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Trends to inspire
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ON THE COVER  Photograph by Elsa Young

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very year, House and Leisure compiles a list of Next Generation creative talents – each of whom is doing groundbreaking work in their specific industry – and I’m proud to say that this list has given a real boost to several young designers’ careers (not to mention sparked a number of dinner-table debates among my circle of friends about suitable candidates and talent that has been overlooked). This year, we decided to approach this feature a little differently, and narrow our focus to women who are making waves in their respective fields.

Each of the women featured is producing compelling projects and ideas that propel their industry forward. But why women, specifically? Since our story in the June 2017 issue about the inspiring group of women who are powering Cape Town’s new Silo district, we’ve all been thinking about the iconic feminist slogan ‘The Future is Female’ – originally coined in the 1970s and back in vogue after being used in a speech by US politician Hillary Clinton earlier this year.

It’s a radical statement, one that goes beyond demanding equal opportunities for women to suggesting that what they have to say or do in the world right now might be more important or useful than what men do. And as a new parent who wants the best for my little Raf, I don’t want him to grow up feeling like he doesn’t belong or has nothing to contribute because he’s a boy.

But the experience of producing this feature has made me realise that the women in our Next Generation feature are not in the slightest bit interested in bashing men or declaring that we have nothing to say. Rather, they simply want their voices and viewpoints to be genuinely heard and seen – and that’s why they have all made it their mission to do amazing work that speaks on their behalf. Take a look at the behind-the-scenes video that we created with all the women included in this year’s Next Generation list, and you’ll see exactly what I mean: simply visit houseandleisure.co.za to find it. And between reading about our rising stars in print (see pages 33-42) and hearing what they have to say in person online, we hope you’ll find this feature as inspiring as we did when we were compiling it.

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SA’S GOT TALENT
INSPIRED BY OUR PICK OF TRAILBLAZERS TO WATCH IN 2017, WE REVISIT A FEW OF LAST YEAR’S NEXT-GENERATION PIONEERS, SUCH AS FLORAL DESIGNER STORM ROSS (LEFT), TO CHECK ON THEIR CAREER TRAJECTORIES.

TOP SHELF
If you like Verner Panton’s iconic Flowerpot pendant lights (above), you’ll love our decor editor’s pick of more stylish finds and timeless designs.

SO HOT RIGHT NOW
Our favourite restaurateurs, cooks, chefs, foodies and bloggers teach us how to make their go-to comfort meals and share what makes these dishes memorable.

NEXT GENERATION IN ACTION
Also on the site: a behind-the-scenes video of the young female creatives who are shaking up their industries.
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If you’ve recently completed a renovation that you think belongs in the pages of *House and Leisure*, send us your before and after pictures and you could win big prizes in our READERS’ RENOVATION AWARDS.

IS YOURS THE MOST INNOVATIVE HOME OR ROOM MAKEOVER IN SOUTH AFRICA?

If you’ve recently completed a renovation that you think belongs in the pages of *House and Leisure*, send us your before and after pictures and you could win big prizes in our READERS’ RENOVATION AWARDS.

THIS YEAR, WE WILL FEATURE RENOVATIONS IN TWO CATEGORIES

**HOMES**
The owner of the winning house renovation will receive a great prize, plus all of the top six houses will be featured in our *House and Leisure Before & After Collector’s Issue*.

**ROOMS**
Kitchen | Bathroom | Bedroom | Living/Dining Room | Kid’s Room | Outdoor The best room renovation in each category will be featured in *House and Leisure*, and the one that gets the most votes will win its owner a fantastic prize.

For all the details and to enter, visit houseandleisure.co.za/renovation-awards-2017. Entries open 15 July 2017 and close 15 September 2017.
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GEMMA BEDFORTH


If money were no object, what would you treat yourself to? Wallpapered ceilings and a Mid-Century Danish modular wall unit.

What advice would you give your 20-year-old self? Start spending your money wisely now – you’ll thank me in 20 years.

What three words best describe your home? More is more.

What’s on your list of winter decor essentials? I’d really like a cuckoo clock.

What’s your earliest design-related memory? Sanding down antique furniture with my parents in our back yard. They’d find amazing wooden pieces covered in thick varnish, and we’d spend weekends sandpapering it off.

What three words best describe your go-to comfort food? Cheese, obviously.
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WE EMBRACE colour, pattern and shape IN OUR PICK OF PRODUCTS to covet (P18, P26, P44), AND HONOUR THE creative women WHO ARE making a mark in their industries (P33)
WITH LUXURIOUS WALLPAPERS AND SUMPTUOUS FABRICS IN RICH HUES AND GRAPHIC PATTERNS

PRODUCTION CHRIZANDA BOTHA, RESHOKETSWE (SHOKI) MOKALE PHOTOGRAPHS GRAEME WYLLIE
OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT
Gold stoneware stool R1 995, Weylandts; Maasai standing lamp in Burgundy with vintage marble-and-onyx base in Green Jade R6 800, Studio 19; Round Bucket chair in Natural R3 295, Weylandts; Turned table in mild steel by Gregor Jenkin R27 193 (2×0.5×0.75m), Tonic Design; Cercles wallpaper in Encre/ Curry R2 385/roll (0.53×10.05m) and Paolo wallpaper in Curry R2 334/roll (0.53×10.05m), both from the Edison collection by Casadeco, Halogen; wallpaper in MIS504 from the Misuto collection by Krömö R1 415/10m roll, Dreamweaver Studios; ISP table lamp R24 515, Generation; Touch velvet in Sunset from the Terra Nova collection by Donald Nzumalo R730/m, Hertex.

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT
Saturno 12 sidetable in White by Donato D'Urbino and Paolo Lomazzi for De Padova R32 262, Generation; Tripod table lamp in White R3 950, Mezzanine; Ikebana Hat vase by Andrew Walford R2 807, Tonic Design; wallpaper in 356140 Black/White from the Black & Light collection by Eijffinger R1 540/10m roll, Dreamweaver Studios; ‘Five Easy Pieces’ (2015) artwork by Nico Krijno R37 895 (edition three of five) and Pillow armchairs in Yellow Mustard by Lievore Altherr Molina for Andreu World R14 035 each, all Tonic Design; Another rug in Yellow Amber by ATWTP for &tradition R13 335 (170×240cm), Créma Design.
Marbleous Panel wallpaper in Perlato from the Surround Wallcovering collection by Zinc Textile R17 510/panel (5×3m), Romo; Rovigo fabric in Ink from the Veneto collection R787/m and Touch velvet in Sunset from the Terra Nova collection by Donald Nxumalo R730/m, both Hertex; Monza fabric in Tumeric from the Chunky Weaves collection R596/m (158cm wide), Halogen; Zahira fabric in Maize from the Orvieto Fabric collection by Romo R2 565/m, Romo; Kiso upholstery velvet in Palm R787/m, Hertex; Marlow chenille in Bilberry from the Marlow collection by Romo R2 343/m, Romo; Belluno fabric in Dijon from the Veneto collection R878/m and Touch upholstery velvet in Lapis from the Textures collection R730/m, both Hertex; Compass floor lamp in canaletto walnut by Andrea Lucatello for Cattelan Italia R32 500, Maldini.
Gold stoneware **stool** R1 995, Weylandts; **wallpaper** in 356140 in Black/White from the Black & Light collection by Eijffinger R1 540/10m roll, Dreamweaver Studios; Uni **wallpaper** in Cuivre from the Montana collection by Casadeco R2 350/roll (0.53×10.05m), Halogen; **wallpaper** in GAT001 from the Gatsby collection by Khrôma R1 640/10m roll, Dreamweaver Studios; LL04 lounge **chair** in leather by Maarten van Severen for DePadova R126 426, Generation; Atollo 233 **table lamp** in Black by Vico Magistretti for Oluce R30 702 and Ikebana Hat **vase** by Andrew Walford R2 807, both Tonic Design; Puzzle **sidetable** in antique copper-plated steel R5 400, Egg Designs.
Onyx stool R10 995, Weylandts; Melt surface light in Gold by Tom Dixon R12 640, Créma Design; Leopard fabric in Light Yellow from the Velvet Safari collection R225/m, Exquisite Cuts; Cosy blue velvet dining chair R5 495 and Kuala Lumpur cabinet R16 995, both La Grange Interiors; Anguilla wallpaper in Connemara from the Surround Wallcovering collection by Zinc Textile R8 892/roll, Romo; Murano Clementine linen-backed scatter cushions R1 564 each, Mezzanine.
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THERE’S A new generation of African talents LIGHTING up the UK capital, WRITES Nataal EDITOR-IN-CHIEF HELEN JENNINGS

