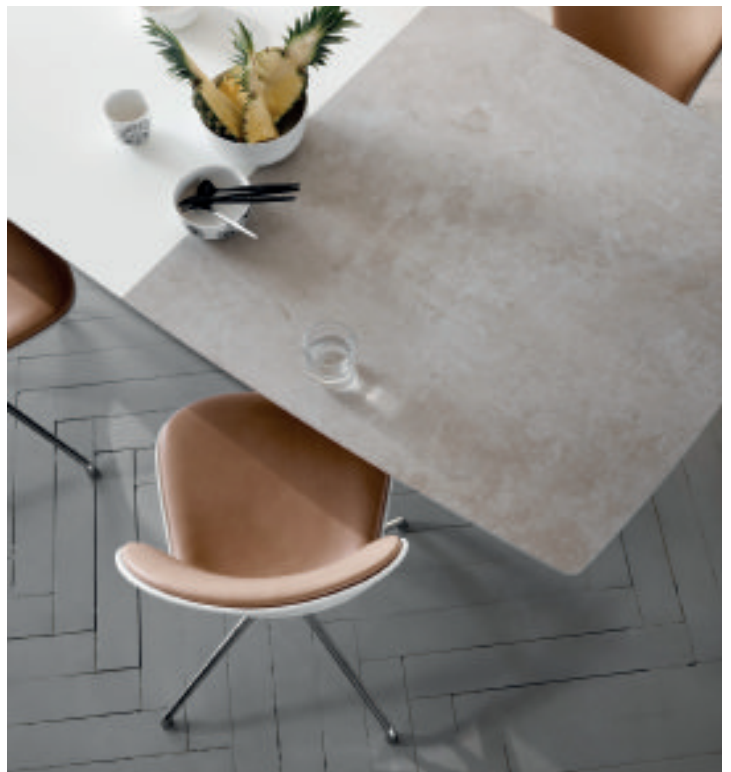


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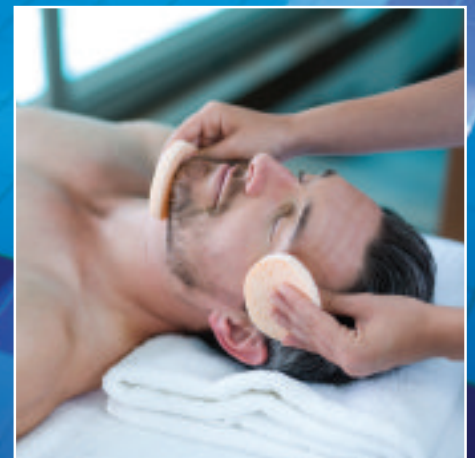
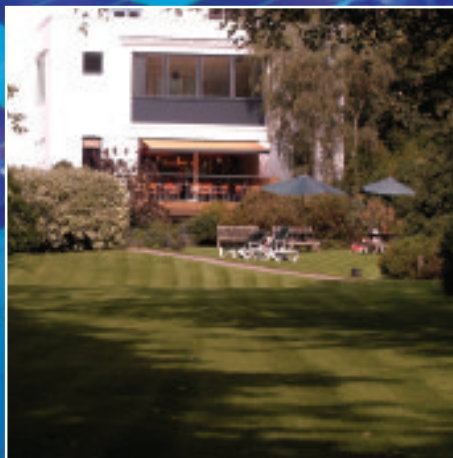
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HOMESTEAD

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ISSUE IV EDITOR'S WELCOME



HELLO, AND WELCOME

When I was invited back to write a special festive edition of Homestead it was an offer I couldn't refuse.

After all, what time of year is more suited to showing your home off to its best advantage? When you're gathering your nearest and dearest round your hearth it's the ritual of decorating a tree, hanging a wreath or laying a table that makes it Christmas.

North London has an embarrassment of interiors experts here to help you get ready for the days ahead. Carly Madhvani of NW3 Interiors has your Christmas prep list sorted without you ever having to leave the Hampstead postcode. Visit Andrea Bates' shop Future and Found in Tufnell Park to find the perfect interiors present with our gifting guide.

BoConcept's Morten Georgsen shares why a well designed dining set is the unsung hero of Christmas, and Rosalind Wilson reveals her interior design inspiration.

There are a few property surprises in there too, should you find yourself browsing for a new home in the lull between Christmas and New Year. However you love to live in Hampstead and Highgate, Homestead has you covered.

Merry Christmas!

