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### in[sight]

A profile of the influential individuals, companies and partnerships driving the interior design industry forward

### ex[rated]

Inex showcases striking exterior installations and products that blend cutting-edge design with practicality

### in[spire]

Helping professionals to keep abreast of trends, this focus highlights styles in texture, pattern and tone

### ex[pose]

Inex unveils the greatest iconic furniture pieces still prevalent in today's contemporary design world with modern twists

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**A**s the New Year welcomes a fresh palette of trends and innovation, trade shows, showrooms and individual brands prepare to wow visitors and make 2015 the most successful year on record for the design industry.

A new exhibition curated by The Building Centre and the Landscape Institute looks ahead to the future by celebrating upcoming landscaping projects. This month's Exrated takes a closer look at three projects displayed at the exhibition: the Swansea Bay Project, Paddington Green Infrastructure and Battersea Power Station. All three are prime examples of how landscape architecture can offer sustainable solutions to the big challenges facing contemporary urban society. Read the full article on page 18.

The New Year brings particular excitement for esteemed interior designer Alex Isaac as he starts his new position as Head of Design for international design studio Morpheus. In an exclusive interview on page 11, Alex talks about his experience of the design industry and his ambitions in this new prestigious role.

Other issue highlights include a showcase of one of Europe's largest showrooms on page 28, a cross-sector collaboration on page 33 and from page 42, a handpicked selection of not-to-be-missed exhibitor highlights at the upcoming Surface Design Show.

As always, I hope you enjoy this issue. Don't forget to download the Inex app free of charge to access this useful resource on the move. Simply enter the search term "Inex" in App Store or Google Play.

**Emily Smith**

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Top left: Bespoke furniture expert Neville Johnson explains how to achieve the perfect storage solutions regardless of space limitations on page 38

Cover: 5800 glass baubles create a stunning walkway through Crosswater's new showroom – see more of this spectacular space on page 28

Above: Keramag Design has launched the ultra-slim Opale shower tray



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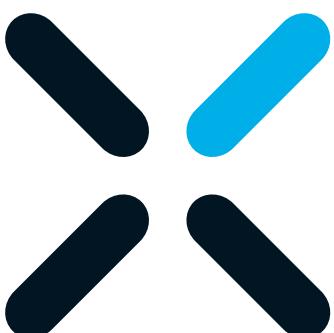
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Left: Interior designer Lydia Lavelle presents her bedroom design trend predictions for 2015 on page 8



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### Heimtextil

**14-17 January**

**Messe Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main**

Heimtextil is one of the biggest international trade fairs for home and contract textiles and a global benchmark for quality design textiles of innovative functionality. In addition to informative lectures on topical themes, Heimtextil offers the next generation an opportunity to actively participate by taking part in international competitions. [heimtextil.messefrankfurt.com](http://heimtextil.messefrankfurt.com)



### The January Furniture Show

**NEC, Birmingham**

**13-15 January**

The all new January Furniture Show will be held at the NEC from Tues 13 to Thurs 15 January 2015, launching the furniture industry buying cycle both internationally and in the UK. The show has attracted most of the industry's major names, including a number of popular suppliers that have not been seen at the show for several years.

[januaryfurnitureshow.com](http://januaryfurnitureshow.com)

### Home

**Olympia, London**

**11-13 January**

The UK's most exciting and comprehensive collection of stylish, innovative homewares and interior accessories is back for 2015. Home is the perfect place to buy covetable, stylish homeware products that will have your customers reaching in their pockets this season.

[home-london.net](http://home-london.net)



### Surface Design Show

**Business Design Centre**

**10-12 February**

2015 is going to be a bumper year for the Surface Design Show with more companies exhibiting than ever before. Presenting products from more than 120 exhibiting companies, there are also 30 presentations on one of the show's three stages - The Main Stage, CPD Hub and Light School. [surfacedesignshow.com](http://surfacedesignshow.com)



### Imm Cologne

**Koelnmesse, Cologne, Germany**

**19-25 January**

This key interiors show presents the trends and products that will be shaping the furniture and interiors sector for 2015. At the Imm Cologne, visitors will find a unique variety of interior design ideas for every room, style and requirement – from the basics all the way to designer items and luxury furnishings. The Imm Cologne showcases inspiring interior design ideas for trendsetters and provides markets with new impetus, by presenting major innovation drivers, market leaders and leading brands.

[imm-cologne.com](http://imm-cologne.com)



### Maison & Objet

**Paris Nord Villepinte**

**23-27 January**

This major trade show will be celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2015. This annual key meeting place for professionals in the art of living brings together a 360° offer that is in line with the diverse needs of global markets. For 20 years this large lifestyle platform, at the crossroads of business and creativity, provides solutions that meet the needs of visitors from around the world. It offers a unique opportunity to gain an overview of the trends in interior design. This biannual trade fair presents a huge amount of international design innovation and talent.

[maison-objet.com](http://maison-objet.com)



# Pillow talk

“ When it comes to colour in 2015, two key trends will emerge: smoky shades of grey, soft neutrals, metal hues, rich leather and marine/blue tones along with, at the opposite end of the spectrum, vibrant jewel colours.

“At Accouter, we have been experimenting with cooler tones - greys and light blues for a few years now, but in 2015, these cool tones are stronger. Blue will be

Lydia Lavelle – a leading designer at interior design studio Accouter – outlines a restful, but rich, new in-demand bedroom style for 2015.

an important hue. Most of us are used to seeing it used in more classic settings, but shades of blue will take on a fresh new, darker vibe. Blues that are almost black with bold tones without lacking depth will be key.

“This strong colour trend will

best be shown using the ‘Tone on Tone’ method. This is all about layering by using the same colour in different saturations and textures throughout the space. The easiest way to recreate the ‘Tone on Tone’ look is to mix and match patterns, keeping it all within one colour family. Even though you will have multiple textures and prints, the end result will be soft, calm and sophisticated.

“Giving a room instant visual impact will become even more

important. Feature walls are out, but the use of textures, prints and patterns is on the rise. Wallpaper is key to this trend – not overly patterned, but textured, to add warmth to a scheme, without being overpowering. Fabrics used in a bedroom will also be all about texture – visual or otherwise. Velvet and raw looking weaves are popular fabrics for upholstery.

“Finally, authentic looking finishes and materials are becoming popular. Additionally, we are now leaning towards the use of copper, pewter, gold and other warm metal accents in preference to just using chrome

and stainless steel.”

Accouter was recently asked to create a calm, yet sumptuous new look for a huge master bedroom. Lydia came up with a restful, yet luxurious design – set to be a big trend.

The size and imposing nature of the house meant the bedroom needed to feel regal, but not garish and too grand. With this in mind, it was decided that working with a wide palate of warm tone shades in the white, cream, gold and bronze spectrums would help keep the look of the room light, but also warm, cosy and peaceful. This range of complimentary hues

Opposite: Layering different saturations and textures of the same tone results in a calm and sophisticated look

Below: Bold, dark tones will be a big trend for bedroom interior design in 2015

was chosen to ensure a restful, yet strikingly beautiful finished room.

The tone for the finished design was set by the existing shade of white paint on the walls that perfectly complimented the original design panels and architrave features. This coupled with the rich, warm and sumptuous taupe silk carpet inlay, surrounded by a white carpet with thick underlay for the softest underfoot experience possible, meant that Accouter needed to come up with a design that continued this feeling of decadence and elegance.

The beautiful bed takes centre stage. The headboard's curved edges reflect the lines of the oval windows either side of it and the cream cotton velvet upholstery with its slight sheen and studded border adds another tone and warmth to the colour scheme of the room. The bed is dressed with a number of striking decorative cushions. From ones with bronze and black stripes on cream silk, with a satin pipe around the edge, to dark brown soft velvet cushions and ones showing bold geometric prints with metallic thread. The colour of the piping on each is used to tie all styles together. The cushion pads are duck feather, to ensure that really plump, luxurious feel. A faux fur throw in soft cream and beige, lying on top of bedlinen with a charcoal striped border, continues the design theme and adds to the rich and opulent look.

Two bespoke bedside tables were made to fit the available space in the bed alcove perfectly. Each has a gold trim, which adds an extra touch of elegance. Crystal lamp bases with white silk shades keep the fresh, feminine theme going.

The final design touch is the addition of two benches at the end of the bed. The bronze leather upholstery was chosen to match the bronze silk stripes featured on the bed cushions and so tie the look together.