While Toronto has recently been recognised by the BBC as the world’s most diverse city, London is also right up there – which is one of the reasons I love living here. As a capital of culture, it’s home to people from all over the globe and as a result, boasts a thriving African creative scene. Young talents excel here, and their work helps define their own internationally minded, heritage-fuelled diaspora identities more than ever before.

Conceptual furniture maker Yinka Ilori is a delightful case in point. Drawing on the parables told to him by his Nigerian parents when he was growing up, he tells his own stories through the chairs he creates, using his mother’s beloved wax fabrics to upscale found objects into brightly coloured, often humorous and always thought-provoking works of art. Ilori has exhibited widely throughout his career, and touched down in Cape Town this year to speak at Design Indaba – where he turned the conference stage into a Naija Pop house party.

Fellow Nigerian designer Yemi Awosile focuses on textiles and printed matter. From vegetable- and mineral-dyed silk scarves and cork fabrics for furniture to industrial felt carpets and a sustainable bark cloth made from the East African ‘mutuba’ fig tree, Awosile’s interventionist approach has seen her collaborate with prestigious establishments such as the Institute of Contemporary Arts, the Victoria and Albert Museum and Tate.

Chef Zoe Adjonyoh is revolutionising contemporary Ghanaian cuisine with her pop-up restaurants and recently published recipe book Zoe’s Ghana Kitchen. She creates her own spin on classic dishes, such as red-red bean stew, to offer social dining at its most delicious.

Newer to the city’s culinary landscape is Lopè Ariyo, a food blogger who has just released her first book Hibiscus. It is crammed with London-infused Nigerian dishes, such as cauliflower jollof rice, and has seen her named among The Observer newspaper’s Rising Stars of 2017.

Following in the mighty menswear footsteps of Ozwald Boateng and the Casely-Hayfords is designer Olubiyi Thomas. From Lagos by way of Glasgow, he honed his skills at Central Saint Martins art school in London and channels his cross-cultural upbringing into artisanal, handcrafted collections. For autumn/winter 2017, he was inspired by buffalo soldiers to come up with elongated silhouettes made from Malian textiles and sustainable wools.

Sudanese designer Omer Asim’s cerebral womenswear is all about an uncompromising approach to pattern cutting, resulting in pure forms with discrete volumes, drapes and corseted constrictions. Textural pleats and raw edges hint at his interest in primal dressing.

I also have my money on Sierra Leonean stylist Ibrahim Kamara, who is pushing the boundaries of gender representation and black masculinity. His DIY aesthetic forms directional, inventive ensembles, and he turned heads last year with the project 2026, shot in Joburg with South African photographer and video maker Kristin-Lee Moolman. Since then, he’s worked on a short film for Kenzo with Akinola Davies Jr (aka DJ Crack Stevens) and alongside director Kahlil Joseph for British singer Sampha’s music film Process. He also presented a body of work with emerging photographer Nadine Ijewere for Nataal’s recent exhibition at Red Hook Labs photography studio in New York.

This fearless approach sums up the irrepressible energy bringing London alive in 2017. For the love of Africa, it’s time to let this generation’s voices roar.
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OUT OF ASIA

Inspired by Japan’s evolution from tradition to modernity, Louis Vuitton’s 2018 cruise collection merges the natural and the urban while paying tribute to fashion designer Kansai Yamamoto. Get a similar feel in your interiors by focusing on three key elements.

COLOUR

The easiest way to replicate Vuitton’s rich tonal palette is by balancing out earthy ochres, warm browns and red clays with cool touches of black, blue and teal.

1. Pendant 04 light, 2. Pendant 02 light and 3. Pendant 09 light all R600 each in Terracotta from the Clay collection, NM Design. 4. Emerald 600 fabric from the Emerald Velvets collection R760/m, Halogen. 5. Totem sofa from R13 800 (1.8m long; excluding fabric), Studio 19. 6. Round velvet ottoman in Sea Green R3 999, @home. 7. Mos wallpaper in Ochre Black by Sarah Corynen from the Het Bos collection R595/m², Robin Sprong. 8. Die Regterhand lamps in Orange cotton, Red cotton, Light Grey felt and Yellow cotton from R680 each (small; cotton) and R740 each (small; felt), Douglas & Company. 9. Vase R1 395 (large), Weylandts. 10. Ester chair in canaletto walnut by Stefano Bigi for Porada R24 500, Maldini.
Phoenix Mirror
Price: R6.995
Size: 1.18x1.96m

Nadia Mirror
Price: R6.995
Size: 1.14x2m

Kennedy Full Cnr (4 piece)
From: R28,595

New Yorker Cnr
From: R14,995 (fabric), R27,995 (leather)
Length: 300x200cm

Fiona Modular Cnr (4 piece)
From: R15,995 (fabric), R27,995 (leather)
Length: 300x200cm

Caribbean Cnr
From: R13,995 (fabric)
Length: 300x150cm

Debra
From: R7,995 (fabric), R13,995 (leather)
Length: from 1.70cm

Marcus
From: R7,295 (fabric)
Length: from 205cm

Chivonne Mini
From: R6.995 (fabric), R12,995 (leather)
Length: from 1.90cm

Albany Dining - Solid Oak
Price: R14,995 - 2.4m
Price: R15,995 - 3m

Cross Back
Price: R1295

Bentley
From: R2495

Montery
Price: R3 995

Malta Dining - Solid Oak Top
Price: R12,995 - 2m
Price: R13,995 - 3m

Victoria Console
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1. Adinkra Marriage cabinet in walnut R19 990, LIM
2. Monster chair in Divina Melange 521 by Marcel Wanders for Moooi POR, Edge Interiors
3. Spotted feather wallpaper in Peach/Green from the Feathered Jungle collection by Tiphaine Alston R595/m², Robin Sprong
4. Emerald 300 fabric from the Emerald Velvets collection R760/m, Halogen
5. Honeygold chandelier R1 300, Lighting Warehouse
6. Abstract kelim from the Contemporary Kelims collection R2 400/m², Gonsenhausers Fine Rugs
7. Bulawayo Garlic gourds from R1 600 each (medium), Design Afrika
8. Huri coffee table with marble top and brass base R34 000, Tonic Design

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‘My love of food goes back as far as I can remember, but my love of cooking came much later,’ says self-taught cook Mpho Masango of Plump Kitchen. ‘When I was in university, I got a job at a fancy restaurant (well, fancy for Grahamstown!) and grew close to its amazing yet temperamental chef. By observing him, applying his techniques, exploring in the kitchen and making full use of my senses, I learnt how to cook.’