INDIA BLOCK EDITOR



ON THE COVER:
WOODS & STARS WALLPAPER, COLE & SON

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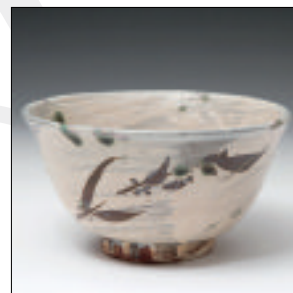
IN ASSOCIATION WITH GOLDMARK GALLERY



Chris Wood, *New Moon*, 2008, signed oil on canvas



Nic Collins, *Bottle*; natural ash glaze and shell scars



Jim Malone, *Deep flared bowl*; brushed slip, iron decoration & copper splashes



Clive Bowen, *Jar with lugs*; gold with crocodile effect slip

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DREAMING OF A WHITEREAD CHRISTMAS



Line Up, 2007-8, Rachel Whiteread

The strange and lovely work of Rachel Whiteread is the perfect winter show, *says India Block*

IN GERMAN THERE IS a word ‘unheimlich’, which means something like the word uncanny (coined, of course, by north London’s most famous psychologist Sigmund Freud) but directly translates as un-homely. Familiar things made strange, the domestic made unsettling. It is the feeling of walking through your front door and something being off, although you can’t quite put your finger on it. A walk through the woods on your normal path when the light changes and you wonder if you’ve made a wrong turn.

Rachel Whiteread has made a stellar career of unknitting the homely or commonplace so that it is at once ordinary and alien. In 1993 she won the Turner Prize for her piece *House*, a concrete cast of the inside of a condemned home in London’s East End. She refused the cash prize, instead donating it to artists in need of assistance and the homeless charity Shelter.



Due Porte, 2016, Rachel Whiteread, courtesy of Tate Britain

She was the first woman to win the prize, and her work continues to explode the boundaries so often placed upon female artists. Where women have been traditionally confined to the domestic, their art disparaged or belittled, she flips the domestic on its head and displays its pale underside.

The insides of hot water bottles are cast in concrete or plaster to resemble headless torsos. The grey innards of houses and sheds laid bare. The undersides of chairs solidified in coloured resin and arranged like a giant’s box of translucent turkish delights. Stairways in white plaster lead to nowhere and delicate doorways made of glass lie propped against a wall, opening to nothing, providing no privacy, shielding no-one.

The retrospective at the Tate Britain brings together some of Whiteread’s most famous pieces, and some that have never been on display to the public before. The gallery walls have been removed and the space hollowed out to display each work in the same context.

Winter may seem a strange time to visit a gallery for a taste of the beautiful yet unnerving, the Christmas season is usually reserved for Nutcracker ballets or sparkling pantomimes. But it’s the time of year when the cold and the dark makes everything that little bit unheimlich. We draw nearer to our primal, pagan fires and tell ghost stories to ward off the gnawing chill. We feast to stave off thoughts of the hungry months ahead. So embrace the spooky, then rush home through the dark streets strewn with lights and shut your front door tightly against the night. ♦

Rachel Whiteread is on until 21 January 2018 at Tate Britain, Millbank, SW1P 4RG

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To the Why choose between the town and country this Christmas when you could have the best of both worlds in the heart of NW3?

MANOR BORN



DRIVING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS doesn't quite have the same romantic ring to it when it's doing battle with hundreds of other harried motorists crawling out of town or - heaven forfend - catching a train. Far better to stay snug inside the cosy confines of the M25, when London empties out and is left to the locals.

True, the festive season lends itself to a particular kind of rural idyll; comfortable chairs in wood panelled rooms lined with books and mists rising over frosted lawns.

Whilst a crumbling pile in the countryside might be a pipe dream, drafty halls, rising damp in the stone walls and rattling old copper pipes sound more like a nightmare to us.

Enter Hampstead Manor, with its elegant apartments bursting with every modern convenience in a set of gloriously joshed up Grade II listed buildings. There are also some sensitively designed new apartments and townhouses that melt seamlessly into the red brick facades and manicured lawns. Tucked

Skeel Library, Hampstead Manor, courtesy of Mount Anvil

away on Kidderpore Avenue it's an Englishman's - or woman's for that matter - home with an NW3 postcode.

Set on the site of what was once Westfield College, a pioneering educational institute for women established at the end of the 19th century, each new home is positively steeped in history. The red brick facades look out over manicured lawns and magnificent landscaping.