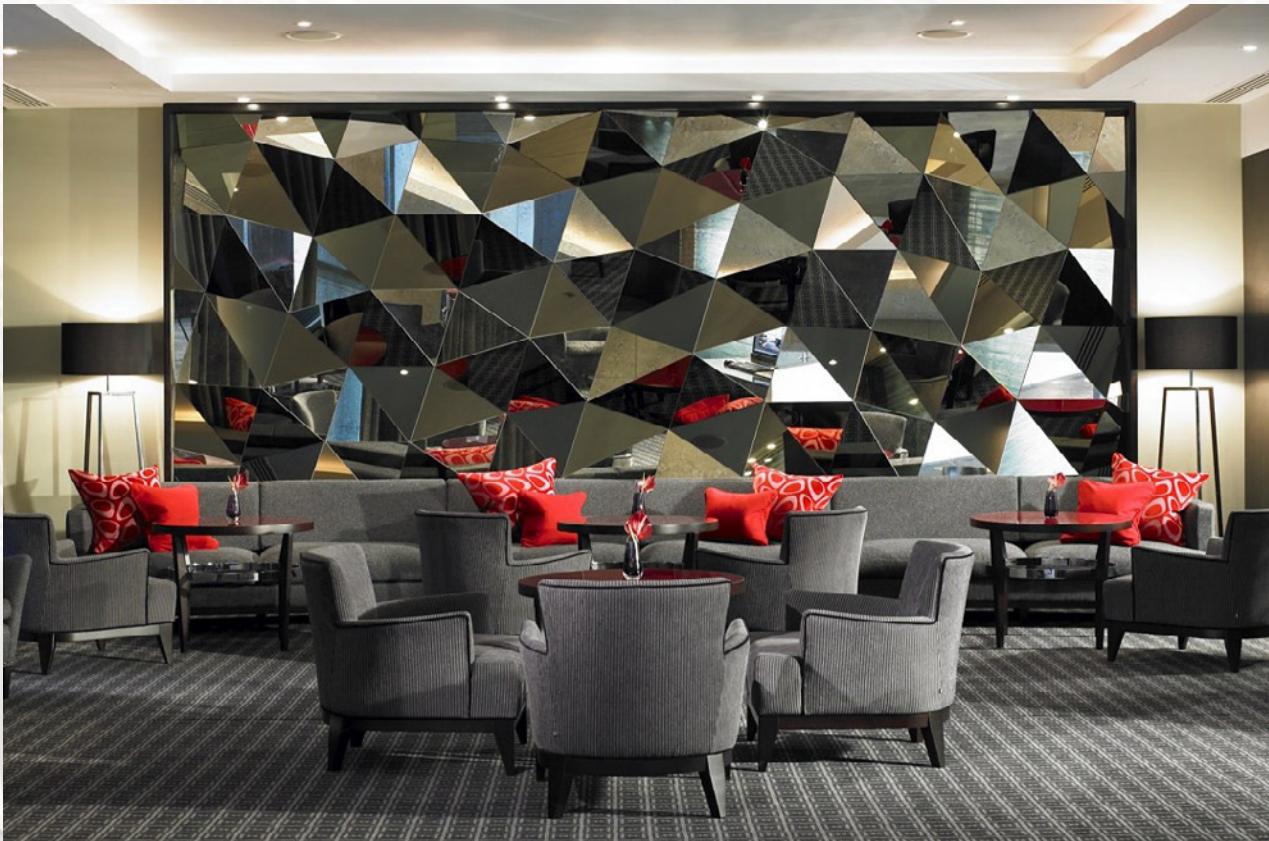
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## Pastures new

International design studio Morpheus' new Head of Design, Alex Isaac talks exclusively to Inex about his experience of the design industry and his ambitions for this new prestigious role.

When asked what inspired him to pursue a career in interior design, Alex Isaac answered with clarity: "My family. You could say it runs in my blood."

Both sets of Alex's Grandparents were in the design trade, owning furniture and decoration showrooms, and his parents ran a highly regarded interior design consultancy for over 40 years.

Following studies in Civil Engineering and Law, Alex Isaac started his own design career by joining the renowned yacht design studio, Jon Bannenberg Limited, in the early 2000s. He worked on some of the world's most prestigious yacht projects and learnt the design trade to the highest end of the market.

He continues: "The rebuild of Motor Yacht, Blue Bird of 1938, is the project that I am most proud of. This was a restoration project of a small 31m classic gentleman's yacht, built originally for Sir Malcolm Campbell – it was a long project and one on which I probably learnt the most."

In 2008 Alex left his position as Associate Director of the company to pursue his own venture from a studio next to Lake Geneva, Switzerland.

Alex comments: "I am not a great believer in signature styles. I have my own personal taste but it is our job as designers not to let that over influence a client's wishes, we are here to guide and interpret the brief, defining a project that is a





success for all parties involved.

"That said, I am a believer in a signature thread that runs through projects, the DNA of a design studio that informs projects subtly. This should affect all aspects of a commission from the customer journey through to the completed product. In the high-end market, one could summarise this as

luxurious layering, the proactive service offered by designers during the project to the final dressing of an installation.

"I try to take influence from all things in life and people especially – whilst there are motivational and inspirational characters in many creative disciplines from art to music and literature, the designers I

Above: Morpheus has recently relocated to a new office

Far right: A new multi-functional space can be used for a variety of purposes, from private meetings to formal dinners

keep coming back to are Paul Dupre Lafon and Naomi Leff. Lafon had a purity of style, that, for being at the top end, remained unadorned, simple and easy on the eye – it is handsome. Leff was an amazing story teller, her projects convey the personality of her clients regardless of any overarching theme."

The last two years has seen



Alex work on the Creative Directorship of UK interiors brand LINLEY to drive the company to record levels of profitability – a project that he perceives as his most regarded professional achievement.

In November 2014 design studio Morpheus approached him with the exciting prospect of leading its established design team.

“Given the nature of Morpheus’s work in the luxury property and commercial sectors alongside the focus and integrity they bring to their projects, it was a perfect



fit,” Alex explains.

Andrew Murray, Chairman of Morpheus, adds: “Morpheus has undergone significant growth over recent years and this new appointment will further galvanise the skills of the team to deliver exceptional levels of creativity and support our active ambitions for further growth. Alex is greatly

respected in the industry and we are delighted to have him on board.”

Alex continues: “I was most looking forward to working with the team. Under the direction of Chairman, Andrew Murray, and Chief Executive, Giles Green, Morpheus has developed in a considered manner, the strong



foundation they have established allows us to operate on design projects at the highest end of the market for a client base that demands the best levels of service and quality of design. In that regard the team is made up of individuals with an exceptional level of talent across multi-disciplines, from design management, interior architecture and design to marketing and branding and development management. The service Morpheus is able to offer is a holistic one, and end-to-end, if that is what is required.

“In my view the super-prime property market in London has been the greatest influence in the evolution of the design sector. In recent years design houses have been pushed to keep up with clients prepared to spend several millions for and on property. Elevated expectations have seen





designers strive to new levels of quality in terms of ability, service and completed projects. With certain properties now costing as much, if not more, than a £50m superyacht, the design and fit-out needs to be comparable. This does mean the industry has become very desirable to work in, infecting the design talent pool with individuals who expect nothing less than the best."

When asked what he most values about the design industry, Alex says with no doubt that it is the clients. As without their vision, resources and commitment to create amazing projects an interior designer's designs would be nothing but pretty pictures on pieces of paper. The piece of advice that he has most benefited from in his career is to have patience – patience with colleagues, suppliers, clients and yourself.

Alex concludes: "In ten years time I see myself as Head of Design at Morpheus with several keynote projects under my belt and many more on the drawing board."

[morpheuslondon.com](http://morpheuslondon.com) »

Far left: Morpheus has completed a number of high-end projects  
 Below left: Here, luxury is portrayed through rich tones and mood lighting  
 Below: Alex Isaac has just joined international design studio, Morpheus  
 Left: The new London design studio offices are located in Belgravia



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# Latham all set for Surface Design Show

One of the UK's biggest independent decorative panel distributor James Latham, is all set for Surface Design Show 2015 where it will unveil a number of exciting new products which are certain to create plenty of interest among visiting Architects and Interior Designers.

The surfaces on show at stand number 206 will include:

## HI MACS®

With almost 100 colours in the portfolio, HI-MACS® solid surface is a highly versatile and extremely durable material which can be easily machined and thermoformed to almost any 3D-shape imaginable, offering endless design possibilities and producing a surface that is flowing, functional and visually seamless. Architects and interior designers can download the full range of HI-MACS® colours in CAD software-compatible format by clicking on [www.himacsuk.co.uk](http://www.himacsuk.co.uk).

## Luminoso

A revolutionary new wood material, Luminoso wood panels transmit light, allowing designers to create visually stunning effects. The special process utilises fibre optics that allow natural or artificial light

to be transmitted. When the panel is unlit it appears to be a solid piece of wood as the fibre optics are only visible upon very close inspection but once illuminated, all kinds of impactful and eye-catching effects can be achieved. Customised designs, logos and images can be incorporated and even 'movable' images can be transmitted.