Years later, after running The Bioscope’s Chalkboard Café in Joburg, quitting her nine-to-five in production, and pandering to people asking for her food skills professionally, Mpho wanted to channel her love of good food and feeding people, and started her enterprise Plump Kitchen. The pop-up culinary experience takes place in eclectic homes around Joburg and offers theme-tailored, story-rich and thoughtfully curated gatherings that feel like comfortable feasts for one big happy family.

‘I’d love to work with the Gather Journal team and South African food stylist and recipe developer Khanya Mzongwana. PlumpKitchen

Mpho shares the recipe for her go-to comfort meal at houseandleisure.co.za.'
"I WANT MY DAUGHTER TO know and understand WHAT IT MEANS TO work hard TOWARDS YOUR DREAMS."

Starting out in the fashion world in the early 2000s, designer and entrepreneur Manini Rampola was soon faced with the unwelcoming reality of the industry, resulting in her leaving it altogether. She turned to interiors as a form of escape and this, combined with her interest in marketing, led her to a new life path in the form of product design. ‘I’ve always been creative and wanted a way to express that,’ Manini says. ‘Designing contemporary furniture made sense, and I use my marketing knowledge to sell and create brand awareness.’

Manini has two babies in her life that are closest to her heart: her first, Detail’24, is her seven-year-old retro-meets-Scandi design studio that has recently expanded into an online shop to broaden her brand’s reach; her second is her daughter Kananelo, to whom she gave birth last year and who has given Manini a different perspective and extra drive... not that she needs it. See her new range at this year’s 100% Design South Africa in Joburg.

I’d love to work with local interior designer Noks Diioni-Nxumalo of Hush Interiors. detailtwentyfour.co.za Discover Manini’s top five Instagram accounts to follow at houseandleisure.co.za.
One day last year, fashion designer Alexis Barrell and her childhood friend Fiona Mackay, a brand marketer, were discussing the meaning of the word ‘home’ and how – despite almost a lifetime of moving around the world and being based between Cape Town, New York and India – South Africa would always be it. ‘I adore the ease and simplicity that comes from living in the Karoo,’ says Alexis, and it was this effortlessness that inspired her lifestyle brand Karu. ‘I try to incorporate that sense of slowness and consideration into my world, and I wanted to bring that into other busy people’s lives through the products we make,’ she says.

With fabrics versatile enough for both home accessories and clothing, Karu was launched locally earlier this year, and Alexis is currently working on expanding into the US and UK, as well as on a project in India to create residencies, exhibition spaces and a social programme.

I’d love to work with Malian artist and textile designer Aboubakar Fofana.

karu.world Read an extended Q&A with Alexis and check out our gallery of her work at houseandleisure.co.za.
All roads led to Joburg for Amina Kaskar, Sarah de Villers and Sumayya Vally, who hail from Durban, Joburg and Pretoria respectively. Their architecture firm Counterspace specialises in urban and spatial problem-solving in architecture, installation and art, and was started as a fierce reaction to traditional practices. Their proudest professional moment was at the Chicago Architecture Biennial 2015, where they were only one of three South African firms, as well as being the youngest of all the participating architects.

One of Sumayya’s earliest childhood memories is walking to the Johannesburg Public Library from her grandfather’s stores on Ntemi Piliso Street in Newtown every day. ‘My love for architecture comprises two things: fiction and the city,’ she says. While Amina traces the beginning of her interest in architecture back to her grandparents’ U-shaped brick house in Durban, where she’d pretend the driveway was a moat filled with child-hungry crocodiles, when Sarah was a little girl, she used to think that architects only designed buildings, but says that ‘Now I have come to learn that they craft the way people meet each other, laugh and celebrate.’

As well as lecturing, you’ll find the trio working on designs for an arts centre in KwaZulu-Natal’s Valley of a Thousand Hills, furniture-meets-installation pieces for an early childhood development non-government organisation, and researching the public spaces of Wits Braamfontein and Parktown campuses and surrounds.

“We’d love to work with Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson, British sculptor Anish Kapoor, Japanese fashion designer Issey Miyake, local designer Chu Suwannapha and Cape Town architectural studio Wolff Architects. counterspace-studio.com See Amina’s, Sarah’s and Sumayya’s favourite buildings in Africa at houseandleisure.co.za.

‘WE’RE TRYING TO BUILD A PRACTICE THAT’S WELL STITCHED WITH ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES.’
"I AM NOT OTHER. Do not EXOTICISE ME BECAUSE I AM black."

BUHLEBEZWE SIWANI
THE PERFORMER

'It started as a social experiment because everyone in my third-year art class thought I was doing some sort of prolonged performance while I was going through my training,' says performance artist Buhlebezwe Siwani of how her career started. The youngest and only black student to complete her Master of Fine Art at Michaelis School of Fine Art in Cape Town in 2015, Buhlebezwe soon discovered that the local art world had high expectations for the artist and sangoma – and she delivered.

Today, her performance pieces and installations featuring photo stills and videos are far more considered and multilayered than during her time as a student. She is interested in physical and spiritual journeys, and navigating what is showcased and sacred. Her photographic performance series on water, UThengisa unokwece elunxwemene (2015), is the most memorable body of work to her, both personally and professionally. 'It is intrinsic in the way that I think about life and my spiritual beliefs,' she says. 'It speaks to the many conversations we need to have about water, spirituality and human life.'

It seems Buhlebezwe isn’t the only one to whom her work speaks. As well as making waves in South Africa, the artist has captured the attention of those in the know abroad, resulting in her being offered a residency in the Netherlands, an exhibition at Galeria Madragoa in Portugal and back-to-back commissions at home and internationally.

I’d love to work with Iranian performance artist Sorour Darabi. bulebezlesiwani.com  Buhlebezwe tells us about the artists who inspire her at houseandleisure.co.za.
'Art in South Africa is growing, especially among communities and individuals who are conventionally assumed to have no historical association with it,' says Kholisa Thomas, a marketing manager-turned-art advisor who is passionate about bridging the gap between artists and art lovers. 'The art establishment can be a strange and intimidating place, so I started The Art Talks to connect people with art in an accessible, fun and educational way.'

Her budding platform brings together audiences, artists and their work once a month in intimate spaces in and around downtown Joburg – from city rooftops to artists’ studios and other culturally relevant places – where stories and conversations flow between writers, mentors, curators and fellow artists.

In between exploring Johannesburg and attending book readings, concerts in the park and art fairs, Kholisa is deeply involved in fundraising for Kgololo Academy, a university preparatory school based in Alexandra township in Gauteng, and the Ubuntu Education Fund, a non-profit organisation that gives health and educational support to children in Port Elizabeth.

I’d love to work with the Johannesburg Art Gallery. kholulafoundation.org; ubuntufund.org

Kholisa talks about the local art scene at houseandleisure.co.za.
Kelly Adami
THE INTERIOR DESIGNER

With her keen eye, impeccable taste and a creative streak that keeps things interesting, journalism graduate Kelly Adami has always had a passion for beautiful interiors. So it was no surprise when she trained as an interior designer after university and then began her career as a decor journalist, writing about spaces she dreamt of designing one day.