Studious ghosts of botany students might whisper in the corridors next to the old Skeel Library, but today's

residents reside firmly in the 21st century. There's a 24 hour concierge service, an on site spa, pool and gym. Should you wish to venture into central London to enjoy the Christmas lights a town car service can be arranged, although personally we'd pick a romp out over the Heath every time. ♦

Studio, one, two, three, four and five bedroom homes available. Move in from January 2018, starting at £740,000. Show apartments available to view, call 0203 797 4567 or visit hampsteadmanor.com



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CHRISTMAS



with

Hampstead mum and founder of interior design company NW3 Interiors Carly Madhvani shares her tips for shopping local this Christmas.

CARLY



DECK THE HALLS

ON THE LIST:

Felt ball luxury Christmas garland.

LOCAL HERO:

Mum, designer and maker Medina King-Sam founded MK Kids Interiors, a children's interiors service and online shop for her handmade home decorations.

CARLY SAYS: "This is a nice piece to have in my home at Christmas time. I purchase Christmas garlands from this lady because she hand makes them, and I love to support local talent artists who are women and mothers, I'm a massive advocate of that."

"I think it's hard to juggle business and motherhood. When they get it right and they create a luxury product, and they put all their passion in soul into it, I totally want to buy from them."

Visit mkkidsinteriors.com

It's **GREAT TO LOVE LOCAL** and to source from small businesses, I think it's really important. So, here are all the local favourites that are on my shopping list for getting everything you need for a family Christmas in north London.

Find more from Carly at nw3interiorsltd.com or call 020 3797 3736.

WREATHED IN STYLE

ON THE LIST:

Wreaths and table decorations.

LOCAL HERO:

Foliage obsessed friends and floral designers Victoria and Nicole run Stems and Bows, delivering handcrafted greenery for events all over London. This year they're running classes on how to make your own Christmas wreath.

CARLY SAYS: "Stems and Bows do really well at creating contemporary modern pieces. They take the idea of the traditional wreath and make it much cooler. It's actually something that I'd want to hang on my front door. The fact they hold events where you can go and make your own is super enjoyable, and it's a great brand to support locally."

Stemsandbows.co.uk



POPPING BOTTLES

ON THE LIST:

Champagne for parties, wine for the table on Christmas day.

LOCAL HERO:

They're not lying when they say they're London's local wine merchant. With their signature green awnings Jeroboams have a knack for getting right to the heart of the communities they serve, and their Hampstead outpost is no exception.

CARLY SAYS: "I always put my wine and champagne order in with the Jeroboams in Hampstead. They're a well established brand and they sell great quality alcohol. They do great offers, and it's nice to have quality champagne at a good price! They do a box and make everything super easy."

29 Heath Street, Hampstead, NW3 6TR;
020 7435 6845; jeroboams.com



COMMUNITY VALUES

ON THE LIST:

Christmas tree, clementines for the bottom of stockings, vegetables for Christmas day lunch.

LOCAL HERO:

Traditional greengrocers Village Crescent Fruiterers keeps Hampstead in fresh produce.

CARLY SAYS: “My Belsize Village fruit and veg shop on the corner of Belsize Crescent is lovely and super local. They’re cheeky chappies who give me credit for a fiver if I’ve forgotten my stuff.

“It’s a really nice community space where everyone bustles around at Christmas and gets excited, buying Christmas nuts and mistletoe. They also sell trees outside. It’s right where the Christmas lights are put on the tree in Belsize village, so there’s a really festive atmosphere when you go to source fresh vegetables here.”

62 Belsize Crescent, Belsize Village, NW3 5AR

A FAMILY AFFAIR

ON THE LIST:

Christmas turkey, gluten-free chicken sausages, cheese for the cheeseboard.

LOCAL HERO:

Neighborhood butchers and delicatessen Hampstead Butcher and Providore are on hand to supply with everything you need for the tastiest roast dinner, plus all the delicious nibbly bits.

CARLY SAYS: “I love it in here, they can make orders and find you all sorts of things. My Italian friend bought a whole rabbit from there, for example. And at the back they have a cheesery. It’s a way of sourcing from real people who understand the craft of butchery.

“It’s a nice, ten minutes walk from where we live, so we go up as a family and pick up the meat for Christmas Day. Being able to involve the family in different elements at Christmas, rather than mums having to do it all themselves, always helps!”

56 Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, NW3 1ND



SCENTING THE AIR

ON THE LIST:

Candles for gifts - and for making your own home smell festive.

LOCAL HERO:

Primrose Hill locals Helen and Susan celebrate their love for their city with their all-natural hand poured Primrose Hill Candles.

