

design centre LONDON

NEWSLETTER

March 2019



Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour is a renowned hub for designers, architects, decision-makers and the media. Bringing together the design world, it champions creativity and excellence.

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS



LONDON DESIGN WEEK 2019: VISITOR NUMBERS AT ALL TIME HIGH

With registration up by 30%, it is no surprise that London Design Week 2019 proved to be the busiest show to date at Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour. Visitors flocked for six days of new launches and designer collaborations; meet-the-designer sessions; design discovery tours; artisan demonstrations, expert guidance and experiences, unseen anywhere else. The latest collections inspired with sophisticated globe-spanning, era-leaping designs that referenced history, travel, colour and craftsmanship, with creative excellence an underlying theme. On the main stage, Conversations in Designs excelled with a raft of international stars

including Steven Gambrel, Kit Kemp, Beata Heaman, Russell Sage and Francis Sultana, to name but a few, who shared their knowledge to capacity audiences. The talk on Instagram sold out within 36 hours. 'Legends' saw showroom windows and showcases at their best, featuring photography, playful touches and eclectic points of inspiration. "We're committed to being the world's No.1 design destination so we are simply delighted that London Design Week 2019 was such a success" says managing director, Claire German. "The event brought design lovers together, providing a dynamic platform to share design experiences in an enjoyable, dynamic way."

ON THE BEACH

The London Design Week 2019 party was a popular spot. Evoking a glamorous beach club, design denizens rubbed shoulders with a stylish crowd – all to laidback tracks and an overall cosmopolitan vibe. Guests enjoyed simple yet sophisticated classics with a twist, think sugar snap martinis and crab croque monsieurs. The Starfish Lounge was the place to chill with lounge seating, real sand and driftwood for that barefoot-luxe feeling. Overhead the 'Shoal' aerial installation featuring lively groups of paper fish darting amid colourful, UV coral celebrated wider themes – the bringing together of design lovers to Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, as well as a growing respect for the beauty and diversity of the ocean.

See spotlight party pictures [CLICK HERE](#)



WHAT THEY SAY

"There is a cornucopia of different ideas; it's the hub of design in London"

Kit Kemp, creative director, Firmdale Hotels

"There's so much collaboration going on here – between brands, artists, stylists and designers – it's a real coming together of great creatives"

Ben Spriggs, editor, ELLE Decoration



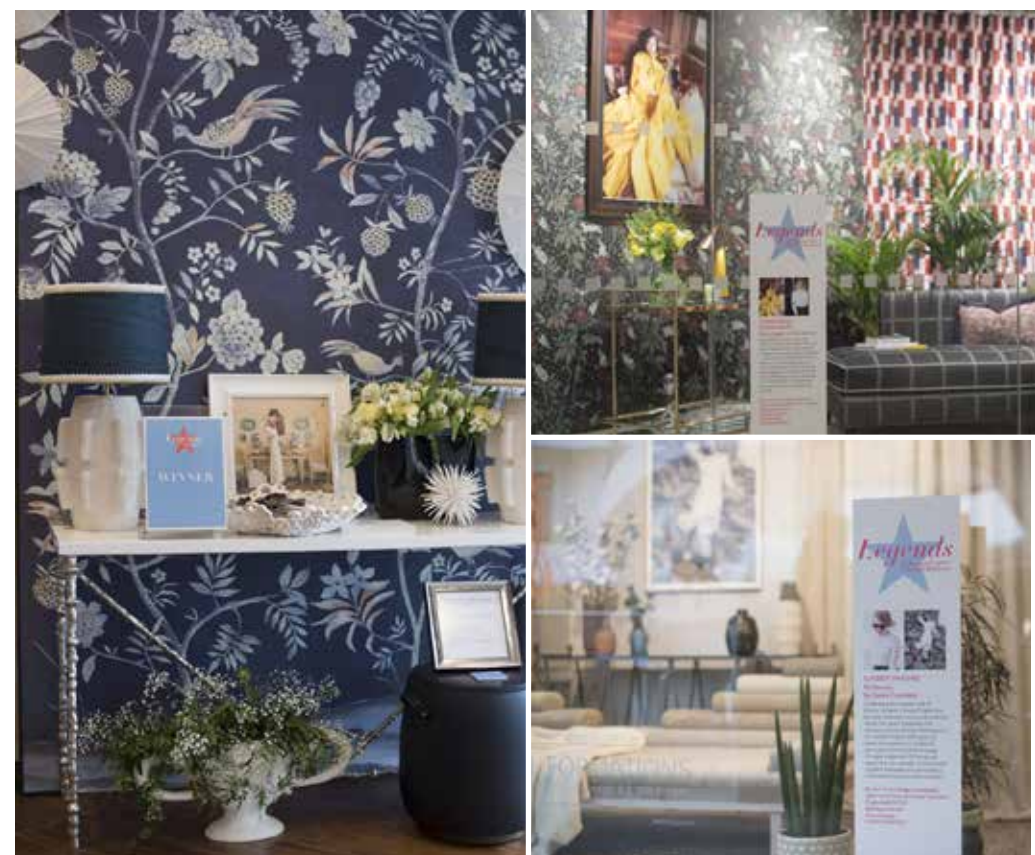
WHAT THEY SAY

"It's nice to have that personal aspect where people can make suggestions, and show you things you wouldn't otherwise see"