After some time spent in retail, Kelly decided to take a leap of faith and started her own interior design business, Copperleaf. What used to run on the support of odd design jobs from friends is now a grown-up consultancy, with projects including kitting out a designer bathroom showroom and private game lodge, as well as launching an exclusive range of furniture and accessories, such as gold- and copper-plated mirrors. ‘The collection will include specific items that I feel I need for my projects but don’t seem to be available in stores,’ says Kelly, who has always had a strong desire to go her own way.

I’d love to work with local interior design studios Lemon, Anatomy Design and Studio19.

copperleafstudio.co.za

Kelly reveals her top five clever decor tips for new homeowners at houseandleisure.co.za.

‘THE magic IS ALWAYS AMPLIFIED WHEN THERE IS collaboration.’
‘I always let the flowers do the talking. Don’t force it.’

JONETTE ENGBRECHT
THE FLORAL DESIGNER

‘For generations, the women in my family have shared three things,’ says floral designer Jonette Engelbrecht. ‘Strong and independent personalities, the recipe to a cake that can keep the peace, and the belief that your home is always decorated when there are flowers on display – even more so when they are from your garden.’

After constantly being asked where she’d found the floral arrangements she’d made, Jonette decided to quit her job as a scholar coordinator at a non-profit organisation and tap into the demand. She launched Botanicus, an online fine florist that delivers bespoke bundles, and this year it has already grown to include floral subscriptions and unexpected creative collaborations for installations, activations and wedding and product styling. Described as an ‘imaginative floral mix of modernity and romance with a good helping of luxurious design’, the brand will be branching into workshops and scented candles in glassware and handmade holders soon.

I’d love to work with... Japanese flower artist Makoto Azuma and South African miniaturist painter Lorraine Loots. [botanicus.co.za](http://botanicus.co.za)

Tweet: Jonette shows you how to create floral arrangements for three different occasions at houseandleisure.co.za.
GISELE HUMAN
THE JEWELLER

Born in Pretoria, raised in Joburg and now based in Cape Town, self-taught jeweller Gisele Human grew up ‘making things’, an influence she attributes to her mother, who is also a jeweller. So it was only natural when, in 2012, she quit her job as an advertising copywriter to pursue a career in sculptural jewellery with her brand Waif. ‘I make all of my creative decisions myself, and my work and brand are inextricably linked to my advertising background because the photography of the jewellery is something that I consider from design stage,’ she says.

Gisele first got excited about the local design scene when she began collaborating with creatives in Cape Town, and showcased her work – which some describe as wearable art – last year alongside notable local fashion labels Rich Mnisi and AKJP at South African Menswear Week, and Selfi at Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Joburg. ‘Creating editorial jewellery is always the aim for me,’ she says. ‘I want to produce something bold that inspires people to present themselves as anything but ordinary. It’s all about the creation of the pieces and seeing them on other people.’

See her collection of bespoke jewellery created for The GUILD Group at the GUILD concept store in Cape Town’s Silo district. I’d love to work with South African art foundry Bronze Age to make enormous Waif sculptures. waif.co.za

We visit Gisele’s studio and see her in action at houseandleisure.co.za.
Fulla is about my inner chaos as a Muslim woman facing challenges most people take for granted.

Fine artist Laylaa Jacobs is often torn between who she feels she needs to be and who she wants to be as a young modern Muslim woman navigating Westernised spaces. From drawing family portraits at four years old to creating colouring books at five and an illustrative book at seven, the artistic muscle of this Michaelis School of Fine Art graduate was always being flexed.

Her latest series of artworks, Fulla, showcases six embellished prayer mats and draws inspiration from the Barbie doll of the same name that is marketed to Islamic and Middle Eastern countries with a hijab and prayer mat of her own. ‘She’s a girl’s “dream doll” displaying the ideal dress code and behaviour of a Muslim woman,’ says Laylaa, who uses her work to merge the complexities of what both Fulla and Barbie represent. ‘As much as I attempt to combine the two, I will always be observed as Fulla. Muslim school encouraged me to be modest in behaviour and dress, but when I returned home, I would play with my Barbie,’ she says.

I’d love to work with Iranian artist Shirin Neshat. whoisfulla.wordpress.com Read an extended Q&A with Laylaa and view our gallery of her work at houseandleisure.co.za.
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NOTED

Compiled by Kholeka Kumalo
Photographs supplied, Trayv’s Owen

WOVEN WONDERS
Created in response to the plethora of patterned, hand-knotted silk carpets available, Herringbone’s new simple and graphic flat-weave kilims hail from Morocco, India, Argentina and the Middle East, and are made using neutral tones and traditional weaving and dyeing techniques. herringbone.co.za

CUP HALF FULL
Danish product design company Hay has teamed up with British designer Richard Woods on a captivating range of glazed ceramic Wood mugs (R330 each). Hand-painted in six different colours (bright red, dark green, light yellow, royal blue, pink and white), all of the mugs feature the designers’ distinctive wood-grain pattern. Available at Créma Design. cremadesign.co.za

ALL DRESSED UP
Cape Town-based womenswear designer Margot Molyneux recently launched Mara, a bold collection named after Marrakech and inspired by the ancient ksar architecture and earthy landscapes of Morocco’s southern region. The range includes striking shades such as ochre, ruby, navy and black, featured in gathered waistlines, flared sleeves and hemlines, and knitwear. margotmolyneux.com
**PERFECT PAIRING**

At this year’s 100% Design South Africa, House and Leisure will be the official media partner on 100% Hotel’s Afrotel, an exclusive concept by Source IBA that will showcase the interior company’s unique vision of a contemporary African hotel, exploring textures, typographies and material technologies. 100% Design South Africa will be open to the public on 9, 12 and 13 August at Gallagher Convention Centre, Johannesburg. 100percentdesign.co.za

**OUT OF AFRICA**

Washington DC-based art director and designer Hadiya Williams started her stationery design company Black Pepper Paperie Co after creating a wedding suite for her friend’s nuptials (search #theblackestweddingever). This year, she’s adding clay-making to the lineup, and now sells ceramic goods inspired by central and west African art and culture. Visit blackpepperpaperie.com to buy your own and keep an eye on her work, because soon Hadiya will be introducing more jewellery and developing patterns for textiles and gift wrapping.

**ST LEGER & VINEY’S NEW SHOWROOM TAKES PRIDE OF PLACE IN KRAMERVILLE, JOBURG’S DESIGN AND DECOR HUB. WITH POLISHED CONCRETE FLOORS AND 450M² OF DESIGN-FOCUSED INTERIORS, IT’S WELL WORTH SEEING IN PERSON. 7 APPEL RD, KRAMERVILLE, JOBURG. STLEGER.CO.ZA**

**NATURALLY YOU**

Eco Diva’s unisex skincare range boasts natural ingredients and offers an exciting – and aesthetically pleasing – alternative for anti-ageing solutions. ecodiva.co.za

**O&A HAIDEE KRAMER**

The textile and wallpaper expert – and founder of Dreamweaver Studios – chats to us about interiors, designs and wallcovering trends.