CARLY SAYS: “These are beautiful! They’ve got new scents out this year and lovely new packaging with a hand-painted picture of the Primrose Hill skyline by local artist Francis Katz on each box. Inside you’ll find these beautifully scented luxury candles.

“The pomegranate and chilli ones have got that nice, earthy, Christmassy scent to it. I have one on my desk to sniff whenever I’m stressed out. I’ll probably have about four of those going on from the front door through the kitchen in to the lounge. They’re great for gifts, too.”

Stocked in Bubbles and Light, Hampstead, and Black Truffle in Belsize Park; primrosehillcandles.com



GIFTS WITH BENEFITS

ON THE LIST:

Gifts for teachers at school, friends and family, and a little treat or two for you.

LOCAL HERO:

Whilst Space NK apothecary is stretching local as a global brand, having started life in Covent Garden, the store on Hampstead High Street is hard to beat.

CARLY SAYS: “I absolutely love Space NK. They do a brilliant program where you save money by becoming a member and then you get points whenever

you spend. It’s not just makeup and creams, they do beautiful hand soaps, or I might buy a shimmery blusher for my sister.

“They’re really knowledgeable in there, they really know their stuff. What glycolic does to your face, and why you should include vitamin C in your morning routine, for example. Then when January comes around you have a voucher to spend on a luxury treat for yourself, it’s a win-win.”

62 Hampstead High St, London NW3 1QH; 020 7431 4841; spacenk.com



BY DESIGN

Home improvements can often become protracted and expensive affairs. BDCM have proven they can manage your expectations of cost, time, and quality

THIS YEAR By Design Construction Management (BDCM) are celebrating 10 years in Hampstead. They are also opening a first ground floor showroom that places the project manager, cost consultant, contract administrator and, if required, contractor, quite literally in the shop window.

Managing director Andrew Selby is keen to reflect the transparency and visibility his practice has sought to promote throughout their time providing these services to the residential and commercial sectors.

BDCM is a name you might already recognise. Their hoardings have been a visible presence over the years on a number of local housing projects, predominantly in Hampstead, St. John's Wood, Hampstead Garden Suburb and, more recently, central London and Chelsea.

They are also a longstanding provider





PICTURED:
Rossetti House
Project by BDCM, and
the BDCM Showroom

of award-winning expertise with listed buildings, as seen in their many manor house conversions in the home counties.

BDCM’s ethos is to always strive to ensure all costs and fees are fixed, throughout the project. “Our fee is never incentivised by the clients’ expenditure,” explains Andrew. “It is fixed based on a sensible appraisal of the time and resource required for the project, complemented by passing on our trade contacts to our clients, to achieve optimum savings and the highest quality products and suppliers.

“BDCM seek to also recognise the need to be incentivised not to fail, or reward failure, or earn ourselves higher



fees based on percentages of our clients’ final spend. BDCM recognises this is often a serious source of frustration for homeowners, and this policy seeks to redress that.”

Even with the most complicated of refurbishments involving listed houses and large basements, BDCM can provide the expertise. They have long-standing relationships with specialist subcontractors, and their team includes access to interior designers, quality builders, architects and suppliers.

For a decade BDCM have has been “Hampstead’s best kept secret” but, with the hugely visible new showroom serving as an open house for architects, interior designers and prospective clients, the secret is about to come out.

“We look forward to welcoming you all,” says Andrew. ♦

BDCM

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N.B. These are a small selection of houses that we have sold in 2017

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The search is over. We've got Christmas gifting covered, with a little help from our friends at Future + Found in Tufnell Park.

FOUND!



SHOPPING FOR THE PERFECT gift for the style conscious and houseproud needn't be a chore. Visit Future and Found in Tufnell Park, where owner Andrea Bates has applied the buying skills she once lent to brands including Paperchase and Heal's to her own venture, championing independent interior design. Here you'll find all the perfect gifts and stocking fillers for everyone from stationary lovers to the highly houseproud. Just don't be surprised if you come away with one or two treats for your own home.



THROWING IT OUT THERE

A deftly draped throw is a beautiful thing, instantly cheering up a chair, turning a sofa into a snuggly haven, or taking to bed for an extra layer of warmth. They make lovely gifts, particularly for hosts if you're a lucky houseguest this Christmas. For the colour-lovers there's the vibrant plaid throw in zingy lime and perky pink, by Danish connoisseurs HAY. Then for those to whom monochrome is life there's this simple grid throw by Klippan, who combine Swedish design sensibility with traditional wool craftsmanship.