## Egger

James Latham will be showing a number of new additions to its already extensive range of Egger decors. With the growing popularity of textured wood grain frontals and panels, six new textures have been added to its market leading ZOOM collection. The panels have a deeper and more natural texture, giving a look and feel that is almost exactly like solid wood or veneer. Plus, they also offer colour consistency over the lifetime of the furniture as well as being hard-wearing and low-maintenance.



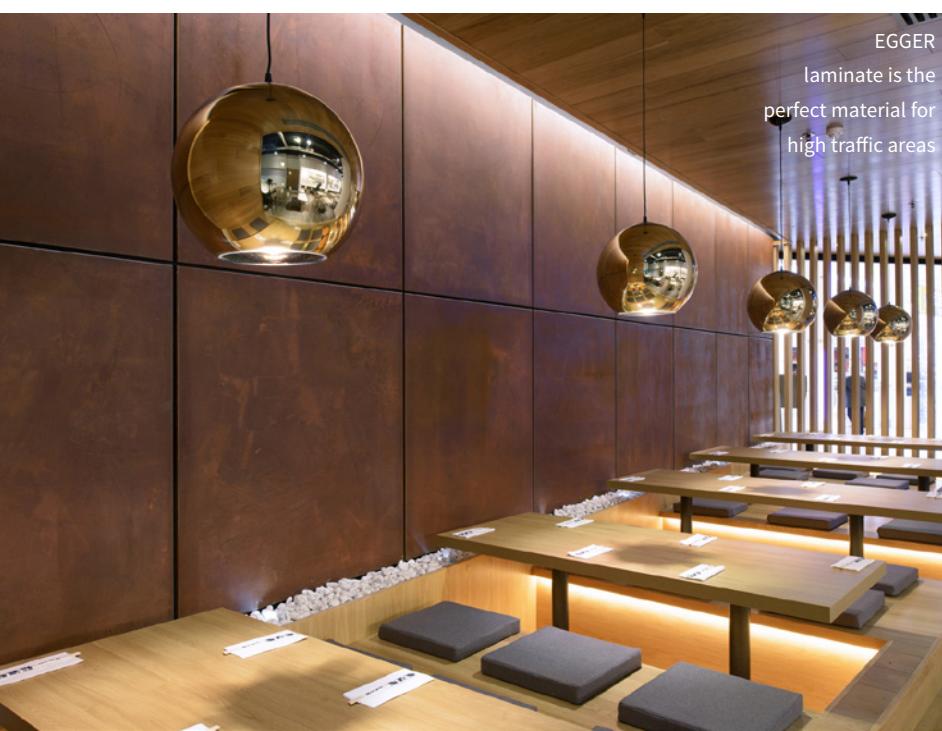
## Natural Touch

Part of the Kronodesign range, Natural Touch is the first 'embossed-in-register' melamine board where the grain texture precisely matches the surface finish. Natural Touch can be used for cladding walls, building furniture, creating fixtures as well as making striking punctuations to spaces and surfaces and the versatility of this product has made it particularly popular within the shop fitting and hospitality sectors.

Other products on Latham's stand will include; DecoGloss, an exciting and vibrant range of high-gloss acrylic panels which are exclusive to James Latham; Shinnoki 2.0, a range of ready to use veneered panels that are supplied already stained and lacquered, requiring no further finishing; Valchromat, a coloured engineered fibreboard in which the colour runs throughout the entire board; Décor Eco, an exciting new range of coloured plywood panels, plus Accoya® LathamCLAD a modified, highly durable and dimensionally stable certified timber cladding as well as UPM Profi Deck, an environmentally sustainable wood plastic composite decking requiring minimal maintenance.

Chris Sutton, Managing Director of James Latham commented: "We are really looking forward to this year's Surface Design Show as it's a great platform for us to meet with the most forward thinking architects and designers in the industry. We have a history and expertise in bringing new and innovative products to the UK market and I'm certain that these latest additions will have a big impact within the A&D sector."

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## Landscaping revolution

A new exhibition curated by The Building Centre and the Landscape Institute will exemplify how landscape architecture can offer sustainable solutions to the big challenges facing contemporary urban society, including circumstances such as flooding and public health.

The 'Rethinking the Urban Landscape' exhibition opens at The Building Centre on 8th January, sponsored by ACO Technologies plc and Penter.

Showcasing some of the UK's most powerful contemporary landscape projects including King's Cross and the Olympic Park, alongside small, community-led schemes including pocket parks and community allotments, the exhibition will highlight the importance of investing in green

infrastructure if our cities are to become more liveable, healthy and safe.

### Generating innovation

One project presented in the exhibition is the Swansea Bay Project. This ambitious endeavour, designed by landscape architects LDA Design, involves creating a new lagoon by constructing 9.5km of sea wall in the bay, which will contain turbines that generate energy from incoming and outgoing tides. If realised, it could produce

enough electricity to power 156,000 homes, 14 hours a day for 120 years, fulfilling the energy needs of 90 per cent of Swansea Bay, or 11% of Wales.

The proposed scheme is currently working its way through a complex planning process reserved for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

As well as generating energy, the Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon scheme also creates a new Maritime Park with four defined areas, a pontoon and new habitats for marine life. An innovative offshore building that will act as a destination for visitors, offering guided tours of the turbine housing, also forms a part of the scheme.

The project scooped the prestigious President's Award at the annual Landscape Institute Awards. These awards are presented each year to recognise and encourage outstanding work by landscape architects in the UK and worldwide.

Noel Farrer, President of the Landscape Institute, says: "The quality of the entries for this year's awards was extremely high and the level of ambition and sophistication in the Swansea Bay scheme speaks for itself. It's a brilliant piece of landscape architecture, which clearly demonstrates the strength of the profession in responding to 21st century environmental challenges."

### Holistic retro-fit

Another focus for the exhibition is the Paddington Green infrastructure and public realm plan. This is Westminster City Council's first holistic area-wide scheme to retro-fit a climate-adapted public realm.

The area has suffered from the acute problems of poor air quality, a lack of open space for play and lack of contact with nature, high instances of poor physical and mental health as well as the lowest average life expectancy for men and women in the borough. There is also low land values, a poor evening economy, flooding but also drought in the summer heat, as well as insufficient and poorly managed infrastructure.

The area is unusual in that Westminster owns many of the streets, buildings and associated garden spaces, which meant that it was possible to redefine the public realm in order to increase activities with improved market spaces, informal play, gardens, spaces for wildlife, and car-free routes.

As a result of the plan, Landscape Architects Grant Associates has proposed a 500% increase in trees across the Church



Street ward public realm alone. Rain garden attenuation greater than the volume of an Olympic-sized swimming pool will be managed. All this is achievable with no loss of overall parking. Existing green spaces and gardens will connect through green streets and public spaces and improvements to waste collection infrastructure will make it easier to recycle and keep streets clean. There will also be district-wide heating for new homes, and where possible in existing homes, is proposed for greater sustainability and efficiency.

### Iconic redevelopment

Arguably one of the most eagerly anticipated London development projects in recent years is the Battersea Power Station project. Enduring cultural icon and a much-loved landmark Battersea Power Station has remained vacant since it was decommissioned in 1983. In 2008 a new masterplan for the Battersea Power Station site was unveiled with Rafael Vinoly's design of a residential-led scheme looking to capitalise on the London property market.

The public realm has been designed by LDA Design as a series of overlapping systems – horticulture, paved spaces, water management, biodiversity, microclimate, topography, human program – with the expression of these informed by a sense of industrial robustness that comes with the site history.

The overall design has to achieve a unity while mediating between new buildings designed with very different characteristics and by a host of signature architects – to date Foster and Partners, Gehry Partners, dRMM and Ian Simpson Architects have been commissioned to design buildings





with Wilkinson Eyre leading the refurbishment of the Power Station.

The waterfront will be transformed into a public park and gardens connected to the Power Station through a square at its northern entrance. Another square will provide connection at the southern entrance, linking to two new streets – the High Street where the entrance to the new underground station will be located, and the Prospect.

Surrounding the Power Station will be the 'Halo' – a reflecting pool that forms a setting to the Grade I listed building. Around the 'Halo' will be a circular street with cafe terraces. The design also involves dramatic roof gardens on the Power Station and new podium level landscapes for residential development.

To showcase Phase I development a pavilion and pop-up park provided a marketing facility of the wider Power Station site. The pop-up park created a flexible and programmable space

with a dynamic planting design, which changes the character and appearance of the park throughout the year.

#### Thought-provoking showcase

'Rethinking the Urban Landscape' argues the case to commit investment to 'green infrastructure' in the early stages of city and regeneration planning. The exhibition sets out to show that with long-term landscape planning cities can become healthier, safer and happier places to be - from reduced risk of flooding, to countering the 'invisible killer' of bad air quality, to weaving more enjoyable and inspiring environments throughout the urban fabric.