Sophie Paterson, interior designer

"It's amazing to have all of these brands on one place... I'll be back"

Bambi Sloan, interior designer



LEGENDS: THROUGH THE LENS

The 'Legends' initiative celebrated collaborations, and for many, the starting point was the photographic archives of iconic images. Through the lens of international photographers, images featuring luminaries from fashion, rock and the arts were creatively matched with the latest designs from the showrooms. Phillip Jeffries teamed up with Irene Gunter of Gunter & Co who chose a photograph by Norman Parkinson of Dutch fashion model Apollonia Van Ravenstein, pairing it with the new 'Shangri La' wallcovering and wall-mounted Delft plates. "It answered the brief beautifully...and was totally evocative of an era and I want to be in it," said Wallpaper* editor-at-large Suzanne Trocme who judged the competition. She also gave two Highly Commended awards. At George Spencer Designs, Sophie Ashby of Studio Ashby used a striking image Bianca Jagger in a scheme incorporating Zak+Fox fabrics and wallcoverings; while interior designer Cassidy Hughes incorporated an image of singer PJ Harvey by Kevin Cummings into Altfield's window. See [blog for the full story](#). [CLICK HERE](#)

HOPPY EASTER

The tiny guests of top clients and press were treated to an egg-cellent party. There were opportunities to shake hands with the Easter Bunny, then it was only a hop, skip and a jump to get stuck in with games and fun with arts and craft. The excitement did not stop there, there was face painting, entertainers, a storytelling corner and even a pet pavilion to see fluffy-eared rabbits. Tea was meticulously presented on a seasonal theme with miniature daisy biscuits and bunny pops. For the grown-ups, there was parmesan eggs with broche toast. Then it was choccs away for a race around the domes for the famous Easter egg hunt.



WHAT THEY SAY

"Clients come from all over world come here to source the best of the best. The shopping experience needs to be inspirational and educational"

Chad Stark, senior vice president, Stark Carpet

"We couldn't do our job without it"

Robert Angell, interior designer



ABUNDANCE OF INSPIRATION

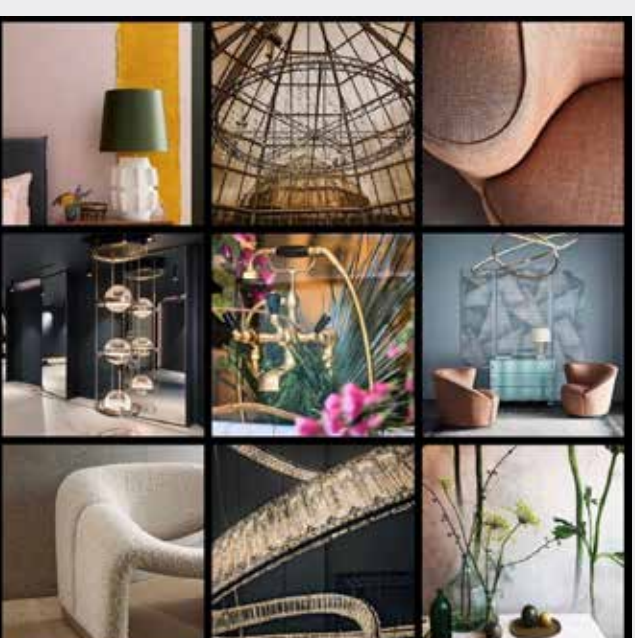
This season the Design Centre's creative team has been working hard to present the abundance of inspiration on offer. Specially commissioned pop-up restaurants for London Design Week 2019 encouraged visitors to take in the seasons' emerging design directions. In the *FT How to Spend It* Restaurant, Pierre Frey's 'Chandernagor' wallcovering by Braquerie took centre stage, alongside 'French Wave B' wallcovering and 'Franklin' border by Adelphi Paper Hangings from Tissus d'Hélène. The 'Salone' fabric by Zimmer + Rohde. 'Mona' fabric by Manuel Canovas at Colefax and Fowler; 'Positano' cord from Samuel & Sons and 'Night Fishing' paint from Sanderson at Style Library completed the scheme. Zimmer + Rohde's new 'Wonderland Wall' wallcovering sums up the energetic mood pervading interiors. It was shown to great effect on the walls of the South Dome Deli which also featured 'Strata' and 'Mazuri' wallcoverings from Arte, alongside 'Quartz Quarter Grey' by Zoffany and 'Rhodera' paints by Sanderson at Style Library. In the Design Hub, the link between the domes and Design Centre East, Iskel – Decorative Arts' latest scenic wallcovering 'D-Ocean' transported visitors to a fantasy underwater landscape. Filled with shells and fish with coral were as tall as trees, the design took 15 artists about eight months to complete and a further two months to join together digitally.