COLOUR PLAID THROW IN NO 7 PINK AND LIME, £185; GRID THROW IN LIGHT GREY, £75.



DISHING THE DIRT

Doing the dishes is hardly the most glamorous chore, but with these jazzy towels to hand you'll have the family scrambling to help with the post Christmas dinner clean up operation. Well, perhaps that's a minor exaggeration, but they'll certainly make the process more pleasant and look lovely hanging in the kitchen when not in use.

This boxed set contains a pair of neon pink cotton-blend towels in an oh-so-trendy geometric pattern by Dutch duo Scholten and Baijings for Danish company HAYS, so they come with an impeccable design pedigree.

HAYS TEA TOWEL, £19 FOR THE PAIR

GOING POTTY

Meet Hugo and Hedvig, the new face of your potted plants. 2017 has been the year of indoor foliage, from instant instagram fodder to, apparently, the commitment of choice for skint millennials looking for something to love. A plant is for life, not just for Christmas, so these cheerful anthropomorphic mugs make a lovely permanent residence for any leafy gifts you might be giving. Now you just have to decide whether to give them a punky cactus 'do or flowing fern locks.

HUGO PLANT POT LARGE, £45; HEDVIG PLANT POT, £35





WHEN THE BEAT DROPS

This one goes out to all the music fans in your life. No matter what their taste, it's probably on one of these mugs. Whether it's jazz or disco, make sure your favoured genre is on their lips with this fun range of music-themed porcelain mugs. The handleless is an invitation for the user to cup with both hands, making the the ideal vessel for a marshmallow-filled hot chocolate or a velvety eggnog. Type nerds will also find much to love here; the design is by Playtype, a Copenhagen-based font foundry.

BEAT MUG, £15 EACH



MAKE A NOTE OF IT

Budding writers, enthusiastic doodlers, and to-do list converts alike love a good notebook. Those blank pages are so full of promise. The fracture notebook is a cut above your average, with its glossy hard cover individually screen printed with an abstract pattern. Lightly ruled for those who like order and interleaved with coloured paper, this is a notebook that should be carried around proudly in place of a mobile phone for that analog effect.

FRACTURE NOTEBOOK, £15



LEAVE THEM HANGING

Keeping your coats off the floor doesn't have to be a purely functional affair thanks to these decorative dots. Frankly they're so aesthetically pleasing they'd look nice on your walls without anything dangling from them, but we're sure they'll come in handy. They're made by Copenhagen-based Muuto, who specialise in modern Scandinavian design. These playful oiled oak and painted ash are the work of award-winning Lars Tornøe and are part of the permanent collection at the Danish Design Center. One or two are enough to tart up an entryway but an entire constellation on a wall would make quite some statement.

THE DOTS COAT HOOKS, £25 EACH

SLATHER IT ON

Getting through security these days is a testing affair. If you've got a loved one with an upcoming trip then give the gift of a hassle free airport experience. This nifty kit takes out the faff and stress of decanting your skincare regime in to suitable bottles or a last minute dash to boots. Peppermint shampoo, cilantro conditioner and the bergamot body wash will make sure they smell good enough to eat all holiday long.

MALIN + GOETZ ESSENTIAL KIT, £30



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STEP INTO THEIR OFFICE



Meet the estate agents with a twist bringing style to Highgate Village - and your home

A HIGH STREET ESTATE AGENTS is not the first place you'd think to go to find interiors inspiration, but the newly revamped Stonebridge & Co. is an agency with a difference. Part concept store, part integrated lifestyle service provider, and of course part agency, Peter James and Claire Beauchamp-Ward are shaking up the north London property scene.

"After working so long for some very well established and respected agents Claire and I felt the time was right to branch out," explains Peter. When the opportunity to buy up Stonebridge & Co. came up, neither felt they could pass on it. Leaving their jobs as branch managers, they set out to develop a holistic agency that could deliver so

much more than the hard sell.

The first test was working a bit of makeover magic on their new office space. "Underneath the dust and 1980s window display units was the bones of a really beautiful space crying out to be loved again," says Claire.

There's nary a wall map or a bank of computers in sight; instead it's all dark wood paneling, mossy velvet and gleaming brass, exposed bulbs and bell jars. Claire and Peter namecheck Rockett St George and Abigail Aherne as their favourite interiors brands and it shows in the quirky touches and signature Aherne "bottom of the lake" colour palette.

The office at 49 Highgate West Hill doubles as a showroom, a place where

clients can relax and observe first hand how a well put together room can make all the difference. And that's not just when it comes to putting your home on the market.