The exhibition includes many of the best international projects in its presentation of more than 50 schemes. A range of inspiring models and films are available for visitors to experience and there is a series of supporting talks.

[buildingcentre.co.uk](http://buildingcentre.co.uk) »



Left: The Battersea Power Station development has already made good progress

Far left: An interpretation of what the finished Paddington Green infrastructure will look like

Opposite top: This development responds to problems of poor air quality

Top left: The Battersea Power Station development will include numerous green spaces



## Shadows and optical illusions

Deirdre Dyson's 2015 carpet collection is quite a departure from recent themes.  
Deirdre talks to Inex about the brand's design evolution.

### **Tell us about the new collection:**

My 2015 'Illusion' collection presented my hand-knotted makers with the most difficult challenge to date. The geometric designs may look deceptively simple, but the intricacy of workmanship involved is astounding. I have used colour grading in many directions and opposing paths. The makers, who work across the loom from left to right, row by row, have to change colour at almost every stitch. It requires them to think as if standing on their heads and reflects the complete labour of love that we dedicate to these exquisite carpets! The result is a dazzling contrast from light to dark, of shadows and optical illusions.

Above: 'Shadows' presents opposed grading in silk  
Opposite: The 'Dawn' design is opposed grading in both silk and wool

### **How does the company approach research and product development?**

The business is entirely design

led. It is a bespoke business with the aim to produce original carpets that can be re-visualised to suit our discerning clients in any colour or size. The approach is to stay small, personal, reliable and special. Landmarks have been the introduction of a themed collection each year which brings marketing opportunities.

### **In your opinion, what have been the landmarks for the brand's journey and growth?**

We now have dedicated salespersons in the UK and Paris who personally visit potential clients. Our success is built entirely on our reputation for dedication, service, originality and quality.

### **With new technologies overtaking the demand for traditional techniques, what can the industry do to maintain these skills?**

We work with both modern and ancient technology. Tufting in the UK and hand knotting in Nepal. We point out the differences and how they suit different requirements. They look different and feel different but both are valid. One does not supersede the other.

### **What are the origins of hand-knotting in carpets and why has this style stood the test of time?**

The hand knotted Tibetan carpet making skill has existed for hundreds, if not thousands, of years and these carpets were originally made for aristocratic families or for religious purposes. The test of time proves the durability and desirability of this method of making.

### **The last few years has seen products made in England take prominence and grow in popularity. Why is this label so important for the industry?**

Although we have very little manufacturing in the UK compared to our industrial history, we have still retained a reputation for quality and reliability.

### **What should interior designers be looking for when considering flooring options?**

We work mostly with interior designers. They are working to a client brief so their flooring options will have been decided before visiting us. If their choice is carpeting, they come to us because they appreciate our expertise and range of 2000 colours and we appreciate and respect their ideas. We like to work with them to create something that is the perfect solution for their schemes.

### **Have you any specific trend forecasts for the industry in 2015?**

Although I keep an eye on trends, I follow my own evolutionary path of design. I want to be different. I don't see myself as a trend setter.

[deirdredyson.com](http://deirdredyson.com) »

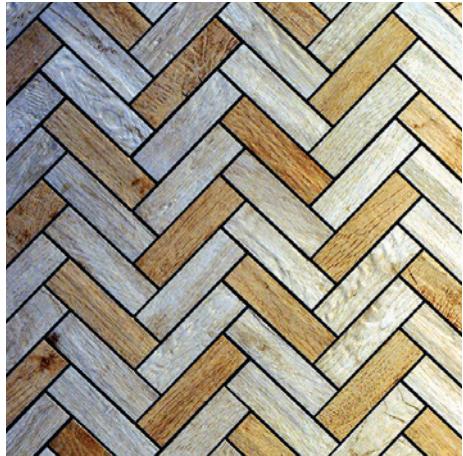




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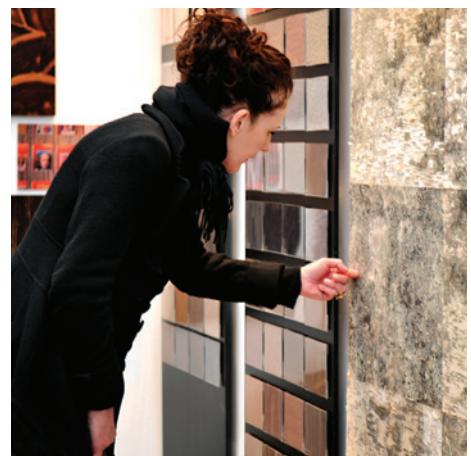
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## New restaurant brings spring indoors

Paul Nulty Lighting Design has completed the interior lighting for the first solo restaurant of chef Skye Gyngell.



In collaboration with interior designer Briony Fitzgerald and architect Stuart Forbes Associates, PNLD has brought life to a 19th-century drawing room at the world famous Somerset House, London, that hasn't been open to the public for over 150 years.

Warmth has been brought into a space flooded with natural light and with ceilings that stand over four metres tall. PNLD's concept was to enhance, yet soften, the commanding architecture of clean stone columns and vast ceilings to create an intimate dining experience. The lighting concept, based on the restaurant's name and aligned with Skye Gyngell's vision for softness, draws spring-like gentleness throughout the space balancing the cool tones of natural light with the warmth of the interior design.

PNLD wanted to draw guests through the season's colours and textures as they walked through the rooms.



As they enter the reception, guests are enveloped by subdued, natural colours resembling a forest at dusk; Lindsey Alderman's chandelier, in the design of twisted branches and tipped with rounded luminaires, adds to the natural effect and feel of the space and washes an ambient light over the muted golden tones of the walls. Artist

Emma Peascod's verre églomise provides a richness of colour that PNLD has lit from top and bottom to radiate the intricate foil petal detail behind the glass. The light catches the texture of the materials to create liveliness from the foil flowers that shine and sparkle.

Through wide arches, guests can see the atrium and main dining

**Above: Outside dining is illuminated through potted trees that sit between tables to give a sense of privacy to diners**

area where the freshness of a spring day has been created using a tonality that tempers the coolness of natural light that floods into the two rooms. Ambient and accent lighting delicately pick out details across the tables and walls, easing the vastness of the main dining area. Banquettes modelled on the curvature of the imposing columns



are illuminated to create spaces of intimacy; the grand windows are framed with up lighting to give a balanced luminosity. With an interior of original features combined with modern art and architecture, the characteristics of history and the present day have been harmonised.

Brazilian ceramic artist, Valeria Nascimeto has created symmetrical sculptures of 5200 individual porcelain petals for the walls that face out across the dining room. PNLD has gently washed the sculpture with light to highlight the individual porcelain petals, creating

shadow, texture and depth.

The restaurant's atrium is cool from the natural light above and enhanced by the muted stone tones of garden designer Jinny Blom's feature panels that delicately adorn the walls. The lighting complements a nocturnal atmosphere with a concealed strip of luminaires around the skylight, drawing the eye to the outdoors and providing an ethereal background illumination. Hidden spotlights create the effect of dappled moonlight permeating through trees producing a textured light effect on the panelling. This dusky ambience is visible from within the restaurant's dining room and combined with the atrium's foliage, helps draw a spring evening into the space.

Below: 5200 individual porcelain petals adorn the dining room wall

Many individual luminaires were required to provide contrast, balance and intimacy to the boldness of the 19th-century drawing room and it was vital that each was easy to use and sustainable. Cluster luminaires in the main dining room are a warm halogen source, and behind the eglomise, LEDs have been used for their longevity and high performance. Throughout the restaurant and kitchen spaces, the lighting is low maintenance and low energy. The practice also implemented a flexible lighting system that allowed for light modification and illuminated the tables to keep the atmosphere intimate between diners.

Daniel Gray, Senior Lighting Designer comments: "Re-creating the freshness of a spring day and the coolness of an evening, indoors, requires a complex combination of lighting techniques that needs to be simultaneously bright while also unnoticeable. The lighting concept for the Spring restaurant demonstrates how light can be powerful in its obscurity and how it can create an atmosphere of tranquillity, intimacy and romance when used in collaboration with interior design."

[paulnulty.co.uk](http://paulnulty.co.uk) »





## World-class ambitions

One of Europe's largest showrooms has been incorporated as part of an inspiring new headquarters for bathroom specialists Bathroom Brands and Crosswater Holdings.

**A**£19m investment in a new UK headquarters, incorporating one of Europe's largest bathroom showrooms, has been designed with flair, imagination and the capability to accommodate future growth.

