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The directory of the
1000
leading interior designers



ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES WE PRESENT
THE **SECOND PART** OF OUR GUIDE TO THE TOP
DECORATORS WORKING IN THE UK TODAY

Completing our indispensable directory of the top interior designers working in the UK today (part one, A–K, plus the top 10 American designers, appeared in the June issue), the second part (L–Z, plus the top 10 French designers) appears on the following pages. If you missed the first part, you will be able to download the complete directory in early July from www.houseandgarden.co.uk.

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MAX ROLLITT

Background Max Rollitt is that hybrid breed: an interior decorator, antiques dealer and maker of bespoke furniture. He trained as a furniture designer and maker, then in 1993 relaunched the family business as Max Rollitt. His design studio and furniture showroom are near Winchester.

Projects Max has just put the finishing touches to a full renovation of a flat in London. Right now, he is working on the redecoration of a Grade II-listed country house in Sussex, consulting on furniture, carpets and artwork. He has recently completed a London town house, a country estate in Ashdown Forest and a cottage in Cornwall.

He says Most of my work is in period houses and clients come to me for my understanding of scale, ornament and antiques. It is my job to create a friendly, elegant and joyful environment: informality in a formal setting. My style is layered, comfortable and elegant.

We say With his solid background in furniture, and an artistic eye, Max combines decorative antiques with gloriously apt fabrics, often in surprising colours. His interiors are timeless with a subtle hint of modernity.

Favourite luxury detail? Silk velvet, even if just for piping a cushion.

Contact Max Rollitt: 01962-738800; www.maxrollitt.com

STEPHEN RYAN

Background Stephen Ryan studied interior design at the Inchbald School of Design, and became chief designer at David Hicks, before launching his Holland Park showroom in 1993. He keeps his team small, in order to deliver tailored designs, but his work is international in style and execution.

Projects As well as a newbuild villa in Oman and the complete renovation of a large Victorian house in Clapham, Stephen is working on an extension and the complete remodelling of a Belsize Park Sixties-style house, a large development in Kensington, and a mansion flat in Earls Court.

He says My personal style is 'classic contemporary'. I like to use antiques against a modern background and vice versa. We are happy working in both modern and traditional genres and are able to provide either to suit each client's requirements.

We say Stephen is renowned for his love of symmetry, theatricality and exotic texture. His interiors are glamorous and always provoking.

Most challenging commission? We often undertake work abroad, sometimes in remote places. The computerised transfer of drawings and e-mail makes this process incredibly successful.

Contact Stephen Ryan Design & Decoration: 020-7243 0864; www.stephenryandesign.com

'I like to use antiques against a modern background and vice versa'



CHARLES RUTHERFOOD

Background Charles Rutherford studied architecture at Cambridge, and interiors at Kingston. He launched his multidisciplinary practice in 1984, and combines new architectural work with the restructuring of houses, as well as furniture design.

Projects Charles is working on the design of new extensions to an 1840s villa in St John's Wood. He has just finished a two-storey penthouse in Drury Lane and is currently completing a house and garden in Knightsbridge and houses in Chelsea and Clapham.

He says The purpose of my work is to enhance the enjoyment of each moment by creating beautiful surroundings. Function is the crucial baseline, because unless the brief is met in a practical way, aesthetics alone will not suffice.

We say Charles is the thinking client's designer, devising beautiful spare interiors with a mix of modern furniture and eighteenth-century pieces. As the new chairman of the Society of Garden Designers, he's a hot ticket for garden design, too.

Spend or save? Don't compromise – find the best solution to meet the budget. Spend on lighting and the things you touch every day, for example switches and handles, and save money with simple flat colour on the walls.

Contact Charles Rutherford: 020-7627 0182; www.charlesrutherford.net



JOHN HAMMOND; HEINER ORTH