Backhausen's revival of textiles by Viennese artist and designer Koloman Moser (available at Colony) was honoured with *The World of Interiors* Showstopper award at London Design Week 2019. Four further designs won Highly Commended awards: 'Natsuki' fabric by Prella, from Alton-Brooke, Samuel & Sons' *Amalfi* trimmings; Arteriors' collaboration with US designer Celerie Kemble; and interior designer Alidad's rugs for Tim Page Carpets. Editor Rupert Thomas personally gave out the awards.

DRUM ROLL PLEASE

Tatler's fashion market editor Olivia Bennett hand-picked 20 products for London Design Week 2019. From baths to pendants, fabrics to tiles, they were "chosen for their innovative use of colour, design, and above all else, expert craftsmanship". Showrooms proudly displayed their Tatler Loves swing tags throughout the event.



It is no coincidence that the digital age has had such a positive impact on the interior design community. At London Design Week 2019 a new Instagram award recognised Alabama-based design studio @circainteriors for its stylish snapshot of the show. The 'Legends' windows and showcases were the perfect focus for social media, and visitors used the over-sized selfie frame to capture the moment. A post by interior designer @sadiaalfar0 received the most 'likes' and received a prize.

COMING UP

HEAD, HAND & HEART: A CELEBRATION OF CREATIVITY AND MAKING



In recognition of its commitment to creativity, Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour is participating in London Craft Week 2019, a celebration of craftsmanship across the capital. Writer Charlotte Abrahams will be in conversation with Franco Ceccotti, the legendary founder of Ceccotti Collezione on 9 May to discover how the Italian firm creates pieces of furniture that are considered 'functional pieces of art'. Get insider insights into why a respect for traditional artisan processes, a maker's passion and curiosity, together with an openness to innovation and collaboration is at the heart of its creative approach. The talk will be followed by a Design Discovery Tour exploring more rare skills and great endeavours that elevate craft to luxury stature. Book ticket. [CLICK HERE](#)

TOUR WITH MORE

If you spot a snaking line of people making their way around Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour, they are probably taking part in a Design Discovery Tour. It sets off to visit half a dozen showrooms and take in some key seasonal highlights, whether that means seeing the latest collections, being among the first people to step inside a new showroom or meeting experts to hear a quick take on their work. Next stops 9 April, 30 April & 14 May. Secure your place. [CLICK HERE](#)



WHAT THEY SAY

"The suppliers that are here – it's incredible"

Katharine Pooley, interior designer

"We've had the most incredible reception; we feel like we're a part of a big family"

Arlene McIntyre, creative director of new arrival Ventura

"A fantastic community of creative people working together"

Ann Grafton, managing director and creative director, GP & J Baker

"For us as an international brand, the Design Centre was the obvious choice."

Christopher Peacock, founder

MOVERS & SHAKERS



CURATOR'S EYE

Curated spaces imaginatively conceived by interior designers are a new way to bring products to life. Nina Campbell has transformed her Design Centre East showroom into 'Nina's Apartment' showcasing her wit, flair and versatility as a decorator. Bold plays of scale, and modern use of colour and texture ensure the delineated spaces are as welcoming as they are comfortable and stylish. In the Turnell & Gignat at Home pop-up, Katharine Pooley has been inspired by F. Scott Fitzgerald's book 'The Great Gatsby', using luxury materials and unapologetic opulence to transport visitors to another era. In Davidson, a collaboration with interior designer Anna Stanish sees a vignette featuring the West Coast collection that is inspired by her love of 1970s furniture. It also showcases the fact that Davidson is introducing colourful timbers for the first time. GP & J Baker has partnered with interior designer Ben Pentreath. The 'Magnolia' archive fabric on the walls is the focus of the vibrant scheme.

Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour has an impressive new crop of stylish showrooms, many of them in beautifully revamped or larger spaces.

STARK CARPET's new, modern space has a decidedly chic aesthetic. A combination of clean lines, subdued lighting, concrete floors, dark grey walls and walnut finishes casts an aura of serenity that feels timeless yet of the moment. Bigger than its previous showroom, new rugs are displayed, some hanging on the walls like artwork. **Third Floor, South Dome.**



BELLA FIGURA's new flagship showroom has craftsmanship at its core, inspired by the techniques that underscore its lighting collection. Working closely with a master craftsman, bespoke furniture and fixtures have been created for the much larger space. Expect designs across a broad style spectrum, from retro to transitional through to ultra-contemporary, handmade from the finest materials in England and Italy. **Ground Floor, Centre Dome.**



EDELMAN LEATHER's new look has been devised by renowned design firm Gensler to create an inviting, hospitable environment. Every element has been created to enhance the visitor experience of viewing the product. Look out for the display of boxing gloves, chic handbags and pieces of artwork, all made out of leather. The aim is to explore, discover and gain inspiration from the artisanal beauty of its leather collections. **Second Floor, Centre Dome.**

DIARY DATE FOCUS/19 15 – 20 SEPTEMBER 2019

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