Lake View House was formerly opened in November by Lord St John of Bletso, the Hereditary British Peer. The formal opening marked the start of a day of celebration for employees and their families, suppliers and customers. Within the building is a

5800 glass baubles create a stunning walkway through the showroom



10,000ft<sup>2</sup> gallery showroom, where customers can see and touch products. However, this is not just any showroom – it is one of the largest in Europe, occupying a space as striking as the north gallery of Westminster Abbey.

Architects Coppin Dockray

designed and created a gallery inspired space that fascinates with products shown in 32 beautifully decorated lifestyle settings. There is a decompression chamber before visitors enter – followed by a stunning movement-activated rainfall shower display. Over 5800

Above: An interactive display demonstrates the company's products  
Top: There are 32 stunning displays

hand blown golden glass baubles suspended at different heights add a touch of magic. Each display has been created to allow for multiple changes – essential to ensure new products are seen as soon as possible. The ambience is one of luxury, quality and innovation.



Above: Each display demonstrates the versatility of bathroom design

Top right: The new office includes a games room for the 200 employees to use

Right: The showroom is one of the largest in Europe

Far right: Large, open plan office environments are popular in new workplace designs





Craftsmen from fields as diverse as boat building, lighting design and jewellery added their expertise, making the showroom unique within the European bathroom industry.

The new showroom is now available to retailers, architects, specifiers and designers. Bathroom Brands CEO Patrick Riley comments: "People from within the industry and from the design community will be astonished. This is a true landmark within the bathroom industry. We are enormously proud of what has been achieved. This fantastic new facility which brings our staff together under one roof allows us to offer our customers an unbeatable level of support that is genuinely unparalleled."

Lake View House has been custom designed to incorporate the brand's offices as well as the spectacular showroom. Set overlooking protected wetlands

and lakes the building is designed with a distinctive internal bridge. The bridge runs the full width of the structure and is designed to allow teams from Crosswater and Bathroom Brands to seamlessly link in a creative environment.

All 200 employees are now able to work together in a facility that combines efficiency with delightful working conditions that include a cafe, areas for relaxation, a games room, a playfully themed chill out room called the Man Cave and much more.

The total floor area is 129,000ft<sup>2</sup> and as well as working space and an astonishing and inspirational gallery showroom, the building includes a 95,000ft<sup>2</sup> warehouse that can hold 5000 different product lines and has 2500 picking points. The entire project was completed in just eight months.

[bathroombrands.com](http://bathroombrands.com)  
[crosswater.co.uk](http://crosswater.co.uk) »





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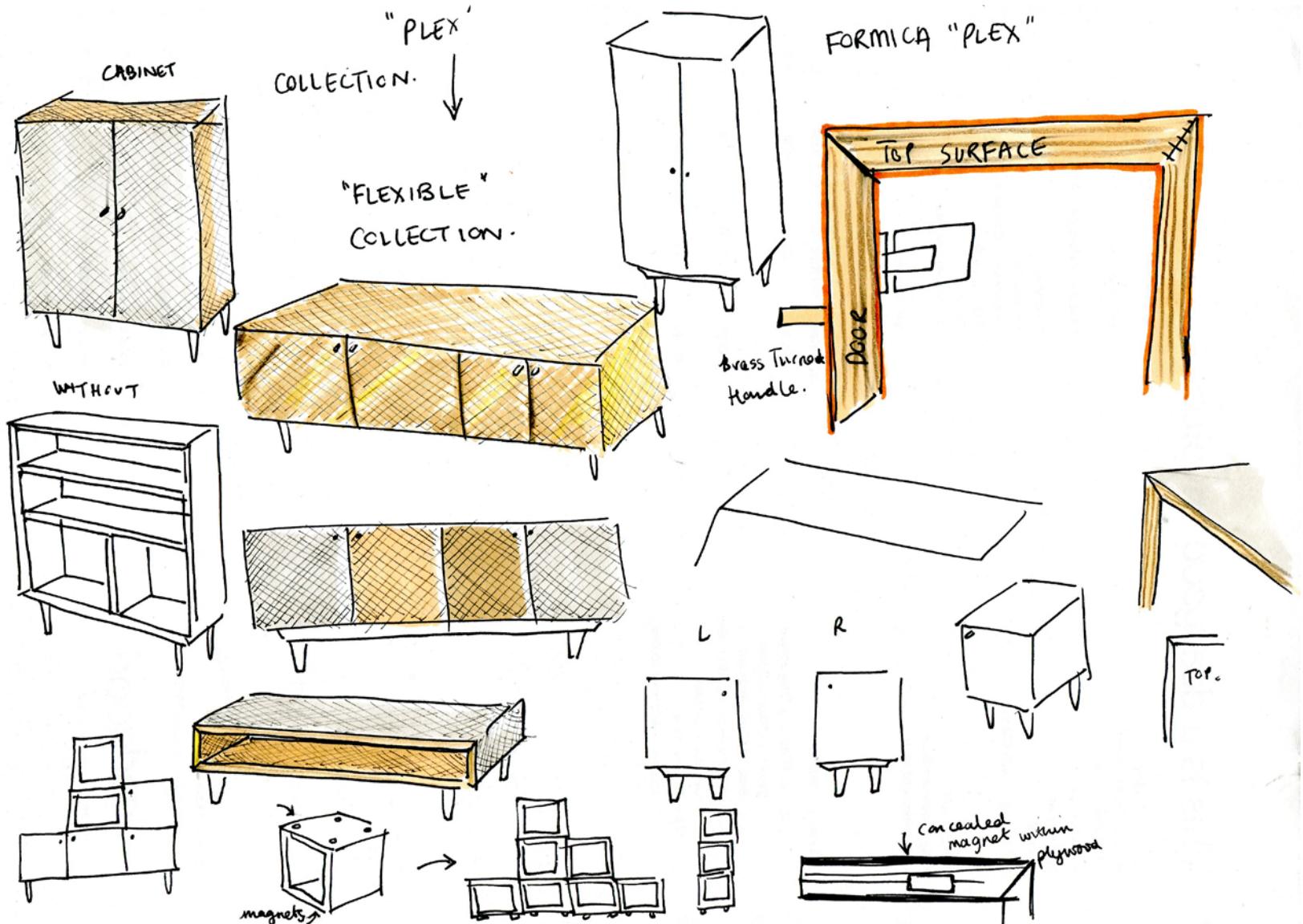
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## Cross-sector collaboration

British furniture designers, Deadgood have designed a collection inspired by the qualities and characteristics of laminate. Here the Deadgood designers explain more about the idea behind the collection.

**D**eadgood director, Dan Ziglam, chose Formica's Plex and High Pressure Laminate to create contrasting block colour panelling on the surfaces of the Plex Cabinet and Plex Sideboard.

He explains: "The concept for a collection that is flexible and customisable came to life as soon as we had all of the laminate samples laid out on a table. We have been inspired by the different colours lying next to each other, creating a visually strong blend. When playing around with the samples, we also liked the idea that, in the same way we were moving the samples around, our clients could customise their furniture combining surface panels in different colours.

"Furthermore, this also gave us the idea to create a

surprise element, as, for example, the colour of a cabinet door can be replicated to match on the inside to create a stunning effect."

Apart from Plain Colours, the Plex Cabinet and Plex Sideboard are available in four metallic looks finished in Plex texture.

Vicki Leach, in-house designer at Deadgood, comments further: "When designing the collection, we held different samples in order to feel their grip; Plex has got a particular texture, as if it had been knurled, which we found

fascinating. If a product makes you want to investigate and touch it, you know you'll have everyone's attention. We were so impressed by the texture itself that we decided to name the Collection after it".

The brand partnered closely with some of the very best British craftsmen in order to develop the Plex Collection in such a way that could adhere to the company's client-driven ethos of offering great customer service.

Dan comments further: "Flexibility is one of the key aspects



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of our collection that allows our clients to create a truly customised design. We love how extensive the Formica Collection is as it allows us to offer a wide variety of finishes for our bespoke service. We are able to offer our customers a choice of more than 200 colours, and the pieces can be resized, recoloured, and even completely reshaped if needed.”

Deadgood and Formica Group have a long-standing relationship. Formica laminate was chosen as

the material of choice for one of Deadgood’s first products, the popular Form Chair and Form Stools.

Combining Formica Group’s versatile surfacing materials with the brand’s recognised creative excellence, Deadgood offers a stylish Plex Collection which can complement demanding environments from the bedroom to the boardroom.