**What wallcovering designs have been popular this year?** There’s been a focus on texture, with an emphasis on all sorts of stone, marble and exotic finishes. Our new Armani Casa collection really captures the look. Graphic patterns are still big, but there’s a demand for either more organic or, on the flip side, more sophisticated and refined versions. Large digital prints in the form of wall panels or murals are still very popular and here, Eijffinger is the specialist.

**Have the spaces and ways in which people use wallcoverings changed?** Over the past few years, the feature wall has influenced the way people use wallcoverings. It forms a wonderful backdrop, is a great way to inject colour and pattern into a room, is cost-effective and can be installed in an afternoon, which appeals to the general desire for a quick fix.

**Which new wallcovering trends do you see becoming more mainstream?** We are seeing an increase in the use of rich, vibrant hues (think deep forest greens, saturated blues and indigos, and rich burnt reds and spice tones) not just as accents, but as strong statements in a space. It’s exciting, because we have been overwhelmed by grey and subtle interiors for so long. There’s also a recent fascination with ancient Japanese dyeing methods, patterns and imagery, as showcased in Jannelli & Volpi’s Shibori collection and Krôma’s Misuto range.

**If you had to choose one fabric to use for everything, from clothing to coverings, what would it be?** With its oversized roses, giant tulips and vibrant poppies, Eijffinger’s Masterpiece floral combines all the things I love – colour, flowers, art and a quirky style. dreamweaverstudios.co.za
Conceptual art and product design studio Stay Evil Kids Studio has us coveting its double-sided Dirty Mirrors. Cofounders Wendy Dixon and Jennifer Bradley kick off the collection with nine unique designs that bring together a solid timber freestanding base in a diamond or sphere shape with a sleek, standard mirror in either grey, bronze or silver glass and tinted mirror gradients. The official launch takes place on 29 July at Keyes Art Mile in Joburg in conjunction with the opening of Art Saturdays, a new monthly art- and design-focused event.
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This July we’re celebrating joie de vivre and the launch of our *haute* new show, The Son. It’s a sweeping look at one man’s journey (attired in handsome three-piece suits) to building a powerful family dynasty, Texas style. Tune into DStv for more big shows like Prince Harry in Africa, Suits Season 7 and EastEnders, airing soon.

Live the good life with DStv.

The Son
Tuesdays @ 21:00 on SundanceTV

Prince Harry in Africa
Thursday, 20 July @ 20:00 on ITV Choice

Suits Season 7
Thursdays @ 20:30 on M-Net

EastEnders
Mondays @ 18:30 on BBC Brit

Joie de Vivre
WHETHER IT’S a penchant for antiques (P66), OR A LOVE OF local art and design (P50), THE OWNERS OF THESE HOMES know a thing or two about PERSONAL STYLE
The interiors of this double-storey house in Atholl, Joburg, draw inspiration from French architect Joseph Dirand and feature an array of South African design and art. Interiors expert Fanie van Zyl and the owner selected the pieces on display and formulated the colour palette and textural finishes. In the sitting room, patterned chairs by Anatomy Design for Southern Guild (anatomydesign.co.za) echo the use of marble elsewhere in the home, such as in the fireplace mantel.
FRENCH TOAST

THIS Paris-inspired ATHOLL HOME IS A stylish showcase OF CONTEMPORARY ART and cutting-edge DESIGN

TEXT LAYLA LEIMAN PHOTOGRAPHS ELSA YOUNG
My dream was always to live in Paris in an 18th-century apartment with modern furniture,’ says the owner of this double-storey house, located in a small complex tucked away in Atholl, Johannesburg. While the style of the complex is Joburg-Tuscan, the home is a carefully considered space where classic Euro chic meets today’s progressive South African design.

When the owners put in an offer for the house a few years ago, the only thing that appealed to them about their investment was its prime location. They had previously rented fully furnished apartments, so when they took ownership, they moved in without a single item of furniture – not even a bed. But the owner is an advertising art director, so attention to detail and design is part of her DNA, and she immediately set about reimagining the interiors and remodelling them into her ideal Paris-inspired retreat.

From the outset, the owners opted to focus on effect by getting the basics right – such as installing wood-look herringbone tiled floors and quality fittings throughout. Then they introduced the details. Cosmetic structural changes saw pillars removed to create space, the kitchen reconfigured and larger windows added to let in more light. The real transformation, however, was in the decor.

Partway into the project, the owner called in interior designer Fanie van Zyl to help hone her aesthetic. ‘Good design is a balance of masculine and feminine,’ she says, and Van Zyl, who brings with him a wealth of industry knowledge, was able to help her achieve that. Over the course of almost two years involving close collaboration, they selected each item of furniture piece by piece from award-winning local design studios and premier decor retailers, as well as adding imported signature items. All of the textiles, timber and finishings for the furniture and soft furnishings were customised, and what couldn’t be sourced, Van Zyl designed himself and had manufactured specifically.

‘The owner had a very good idea of what she wanted,’ Van Zyl says, ‘and getting inside her head to understand her approach was a crucial part of the project. It’s always really important...
THEY SELECTED EACH ITEM OF FURNITURE PIECE BY PIECE FROM AWARD-WINNING LOCAL DESIGN STUDIOS AND PREMIER DECOR RETAILERS, AS WELL AS ADDING IMPORTED SIGNATURE ITEMS.
to capture a client’s style and essence. A home should reflect the owner’s personality so that when someone walks into it, the space feels congruent with the people who live there.’

The interiors draw inspiration from French architect Joseph Dirand, echoing his signature understated look. Marble is a key motif in the house, and when it is paired with plush textures and a restrained colour palette, the result is a luxurious and interesting abode full of character. ‘I love curated and considered homes,’ says the owner. ‘I’m obsessed with angles. Every angle has to look good.’

In the double-volume living area, vertical lines, muted tones, sumptuous textiles and contrasting materials interplay to achieve a classic yet contemporary effect. The modern, sleek black-glass and tarnished-brass coffee table from Tonic Design, for example, reflects the traditional white marble mantelpiece, while wood and ceramic vessels add another textural layer.

Art features prominently in the home, and both anchors and accentuates the decor. Van Zyl played a key role in sourcing pieces for the collection, which includes works by local talents such as Mia Chaplin, Alexia Vogel, Michael Taylor, Peter Eastman and David Goldblatt. Like everything else in this house, the artworks have been placed to harmonise with the surrounding furniture and space. In the dining room, Vogel’s ‘Way’ painting has been thoughtfully positioned at the head of a Gregor Jenkin table, injecting the space with pattern and colour. The same can be seen in the living room, where Zimbabwean artist Dan Halter’s editioned linocut print ‘Domboremari (Blue)’ perfectly complements the navy couch and pair of marble-effect chairs by Anatomy Design for Southern Guild. An abstract work by Andrzej Urbanski rests on a fluted walnut server by Tonic Design in the entrance hall, providing a bright burst against the charcoal wall.

The effect throughout is personal, tasteful and reveals a genuine appreciation of design and art. ‘I saw this house as an art project,’ says the owner. ‘I loved the process of designing and creating it.’
As one of the first areas in the house to be updated, the kitchen was designed to maximise space and maintain the apartment’s clean aesthetic. A round, compact breakfast table by Van Zyl, with chairs by The Cherner Chair Company (chernerchair.com), allows for intimate dining.