"We can help our clients even when they don't want to move," explains Claire. "The simple fact is that we are in uncertain times at the moment both politically and economically," she adds. "For example, in Highgate Village you would generally expect to see in the region of 1000 transactions per year. In the past 12 months there have been only 200."

If a client decides they'd rather sit tight than try their luck on the market, the Stonebridge & Co. can offer a range of services to help them get more from current property.

"We feel that for far too long the different elements of the home buying and owning process have been separated," says Peter. "For us it just doesn't add up." Their one-stop-shop approach also integrates the kind of lifestyle concierge services you'd have traditionally only been able to find in areas such as Knightsbridge or Belgravia.

Even if the London property market is going through a rough patch, a north London postcode is always desirable. With Stonebridge & Co. you can make your home even more covetable, whether you plan to sell on or stay put. ♦

49 Highgate West Hill, Highgate, London N6 6DA; 020 8341 6938; stonebridgelondon.co.uk



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GATHER ROUND

Draw your nearest and dearest close in these decoratively decadent interiors. From rich jewel tones that thrill to warm minimalism, however you choose to celebrate make sure it is in style.

By India Block





JOHN LEWIS



Gold Foiling Range, from £28, Oliver Bonas

AT OUR TABLE

WHAT'S THE ONE PIECE of interior design that truly embodies the spirit of the holiday season? Hint: it's not the twinkling tree, the wreath on the door, or the stocking hung on the mantel.

"Christmas is a gathering of family and friends," says Danish BoConcept designer Morten Georgsen. "So what are you normally gathering around - the dining table."

A beautifully designed, Scandi-style dining table is central to any Christmas celebration. Georgsen, recommends his Milano table, paired with Mariposa chairs, of course, but really any table to draw your loved ones near around will do. Festoon it with foliage, cover it in crockery and crackers, then clear away the gravy stains and stuffing crumbs and whack out a good board game.

"Normally my children are always on their computers, but at Christmastime you can lure them into playing all kind of board games as a family," confides Georgsen. Anyone for Monopoly? ♦



ABOVE:
Milano Table, from £1,189, Mariposa Dining Chair from £319, BoConcept

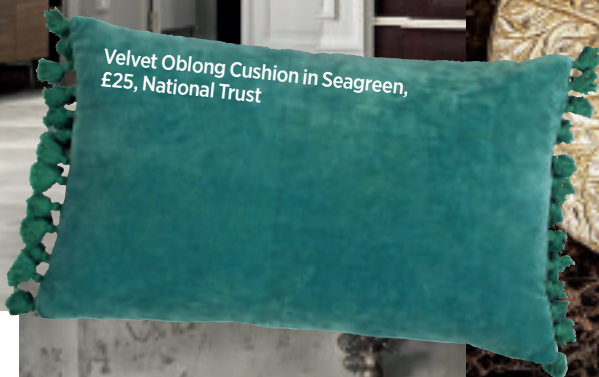
LEFT:
Christmas Tree, £48, BoConcept

BELOW:
Sheepskin Rug, £89, Sheepskin Rug



Calke Green, Farrow & Ball





Velvet Oblong Cushion in Seagreen, £25, National Trust



BELOW, LEFT TO RIGHT:
Woods & Stars Wallpaper, Cole & Son

Ashfield Tablecloth and Napkin in Stanley Grey, £49.50, Ian Mankin

Gray and Willow Halston Linen Duvet Cover, £89, House of Fraser

Manhattan Mirror Tray, £39.50, Marks and Spencer

JOHN LEWIS





AMARA CHRISTMAS 2017

TOP OF THE PAGE
DOWN, FROM RIGHT:
Silk Tibeton Tiger Rug,
£780, Exclusive to
Liberty London

Pillar Candle Holder,
£16, Eucalyptus Garlan,
£32, House of Fraser

Velvet Upholstered
Armchair in Petrol Blue,
£489, Cuckooland

Royalty Cushion in
Bentley Green, £160,
Bella Freud

Art Cushion, £160,
Bella Freud

Tallow Candle, £18,
Future & Found

Garden of Beauty
Velvet Cushion, £125,
Liberty London





FRUIT STILL LIFE WITH A SNAIL, 1649, OIL ON CANVAS, WILLEM VAN AELST



RIGHT:
Master Cleanse Coaster, £78, Jonathan Adler

Artemis Wallpaper in Black, House of Hackney

BELOW:
Gold Foil Champagne Flutes, £32, Oliver Bonas

Les Deux Alpes Tree, £140, House of Fraser

Biba Geo Cocktail Tray, £40, House of Fraser

Candle Holder, £38, Gold Scalloped Cake Stand, £70, Oliver Bonas



WINTER FRUITS

IN DEEPEST WINTER IT'S only natural to want to luxuriate in your favourite fabrics. Crushed velvets and foiled glassware add the kind of glamour that's nourishing to soul when the streets outside are sleet slick and frost is tapping at the windowpane.