[deadgoodltd.co.uk](http://deadgoodltd.co.uk)  
[formica.com](http://formica.com) »



Above: The Plex Collection used Formica laminate  
 Left: The collection includes a sideboard and cabinet, both available in four metallic looks

## Stylish accessibility

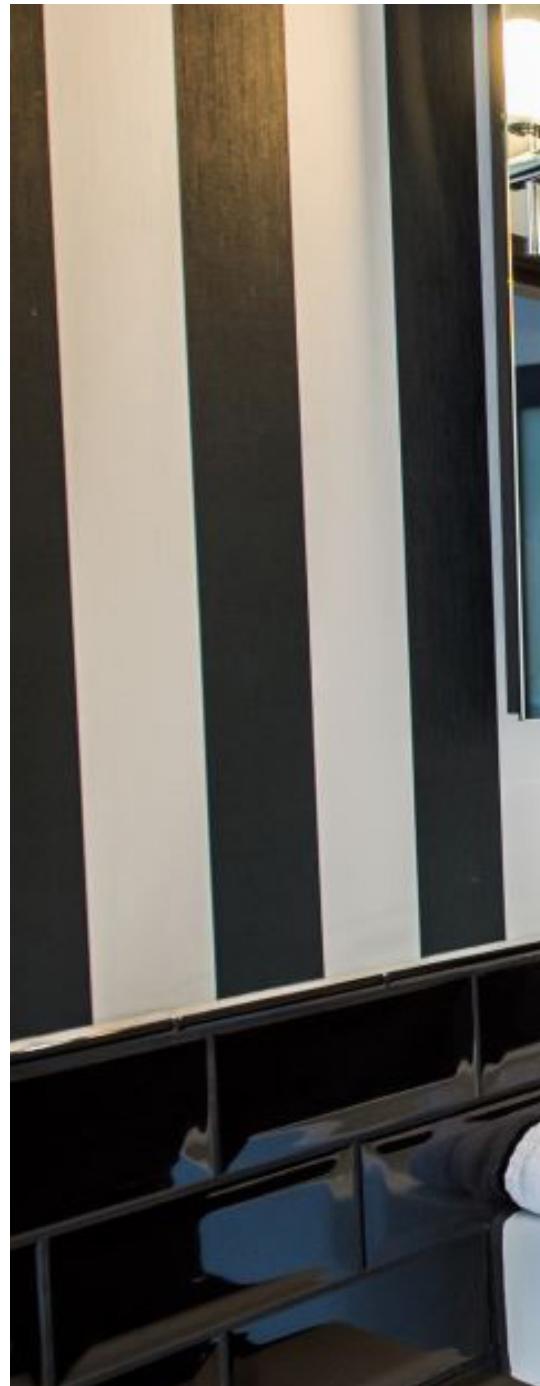
The Ampersand hotel has a number of accessible bathrooms that have been designed to match the luxury level of the other hotel bathrooms.

The Ampersand's interior design scheme played with five central concepts – botany, music, geometry, ornithology and astronomy – and was inspired by iconic buildings located near to the hotel. Inspirations included the pattern of the V&A's costume collection, the Science Museum's planets and phials and the Natural History Museum's ornithological drawings.

The hotel comprises 111 rooms and suites, including

accessible rooms located on the ground, first and fourth floors. This highly original and intricate design concept was preserved throughout all of the hotel rooms, meaning that the accessible rooms needed to mirror the clear attention to aesthetics displayed in every suite and room.

Bathroom specialists C.P. Hart worked closely with architecture and interior design practice Dexter Moren Associates to supply specialist accessible design products that would perform elegantly and efficiently while



adhering to the design narrative.

The accessible bathrooms at The Ampersand were fitted with a series of accessible design products sourced from specialist manufacturer partners. The expansive shower areas were fabricated to include contemporary thermostatic showers with ample room for a turning circle and supportive grab rails designed to assist movement. The showers also feature a tip up seat that can be removed when not required. Support rails were installed next to the washbasin and close coupled



pan, with C.P. Hart advising on mounting heights and proximity to each piece to ensure compliance. These rails are used for towels when the guest does not require the accessibility benefits.

Ian Dutch, Head of Contracts, Hotels on Accessible Design, comments: "We take the view that bathroom design should be universal. Meeting the demands of Building Regulations Part M – which covers the requirements with respect to access to and use of buildings – and the Disability Discrimination Act doesn't mean a hotel bathroom has

to feel functional; accessible design can be inspirational, luxurious and well-conceived.

"When we design a DDA bathroom we are always looking to create an inclusive space that meets the practical needs of every visitor, but also delivers an aesthetic that complements the hotel's overall design narrative.

"Managing the challenges of accessibility comes down to creating a multifunctional space that considers absolutely every requirement the hotel guest might have. Key aspects to take into

Far left: C.P. Hart's portfolio includes a number of stylish accessible designs  
Above: An accessible hotel bathroom needs to present the same luxury appeal as any of the hotel's rooms

account are the overall layout of the room and how this can be best used to create space for a turning circle or transfer area for wheelchair users. Does the central washbasin offer stability and is it easy to move around?

"The specification process can often be complex so working with a DDA bathroom specialist is essential as they will help you make the right product choices and guide you through the process to ensure the end result is compliant with accessibility legislation."

[cphart.co.uk](http://cphart.co.uk)





# Tailored storage

Creating the impression of space in the home is all about designing the correct storage for individual needs. Bespoke furniture expert Neville Johnson explains how to achieve the perfect storage solutions regardless of space limitations.

**E**ffective storage can make a living space feel instantly organised and in control as well as introducing a fresh and exciting design concept to a home. To make the most out of every area and awkward corner of a home, opt for floor to ceiling fitted furniture as this will create storage in places that an off the shelf product would not be able to utilise. All it needs is vigilant planning and inspired designing.

Walls are the ideal place for storage and when done in the right way, can look fantastic. Many more people are opting for floor to ceiling white cabinetry with both open and closed door variations. Coloured glass panels and doors are also proving exceptionally popular and added to the design in a 'random' pattern will create a unique and stylish storage statement.

Tailored furniture can be exceedingly versatile. Remember that this type of furniture can be made to measure, meaning that you do not have to settle for the shape of readymade pieces or try to find somewhere for furniture to fit. Bespoke furniture companies can create ingenious solutions so that space can be freed up in clever ways. This allows you to create a solution for each room so that not an inch of space is wasted in any part of a house and the space that becomes available as a result actually makes each room look

Right: Stairs create an opportunity for useful, tucked away storage

Top opposite: Floor to ceiling fitted furniture can create a stylish focal feature

Below opposite: Storage cabinets create an opportunity to hide clutter



bigger. Bespoke storage solutions such as custom made bookcases and cabinets can be designed to cleverly hideaway everyday items from files and paperwork, tableware and cutlery to integrated fridges, and concealed drawers and compartments.

Space is becoming ever more valuable and most modern-day households are trying to maximise the living space available, free from the clutter of everyday life. People might feel that they have to move home due to not having enough rooms or storage, but there are a number of areas in the home that are just not maximised to their full potential. Good design can add enormously to the practicality and value of any house.

Bespoke companies can provide a 'home' for each item often using

areas that standard product manufacturers are unable to utilise; no space is too big or too small, bespoke furniture really can help make the most of awkward spaces. Examples of good furniture design is seen within the furniture concepts that fit perfectly into sloped ceilings and awkward corners; sometimes going bespoke is the only option for this.

Installing floor to ceiling fitted furniture allows even the most awkward of angles, corners and alcoves to become a useful and integral part of domestic design. By using these typically wasted areas, new spaces for bookshelves, storage and display shelving can become a stylish and possible option. Fitted furniture allows for personalised storage that meets individual requirements, creating a sophisticated and clutter-free environment in the process. Incorporating bookcases in areas around a door frame or in awkward alcoves not only makes use of wasted space but can become an attractive and essential focal point to the room. When designing bookcases to fit around the home's natural architectural features, also consider using floor to ceiling bookcases with the addition of a ladder. This makes use of unused wall spaces and enables the option of open or hidden shelves

to either display ornaments or hideaway clutter.

To ensure shelving will have longevity and strength enough to hold all of a client's books and objet d'art, it is essential to consider if there is a solid wall to fix the units too. Bespoke fitted furniture companies individually fix back panels to the wall to further strengthen the design but a solid base is a must.

There are endless possibilities for fitted furniture options and styles, meaning that you can create a truly seamless interior design by introducing different yet complimentary schemes to different areas of a project, from bedrooms and box rooms to home offices, loft conversions and guest rooms.