Dan Halter’s editioned linocut print, ‘Domboremari (Blue)’, draws the eye to the living area; subtle metallics stand out against charcoal walls, as seen in this sidetable and vessel from Tonic Design, and Catifa chair and footrest by Lievore Altherr Molina for Arper, available locally from PH Designs (phdesign.co.za).
The guest bathroom is full of texture and includes a marble vanity counter and Nuvole wallpaper from Cole & Son’s Fornasetti Murals collection (cole-and-son.com); this monochrome colour scheme is also present in the kids’ room, which features whimsical Macchine Volanti wallpaper from Cole & Son’s Fornasetti II collection; wood panelling in the stairway adds to the home’s chic Parisian flair.

Juxtaposing materials, such as marble, wood, metal and linen, meet in harmony in the main bedroom. Despite its modern vibe, the big landscape by Peter Eastman gives a nod to French impressionism. The table is also by Van Zyl, and the Fri armchairs by Jaime Hayon for Fritz Hansen are available locally from Limeline (limeline.co.za).
THE EFFECT THROUGHOUT IS PERSONAL, TASTEFUL AND REVEALS A GENUINE APPRECIATION OF ART AND DESIGN.
URBAN living

A Cape Town city-centre apartment expresses designer Liam Mooney’s penchant for pared-down style, South African art and distinctive collectibles

TEXT VICKI SLEET PRODUCTION SVEN ALBERDING PHOTOGRAPHS GREG COX/BUREAUX.CO.ZA
Designer Liam Mooney reclines against a table from Weylandts (weylandts.co.za) in his inner-city apartment, which is situated in a renovated Art Deco building in Cape Town. Once a bedroom, the dining room boasts marble-and-brass lamps from Pezula Interiors (pezulainteriors.co.za) and a vintage reclaimed factory stool. Horizontal Grasscloth wallpaper from Hertex (hertex.co.za) provides a neutral textural backdrop for a graphic print (right) by photographer Nico Krijno, while a growing collection of 1950s and Riihimäki glass vessels reflects Liam’s love of objets d’art.
t’s no secret that Cape Town’s city centre has undergone a masterful urban transformation in recent years, and as a result, many design talents have eschewed suburban bliss for the inner city, where they can access what’s hot and happening around the clock – and Liam Mooney is no exception. A successful furniture designer and now respected interiors expert with an impressive black book of domestic and commercial clients, Liam is clearly delighted to welcome people into his restful, airy apartment in a renovated, mixed-use Art Deco building on historic Greenmarket Square, one of Cape Town’s busiest tourist hubs. ‘When I first saw this place, I was immediately taken with the original wooden windows, high ceilings, open-plan space and the fact that there are two terraces,’ he says.

Liam lived in the then two-bedroomed apartment for a little while before proposing a structural change to his landlord. ‘I didn’t need a second bedroom, but I felt that a dining area was essential because I love entertaining,’ he says. So out went a dry wall, which opened up the space to an abundance of natural light, and in went a dining table that’s big enough for dinners. Luckily for Liam, his landlord trusted his vision for the initial home improvement and was fully supportive of further proposed tweaks. And from the hanging of naturally textured wallpaper throughout the main living area to the placement of many original artworks, there’s no doubt that Liam has added a unique and elegant edge to his home.

Because the apartment is an open canvas, Liam is able to move items around often. ‘The nature of the space makes it so versatile, which is ideal for me as I’m always shifting things and changing the interior. ‘Homes grow with the owner – they aren’t meant to stay the same.’

Below
A sofa from Wunders (wunders.co.za) upholstered in champagne velvet complements the apartment’s tonal colour scheme. Hanging above a pair of Mid-Century Modern chairs is a vignette of art that includes works by Richard de Jager and Hanien Conradie as well as a portrait of Pablo Picasso by Maria Marais.
In the lounge, mixed natural elements, such as a sisal rug from Haus at Hertex (hertexhaus.co.za) and a hand-hewn lamp base by Liam, add detail to the clean-lined room. In the foreground is a Campbell wooden stool that Liam also created.
The apartment looks down onto the square and up towards Table Mountain, and the busy, colourful world outside is in stark contrast to Liam’s calm, tonal haven. ‘I like a neutral palette because it ages better,’ he says. ‘Colour is important to me, but I gravitate towards darker hues more than brights.’ To ensure balance, Liam has offset the modern black-and-white scheme with natural textures and hues, the occasional metallic finish and a striking assortment of contemporary artworks by some of South Africa’s best talents, including Richard de Jager and Hanien Conradie, many of whom are personal friends.

Here and there are sculptural smalls from all over the world, such as a pair of clay African heads and a selection of West-German ceramics, but most engaging of all is Liam’s array of chairs. Ranging from a pair of Charles Rennie Mackintosh originals to a 1946 piece by Danish icon Ole Wanscher, his collection is eclectic yet cohesive in a way that fits the apartment perfectly. He’s not precious about his finds, encouraging his guests to use, rather than simply look at them, and enthusiastically shares the history of each. ‘I collect pieces that I love, but not always for the same reason. Some I like because of the way they look and others because of their design relevance, such as the Robin Day Polyside chair, which is the first injection-moulded model ever made,’ he says. ‘I never buy replicas and not all chairs in my collection are by famous designers; some are no-name, but still beautiful.’

Ever the professional, Liam approached the design of his home as he does his clients’. ‘I made sure to create several areas so there’s an interesting view at every point while you move through the space,’ he says. Although he doesn’t take himself or his house too seriously, it’s clear that this is a place in which Liam has invested lots of energy – and thanks to its awe-inspiring design cred, it’s one that any style-forward urban dweller would love to call home. liammooney.co.za
Chairs feature prominently in the designer's apartment and range from a cane junk-shop find in the corner to twin Balafon offerings by Liam positioned around an inherited table.

These striking clay heads were bought at Greenmarket Square market, which is known for its curios and African collectibles. Liam’s home opens onto a compact terrace that overlooks the buzzing market; the sitting area includes a rectangular Tom Dixon Flash Table from Créma Design (cremadesign.co.za) and a Parker Knoll armchair (parkerknoll.co.uk).
‘I’M ALWAYS SHIFTING THINGS AND CHANGING THE INTERIOR. HOMES GROW WITH THE OWNER – THEY’RE NOT MEANT TO STAY THE SAME.’

THIS PAGE. CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT
A surprise punch of blue in the bathroom makes a fitting canvas for a print by art collective Avant Car Guard; the hue is repeated in the bedroom in the form of a print by Marais that is displayed above The Little Desk That Could, designed by Liam; the terrace offers great views of the bustling city below and Table Mountain in the distance.

OPPOSITE PAGE
Open shelves in the kitchen have been carefully curated to showcase Liam’s collection of ceramics, crockery and Le Creuset cookware (lecreuset.co.za). Vintage Joan Miró exhibition posters are a playful touch, and a Beat Stout pendant light in Brass by Tom Dixon from Créma Design is a luxurious addition to the cooking area.
SOHO SOUL

SET IN ONE OF central London’s edgiest districts, THIS ELEGANT APARTMENT COMBINES carefully layered interiors WITH ARTFUL TOUCHES

TEXT ROBYN ALEXANDER PHOTOGRAPHS PHILIP DURRANT/PHILIPDURRANT.CO.UK
Interior designer Sophie Ashby of Studio Ashby transformed this Soho apartment in London into a simple and elegant space dotted with contemporary artworks, such as this painting by Sandra Beccarelli entitled ‘Searching for an Edge to Cling to’ in the dining area. Ginger pendant lights by Joan Gaspar for Marset (marset.com) draw attention to the high ceilings, while antique leather Monk chairs by Afra and Tobia Scarpa for Molteni (molteni.it) are illustrative of Ashby’s signature use of tactile materials.
part from being one of London’s most famous areas, Soho has also long been one of the city’s hottest spots. A real 24-hour neighbourhood, the district sports everything from fashionable art galleries and trendy clubs to quirky shops and glamorous restaurants. It also has an indefinable edge derived from its history as a red-light district where just about anything could – and often did – happen on a Saturday night.