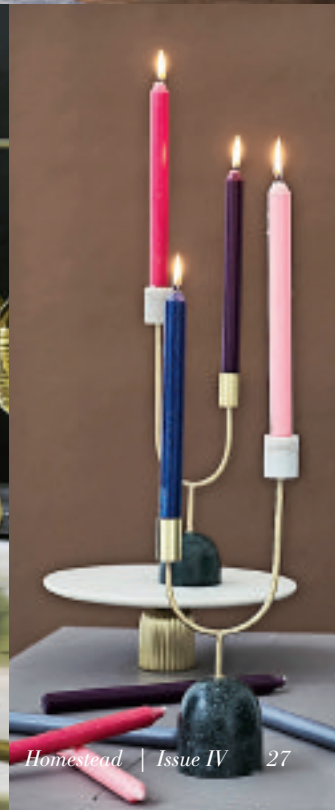
Christmas after all just commandeered a longstanding pagan holiday, so garland your fireplace with greenery and light tall, dark candles as the sun dips below the horizon.

We're taking inspiration from Willem van Aelst's Still Life with a Snail, with its fuzzy peaches and clouded plums on brocade velvet still as sumptuous as the day they were put down in oils centuries ago.

Moss greens and twilight blues speak to the quieter pleasures of curling up indoors as the gales howl, but don't forget the joy of deep reds and berry pinks. Go bold and daube an entire room to remind yourself of summer pleasures still to come. ♦



JOHN LEWIS



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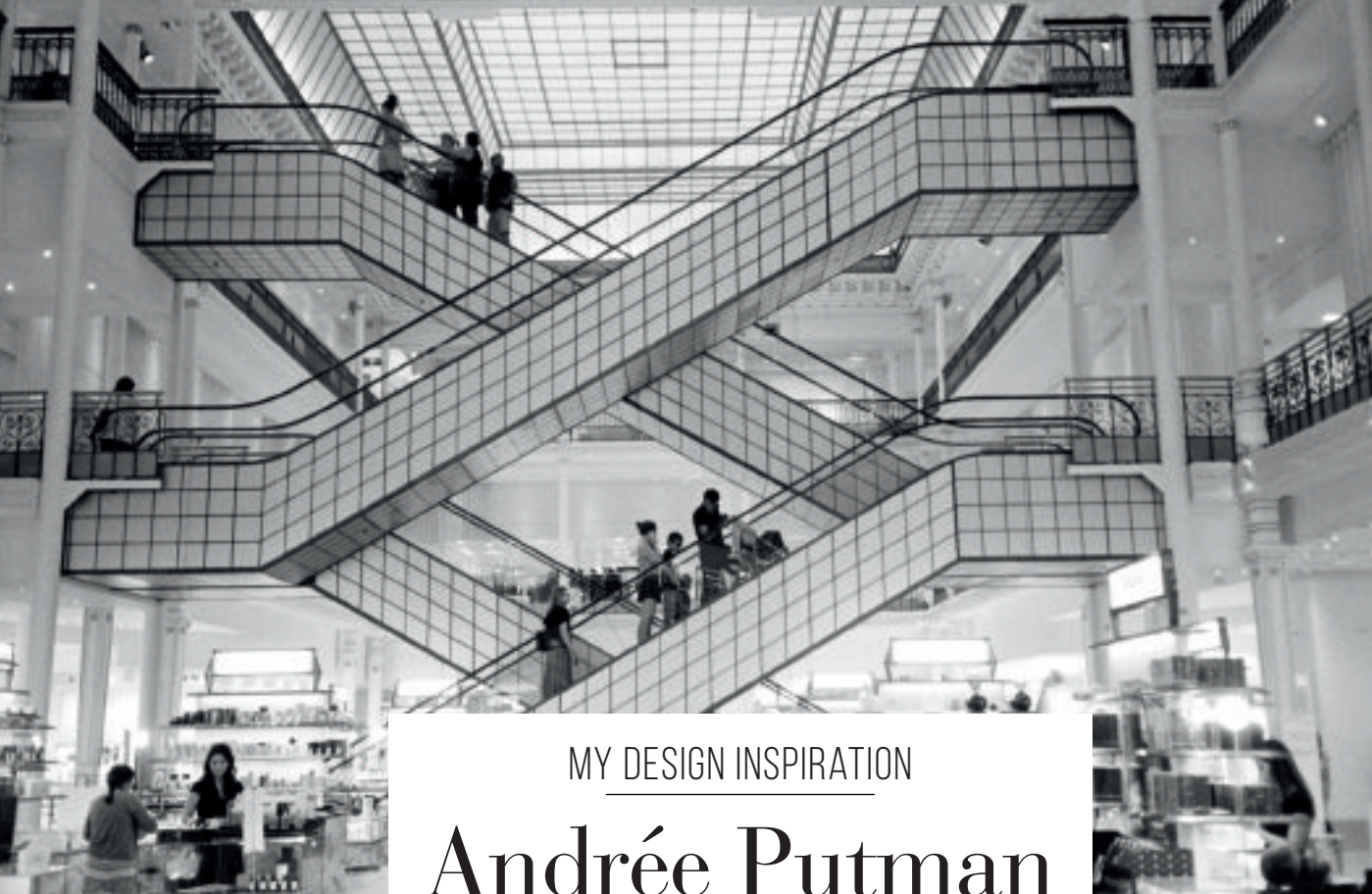