[nevillejohnson.co.uk](http://nevillejohnson.co.uk) »



# Surface Design Show Preview

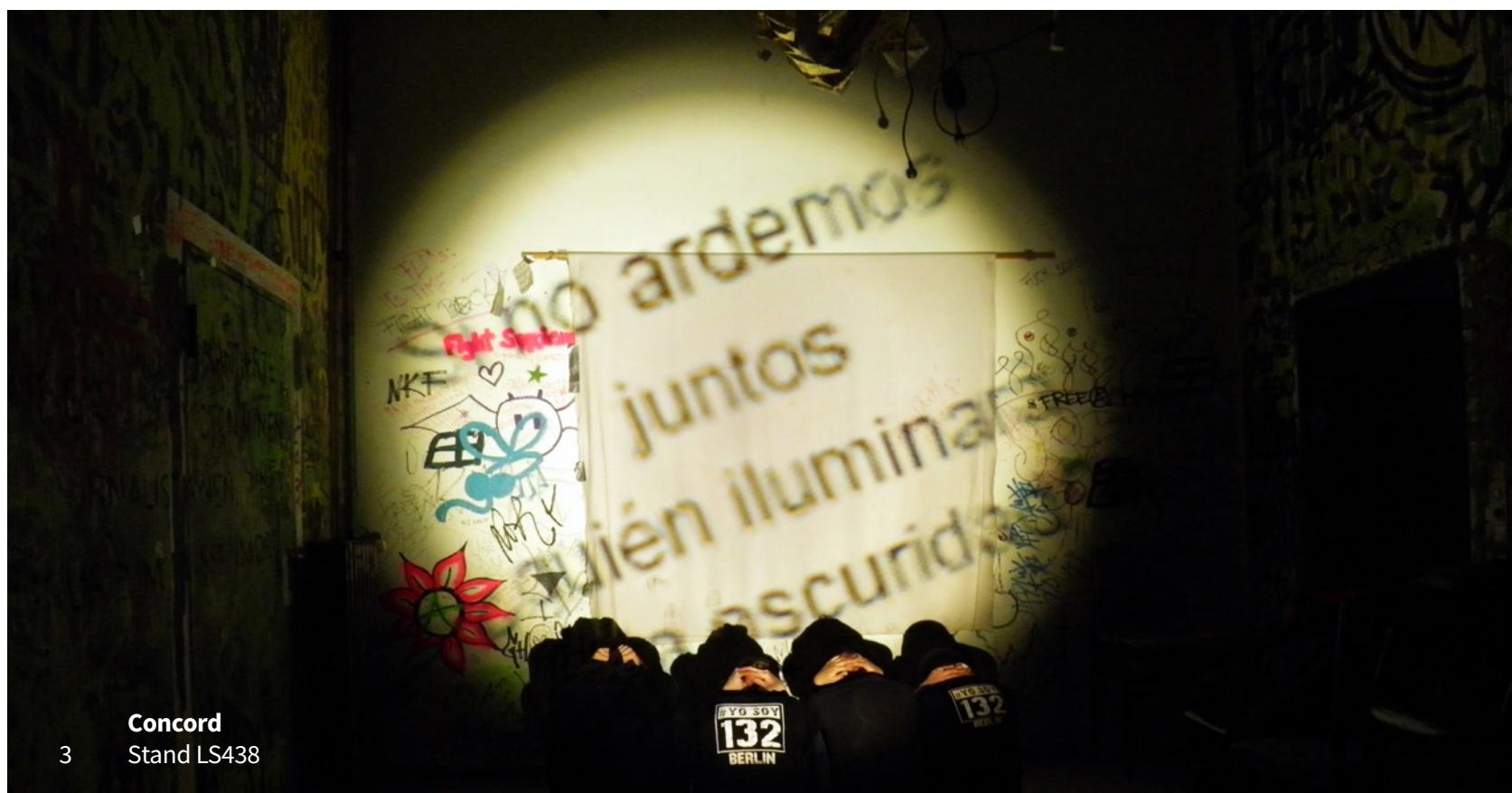
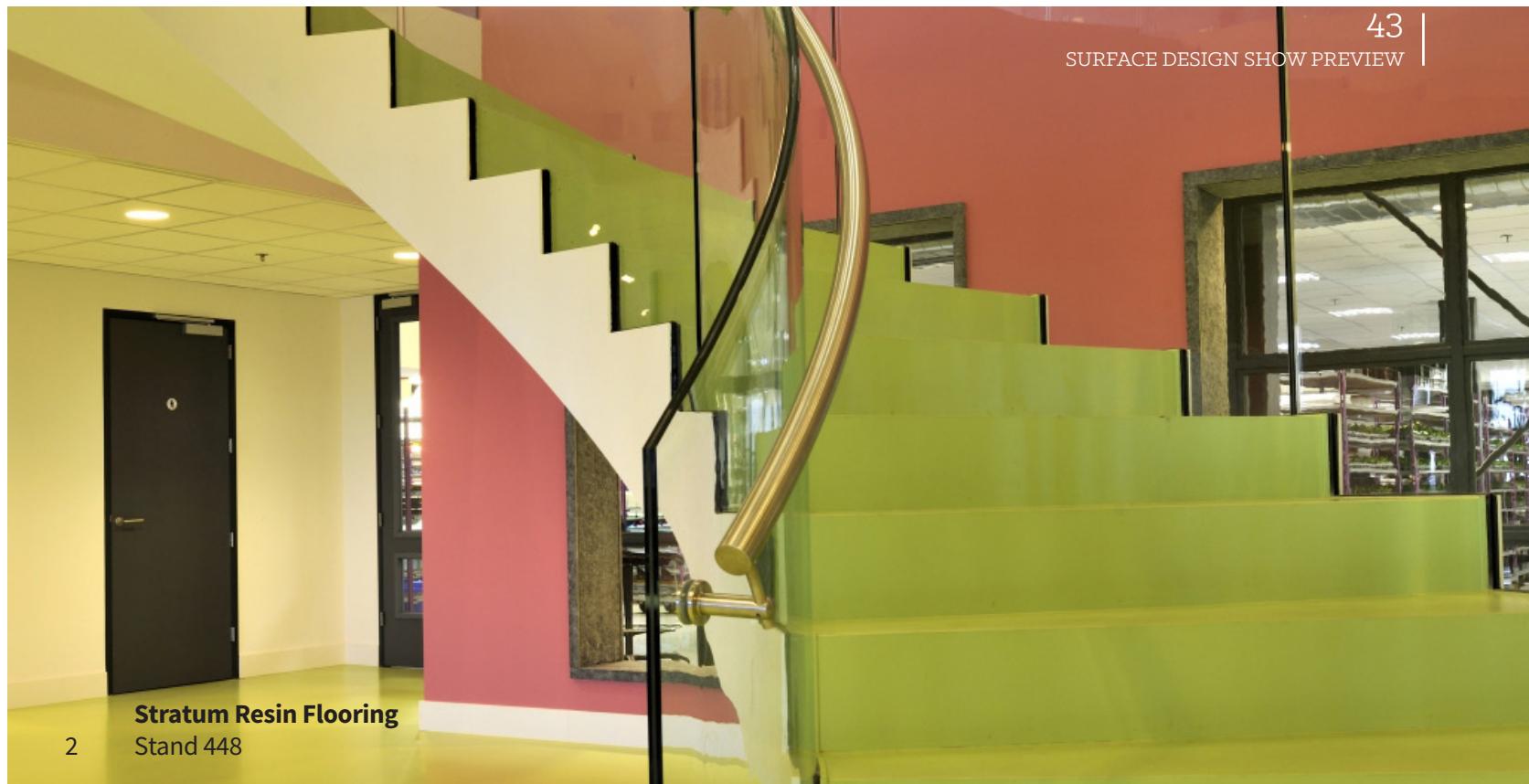
Inex's handpicked selection of not-to-be-missed exhibitors at this upcoming, industry-leading show



**Knauf AMF**  
Stand 408

1

1. Heradesign from Knauf AMF was selected by Stuart Finnie, NorthSeven Architects, as among one of his favourite finds at last year's Surface Design Show. Heradesign is a range of sustainable, modern wood-wool based ceiling tiles and wall panels, which are cost effective and easy to install. Architects specify Heradesign for a variety of projects because it is a unique product that can help create truly original eye-catching designs. Snook Architects specified Heradesign to help transform a dated 1980s office block into an aspirational working environment for a firm of solicitors. Knauf AMF will present guidance on applications and technical information at the upcoming Surface Design Show.  
[www.amfceilings.co.uk](http://www.amfceilings.co.uk) 0191 518 8600