Soho’s urban brio makes it an excellent choice for young professionals, such as the clients who own this apartment in a newly built development in the area. Says interior designer Sophie Ashby of Studio Ashby, ‘They were drawn to the electric atmosphere of hustling, bustling Soho.’ In the midst of all that energy, Ashby has created a home base for her clients that provides a luxurious oasis of calm, while also peppering the interior with colourful artworks and unique furnishings – many of which are bespoke or vintage.

The apartment is enviable spacious, consisting of an open-plan living area that includes a kitchen, dining area and sitting room (and also has a wraparound balcony leading off it) as well as two bedrooms, three bathrooms and a study. The clients’ brief to Ashby was ‘to create a light, airy and elegant space with hits of strong colour,’ she says. ‘They love antiques and art, so it was important to add a good mix of contemporary paintings and photographs to complement the modern, simple apartment.’

The interiors are indeed simple and elegant, but deceptively so. This is not a space that seems ‘decorated’ or formulaic in any way. Rather, what Ashby has done is – in her words – ‘add that layer of character and personality that makes a house a home’. Born in London to a South African mother and English father, Ashby spent part of her childhood in the Western Cape and loves South Africa, having recently designed charming and eclectic new interiors for The Robertson Small Hotel in Robertson.

Her work in this apartment likewise reflects her overall design aesthetic, in which ‘art is the central theme,’ she says. ‘When art is surrounded by books, beautiful objects, antique furniture and lovely textures, everything comes together to create a real and authentic sense of home.’ In the open-plan living and dining area, for example, this means combining refined neutral finishes with eye-catching bespoke items, such as the dining table, which is made from custom-coloured terrazzo set in a black steel frame.>
THE INTERIORS ARE INDEED SIMPLE AND ELEGANT, BUT DECEPTIVELY SO. THIS IS NOT A SPACE THAT SEEMS ‘DECORATED’ OR FORMULAIC IN ANY WAY.
The materials used are often natural, with wood playing a large role in both finishes and furniture items, such as the wood-topped coffee table. Upholstery fabrics are similarly kept ‘very basic and pure,’ says Ashby, and feature wool, mohair, cotton, linen and felt. As she succinctly puts it, these materials ‘are so inherently beautiful that they do all the hard work for you’.

Vintage furnishings – often made even more special via the use of those luxurious textiles – add restrained hits of quirkiness to the interiors. This is seen in the curvaceous cream armchairs in the living room, which were purchased from 1stdibs.com and re-covered in a tactile wool fabric. Ashby also has a keen eye for lamps and light fittings: among a number of notable examples here are the wall-mounted Apparatus bedside lamps in the guest bedroom and a hanging light by Naomi Paul in the main bedroom, all of which add graphic verve to the rooms in which they are used.

The final touches are all about colour, most frequently introduced via the contemporary artworks that draw the eye throughout the space. Standout pieces include a bright abstract painting entitled ‘Searching for an Edge to Cling to’ by Sandra Beccarelli in the dining area, a David Ryle photograph in the entrance hall and a bold piece by Milla Eastwood (from The Dot Project gallery) in the study.

When asked about her favourite room in the apartment, Ashby confesses that it is the study. ‘I tend to like the smallest but boldest rooms in our projects,’ she says, ‘and often, the study is that room. I love this one’s vibrant yellow chair set against the blue-grey joinery.’

‘Eclectic’, ‘contemporary’, ‘homely’ and ‘fresh’ are the words Ashby uses to describe her work – and this apartment more than lives up to the promise of something special that this delightfully mixed bag of adjectives suggests. This is a home that functions as an urban haven as well as an energising space from which to re-emerge, both calmed and inspired, into the busy cityscape in which it is situated.
‘ECLECTIC’, ‘CONTEMPORARY’, ‘HOMELY’ AND ‘FRESH’ ARE THE WORDS ASHBY USES TO DESCRIBE HER WORK – AND THIS APARTMENT MORE THAN LIVES UP TO THE PROMISE OF SOMETHING SPECIAL THAT THIS DELIGHTFULLY MIXED BAG OF ADJECTIVES SUGGESTS.
Textures abound in the main bedroom, as seen in a crochet pendant light by Naomi Paul (naomipaul.co.uk) and the custom-made velvet headboard.

Adjacent to the en suite bathroom is a dressing area adorned with hand-spun silk wallpaper from Stereo (stereointeriors.co.uk). The dressing table, stool and mirror are all bespoke, and the wall-mounted lamp dates back to the 1950s. Reflected in the mirror is a monochrome painting, also by Beccarelli; old mixes with the new in the guest bedroom, which features an antique velvet chair, artwork by Natasha Russell and Herve's minimalist Loom stool reimagined by textile designer Ptolemy Mann for H Furniture (hfurniture.co).
AFRICAN MODERNITY

THE simple forms of this family home in Sandton reflect what happens when Mid-Century Modernism is fully integrated into an African context.

TEXT: GRAHAM WOOD PRODUCTION: SVEN ALBERDING PHOTOGRAPHS: GREG COX/BUREAUX.CO.ZA
During the time when Johanne Balfour and her family were building their home in Sandton, Joburg, they rented a house designed by Mid-Century South African architect Norman Eaton. Eaton’s legacy is best summed up as pioneering a kind of Highveld regional modernism – and Johanne, who is French, could not have chosen a more thoughtful, nuanced example of local architecture to shape her family’s own architectural response to their new country.

‘From the start, I wanted to go modern,’ says Johanne, an interior designer who studied at the Istituto Europeo di Design in Milan and Joburg’s Greenside Design Center. And it was this idea that led her to the ‘tropical modernism’ of contemporary Brazilian architecture, which combines the clean lines and elegance of modernist architecture with textured natural materials and a more expressive approach.

Intent on adapting this influence for her family home’s Highveld setting and melding it with some of the principles that animated Eaton’s architecture in the late mid-20th century, Johanne called on architect Charles van Breda – and the result is a sophisticated version of modern African architecture.

The building comprises a wooden-slatted block resting on top of a glass block, with a concrete block on one end that intersects at 90 degrees. ‘The design crystallised into a very simple form,’ says Van Breda. ‘Effectively, it is a structure floating on another structure, with a glass box below.’ The bedrooms are above and the living areas are glassed in below, configured around the kitchen, which ‘formed the nucleus of the house’. In the concrete block is the garage.

Johanne wanted the garden and building to be well integrated, so she worked with landscaper Tim Conradie to create a largely endemic garden that stands as a wild counterpoint to the disciplined linearity of the architecture. Van Breda found that introducing disappearing sliding doors to the lower glass level helped create ‘a sense of immediacy and light’ and facilitated the impression that ‘the garden came into the house’ – and at the same time, invites you out. ‘The juxtaposition between the architectural box rising out of this chaotic, organic landscape is well played out,’ he says.