PHOTO CREDIT: STAIRS OF LE BON MARCHÉ IN PARIS, DESIGNED IN 1986 BY ANDRÉE PUTMAN, PHOTO COURTESY OF BY STÉPHANE HAMEL

MY DESIGN INSPIRATION

Andrée Putman

Interior designer Roselind Wilson on why the inimitable Andrée Putman is her design icon.

***ROSELIND WILSON** is the the owner and creative director of Rose Wilson Design, an NW6-based interior design studio providing luxury turnkey solutions for discerning clients. They also have an outpost in Cape Town. Wilson, who lives in Hampstead, combines a Business Management degree with an Interior Design diploma and over 16 years of experience designing bespoke homes around the world. She chooses the designer that shaped her own career.*

My design inspiration is firmly rooted in intangible aspects like attitude, self-expression and individuality. For this reason, I find my inspiration in people who exhibit these qualities.

My design icon has always been Andrée Putman for her striking sense of individuality and such strength of character. I discovered her work in the early days of my career. I was constantly stumbling upon products and interiors that I found myself irresistibly drawn to and found the common thread to be this amazing designer.

Born into a wealthy French family in the winter of 1923, she was the descendant of the inventor of the hot air balloon. A trained classical musician, she was considering a career

as a composer when a serious bicycle accident at the age of 20 almost ended her life. She survived, but developed a characteristic posture - rigid and straight backed - that stayed with her all her life.

She embraced a strident, austere aesthetic. One day, legend has it, she emptied her own bedroom of everything but an iron bedstead, a single chair, and a Miró poster.

Abandoning her music career, she took a job as the office messenger at magazines in Paris such as *Elle* and *L'Oeil*, where she was introduced to the leading artists and designers of the day. Every day she walked by the *Cafe de Flore*, where she'd spot the likes of Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir.

Her career as a designer began in 1958, when she was appointed art director of the home department of *Prisunic*, where she realised her desire to "design beautiful things for nothing". In 1971 she set up her own company, *Créateurs & Industriels*, championing the textile industry, where she worked with young talents including Ossie Clarke, Issey Miyake and Thierry Mugler.

One bankruptcy and one divorce later, at the age of 53 she doubled down on her interior design work and

founded *Ecart*, *Trace* spelt in reverse, where she revived works of forgotten 1930s designers and espoused the rejection of "pompous luxury".

Her designs for the new interiors of the *Morgan Hotel* on New York's Madison Avenue in 1984 won her international renown. She did the offices of the French culture minister Jack Lang, and designed the sets for Peter Greenaway's 1996 film *The Pillow Book*. She redesigned the interiors of the *concorde jets*, and created retail stores for Yves Saint Laurent, Karl Lagerfeld and Balenciaga. Her favourite work, however, was her memorial for *Martyrs de la Déportation*, commemorating the 200,000 Jews deported under the Nazi occupation. A modernist legend in her own time, she died in Paris in 2013 at the age of 87.

Andrée Putman's remains more of an inspiration than a reflection of my work, as what I enjoy most is the stunning balance between person, product and place.

Andrée Putman found harmony and balance in her design and it reflected exactly who she was. Her personality resonated through her work, and that is always an impactful statement to make. ♦

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