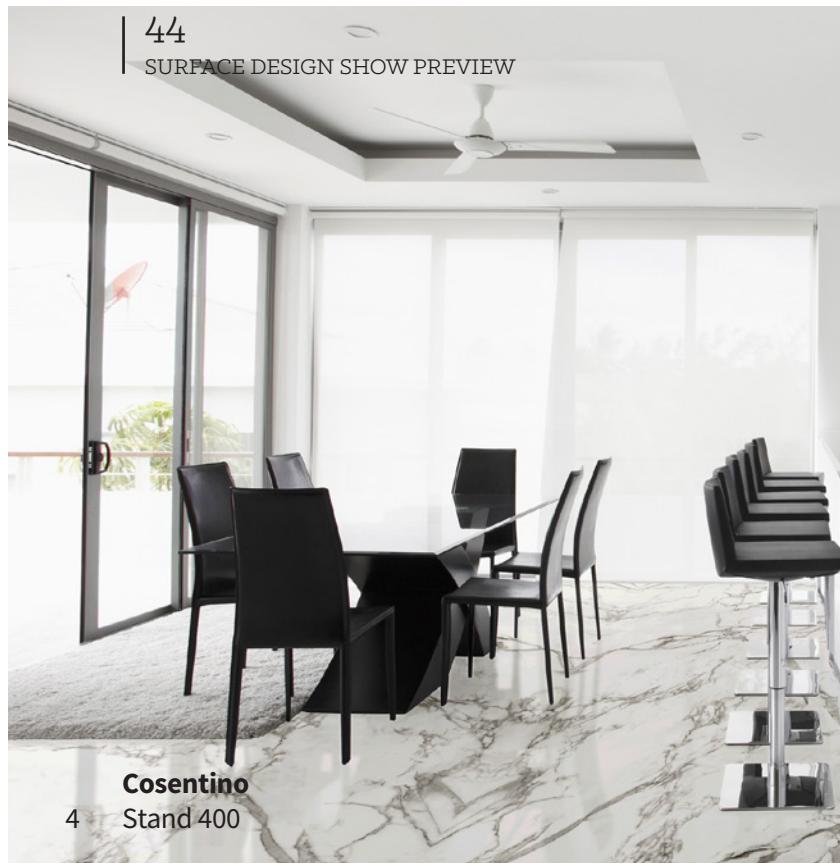


2. Stratum Resin Flooring, UK partner of Bolidt Synthetic Products and Systems from The Netherlands, will be exhibiting the Bolidtop range of poured resin floor finishes on Stand 448 at the Surface Design Show. Displayed will be the highly successful Bolidtop 525, in an attractive matt silk finish with choice of 56 colours – highly suitable for busy foot traffic. Also, Bolidtop Fifty Fifty will be presented as a merging of two closely related colours, together with Bolidtop Jewel with a translucent 3D mother-of-pearl effect. A new system Bolidtop 400 offers a polished concrete effect and texture with flexibility and versatility.

[www.stratum.uk.com](http://www.stratum.uk.com) 0870 770 4316

3. Concord is pleased to be supporting Light School at the 2015 Surface Design Show. Following its successful launch last year, Light School is back to educate and influence architects and designers about light. On Stand LS438 Concord will be showcasing its ground-breaking Concord Beacon range and demonstrating the capabilities of light through images from the One Beam of Light initiative. The aim of One Beam of Light was to inspire and engage people interested in lighting, by using crowd-sourced imagery to create a stunning collection of pictures, which focus on a single source of light.

[www.concord-lighting.com](http://www.concord-lighting.com) 0870 606 2030



**Cosentino**  
4 Stand 400



4 Stand 400



**Daedalian Glass**  
5 Stand 341

4. The new Dekton by Cosentino is the ideal solution for architects, designers, housebuilders and developers as it benefits from a wide range of unique properties, is available in ultra size, easy to install slabs and comes in three different thicknesses depending on application requirements, the desired design and effect. With over five times the flexural strength of granite and scratch, stain and heat resistant, Dekton can be installed as a thinner material over greater spans, allowing for up to a 12-inch unsupported overhang on countertops, islands and bartops. Thanks to a high compressive strength it is the ideal material for high-traffic walkways and a high resistance to UV rays allows Dekton to be used for indoor and outdoor projects.

[www.cosentino.com](http://www.cosentino.com) 023 9245 3045

5. Daedalian Glass Studios has been designing, manufacturing and installing bespoke decorative glass for the last 30 years. During that time the company has consistently worked at the highest end of a variety of sectors, covering; hotels, cathedrals, private homes, royal palaces, public buildings and more recently super yachts. The glass designed is made entirely to suit the customer and with experience of the broadest range of glass types and finishes, the company can deliver unique and inspiring glass that will exceed expectations. From sharp Lalique style cast glass to large multi-coloured fused 3D shapes and detailed etched designs integrated with laminated LEDs, to slumped bevelled and UV bonded, all of the glass is made to the highest standards.

[www.daedalian-glass.co.uk](http://www.daedalian-glass.co.uk) 01253 702531

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# Product Spotlight

This month's selection of innovative new products not to be missed



1. Reflecting the growing trend towards luxury showering, Keramag Design has launched the ultra-slim Opale shower tray, to complement its five sanitaryware collections. Opale is an elegant range of low-profile shower trays available in eight sizes, perfectly designed and positioned to take advantage of the move towards larger shower trays, particularly as replacements for traditional bath tubs. With the flexibility of lay-on or in-line floor installation, Opale will appeal to a wide audience from hotel designers to wheelchair and less-abled users. The range features the unique, patented 'Waterbox' technology for fast water drainage and is made from the premium Varicor solid surface for durability and good looks.

[www.keramagdesign.com](http://www.keramagdesign.com) 01270 871756



2



3

2. With an aging population and more multi generational households than ever, there is an increase in demand for stylishly designed bathrooms which can adapt to a family's evolving needs. With the bathroom being a major investment and something which is replaced infrequently, today's discerning consumer demands safe, practical, well-designed products which will provide long-term value and offer multiple benefits. As one of the leading UK shower enclosure manufacturers, Aqata offers premium shower enclosures and screens to suit all ages and physical abilities. The company prides itself on offering luxury shower enclosures and screens which are stylish and versatile for all members of the family.

[www.aqata.co.uk](http://www.aqata.co.uk) 01455 896500

3. Part of Twyford's brand new Energy Collection, the e500 range of sanitaryware and matching furniture is aimed at hitting the mid market sweet spot for design, quality and price. The stylish designs in the e500 collection reflect the latest trend for slim-rim washbasins, which are available in contemporary square and round designs. There is no compromise on functionality however, as the slim-rim basins maintain the practical washing depth of a standard 120mm bowl. Responding to the demand for bathroom storage, e500 offers wide a choice of water and humidity resistant furniture including vanity units for single and double washbasins, together with tall units in two fashionable finishes of high gloss white and grey.

[www.twyfordbathrooms.com](http://www.twyfordbathrooms.com) 01270 879 777



4



5

4. Kahrs has introduced a series of smoked oak designs throughout its wood flooring range. In contrast to on-trend white and grey surfaces, the new rich toned finishes provide a stunning, opulent contrast to pale wall treatments and minimalist white furniture. New to the Linnea Habitat range, Kahrs Oak Gate creates a sought-after, multi-toned effect, bringing dark ebony and pale nut shades to a scheme. The one-strip floor has an even wood grain and is lightly smoked to create the stunning colour-way. A micro-bevelled edge gives distinction between the boards, whilst the brushed surface and matt lacquer prefinish reinforce the timber's natural grain structure.

[www.kahrs.com](http://www.kahrs.com) 023 9245 3045

5. British Ceramic Tile is poised to launch a new high-end collection for 2014 in partnership with Conran and Partners – the collaborative British design studio founded by Sir Terence Conran. The company has worked closely with Conran and Partners to produce a contemporary yet commercial ceramic collection with broad appeal. Known as Trace, the collection blends contemporary design with an on-trend colour palette, coupling strong structural forms with tactile design. Featuring simple modern structures and designs in a soft neutral colour palette, the Trace collection is perfect for a wide of commercial projects and is made up of three distinct design families of ceramic wall tiles; Fractal, Tactile and Linea.

[www.britishceramictile.com](http://www.britishceramictile.com) 01626 831391



6. Crosswater's new brassware range, the Belgravia Nickel collection, has a sophisticated smooth finish that offers a designer element to traditional bathroom schemes. Perfect for adding an elegant finishing touch to bathrooms, Nickel evokes a dramatic style against Belgravia's white glazed ceramic temperature indices, while displaying form and function. All bath products have three quarter inch inlets and the entire range features full quarter turn operation across all taps. Crafted with unsurpassed attention to detail and precision engineering in every aspect and with over twenty hand assembled components, designers and specifiers have the assurance that Crosswater has paid exceptional attention to detail to make each product extra special.

[www.crosswater.co.uk](http://www.crosswater.co.uk) 0845 873 8840



7. Bushboard's Nuance range of waterproof laminate wall panels offer an easy way to bring designer styling to a bathroom interior with large expanses of decorative surfacing that can be used to create wetrooms and level access showering, as well as for conventional shower enclosures and around baths. The range offers 25 designs overall which includes eight impressive True Scale effects which mirror the large scale luxury veining found in natural stone, granite and marble. Yet a 2420x1200mm Nuance panel typically retails at £70 allowing designers, retailers and installers to create upscale spa-style bathrooms with guaranteed quality, style and performance at an affordable price.

[www.bushboard.co.uk](http://www.bushboard.co.uk) 01933 232 272



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