This concept of a pristine, human-made ‘jewel in the landscape’ of classic modernism is tempered somewhat by the materials used for the exterior, which were chosen to weather with time: the wooden screen on the first level, for example, will turn a soft silver-grey and bring, as Van Breda expresses it, another dimension of ‘life to the front of the building’, while the concrete and glass will maintain their clarity.

PREVIOUS SPREAD
Architect Charles van Breda worked together with landscaper Tim Conradie (thegardeners.co.za) to balance the linearity of Johanne Balfour’s modernist Highveld house in Joburg with the organic nature of the garden surrounding it.

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP
Layered textures add interest to the interiors; in the TV room, Johanne perches on a Scandinavian Mid-Century Modern sofa accessorised with cushions from Jonathan Adler (jonathanadler.com).
Designed so that whoever is cooking can interact with people in the dining area and also look out over the garden, the kitchen is finished in blonde oak that was left slightly rough to emphasise its materiality. The chairs are local furniture manufacturer Melvill & Moon's (melvillandmoon.com) take on Børge Mogensen's iconic Spanish Chair, and The Cones pendant lights above the granite-topped island are by MOS (mosproducts.co.za).
The open-plan living area consists of the kitchen, dining room and sitting area, with a covered patio at one end. Johanne says that many people initially pigeonhole her interior style as Mid-Century Modern, and although the Tulip sidetable by Eero Saarinen and the Finn Juhl lounge chair in the living room are both classic examples of furniture created in that period, modern additions such as a chrome Bell standing lamp by Tom Dixon prove how eclectic her approach really is.
Carved North African sidetables and a handwoven mohair rug by Coral Stephens (coralstephens.com) contrast with a Fantasma floor lamp by Tobia Scarpa for Flos (flos.com) and an Italian Milano sofa by Rodolfo Dordoni for Minotti (minotti.com) that are decidedly contemporary. An Australian Aboriginal painting that the couple bought while they were abroad introduces a vibrant pop of colour and pattern to the living area.

At the end of the living wing, a covered patio allows for sheltered outdoor seating and features a coffee table by Mezzanine (mezzanineinteriors.co.za) with Johanne’s choice of a Namibian granite top that highlights her love of local materials; the greyscale landscapes were taken by Johanne’s husband’s great-great-grandfather in the Himalayas; a Mid-Century display unit the Balfours bought in Europe is packed with collectibles, such as hand-blown Murano glass pieces from Italy and Ngwenya Glass (ngwenyaglass.co.sz) creations from Swaziland.
The effect, as Van Breda notes, is to shift the idea of a modernist house from a ‘machine for living’ to a design that ‘acknowledges the idea of the handmade object’. It’s not rustic by any means, but inside and out, there are references to the crafted and handmade elements embedded in the structured architecture.

This is even more evident in the interiors, which include raw concrete columns and polished concrete floors. ‘I wanted to keep some of the roughness and the natural quality of the materials,’ Johanne says. With its light oak finish, the kitchen continues the dialogue between the human-made and the natural, featuring walnut floating shelves and cabinetry as well as a flamed Zimbabwean granite kitchen counter top that was selected as much for its texture as for the fact that it’s from Africa.

When it comes to the furnishings, they are an expertly layered combination of designs from various eras, with organic materials such as wood, leather, grass, mohair, metal and stone predominating. The dining table, which was originally owned by a German missionary in South Africa, dates back to the mid-1800s, while the sofas, coffee table and lamps include up-to-the-minute designs by the likes of Tom Dixon.

As a volunteer who raises funds for the NGO Orange Babies through art and design, Johanne is a great supporter of local work, and there are examples of African traditional handcrafts and artefacts scattered throughout her home, from woven baskets to carved sidetables. On the other end of the spectrum are instances of local contemporary modernist-inflected design, such as a Mezzanine coffee table on the patio, Dokter and Misses stools in the bathroom and lighting by MOS. And since Orange Babies has collaborated with furniture designer Peter Mabeo for this year’s FNB Art Fair in Joburg – where it will have a booth showcasing limited-edition pieces designed and manufactured by him as well as artwork by South African artists – it’s likely that some select Mabeo originals will soon find a place in her collection.

While the ceramics, vases and other collectibles explore overlaps of materiality and skill, there are also illustrations of nature’s own shapes and patterns in the form of birds’ nests, seed pods and shells – which in turn makes it deeply appropriate that Johanne’s favourite German Mid-Century Modern vase, the Artichoke, is an abstracted natural form.

With wide overhangs that shield the Balfours from the sun in summer and rain in winter, this house has been carefully designed to consider its environment. But it is the balance of the human-made and the natural that helps merge Brazilian modernism with Eaton’s local influence in a build that is truly inspiring. 

charlesvanbredaarchitects.com
‘EFFECTIVELY, THE DESIGN IS A STRUCTURE FLOATING ON ANOTHER STRUCTURE, WITH A GLASS BOX BELOW.’

Natural elements are present throughout; an Omina bath from Boutique Baths (boutiquebaths.com) and a floorstanding tap by Hansgrohe (hansgrohe.co.za) provide a modern juxtaposition to the bathroom’s concrete floor; the guest bedroom is home to African artefacts and a chest of drawers by Sergio Brioso for Cecchini Collection (cecchini collection.com).
With its beautiful walnut bed by Italian designer Roberto Lazzeroni for Ceccotti Collezioni (ceccotticollezioni.it), the main bedroom is a spacious and airy retreat. On the walls are woodcut prints by South African artist Cecil Skotnes, and on the floor is a kelim from Amatuli (amatuli.co.za).
An industry leader in providing carefully curated pieces for every space in your home, SHF prides itself on its innovative approach to staying ahead in the ever-shifting milieu of interior styling. Positive thinking is key to creativity, and the trend setters at SHF know that sunny days and clear skies are never more than a season away. Though rooted in the reality of winter with shades of grey and metallic background hues, this season’s trends include optimistic accessories in sunbeam yellow, gold and copper that give interiors fresh cheer. Let the professionals at SHF show you how to bring the sunshine inside for a season – and year – full of style possibilities.
CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: Hive pendant lights R895 each; Sunburst mirror R1 995; Idol Zest scatter cushion R995; Habicus rug in Grey from R7 995 (2.9×1.9m); Lloyd chair in Tobacco R17 995; Lincoln Double Chaise sofa in Vintage Charcoal R29 995; Magical Solar scatter cushion R495; Solar throw R2 595; and Lloyd server with almond top and base in Jet Brass R9 995, all SHF.
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LEISURE

WHAT TO cook (P88), WHERE TO dine (P96) AND WHY New Orleans (P102) IS ON THE top of our MUST-VISIT BUCKET LIST – it’s all here
QUEEN OF TART

FOR CONFECTIONS WITH a difference, refreshing rhubarb OFFERS SOME sweetly zingy POSSIBILITIES

RECIPES AND PRODUCTION ELISABETH JOHANSSON
PHOTOGRAPHS SUSANNA BLAVARG/TAVERNE AGENCY
Rhubarb Mazarin pie.
Caramelised rhubarb with cardamom ice cream.

Rhubarb chutney with rosemary.

Rhubarb ice pops with strawberries.

Rhubarb tartlets with Italian meringue.

For more go to try pork chops with pickled rhubarb.

Caramelised rhubarb with cardamom ice cream.
RHUBARB MAZARIN PIE
To prepare the rhubarb
10 thin rhubarb stalks (20cm long)
100ml sugar
100ml water
1t butter

For the pastry case
5 ready-made puff pastry rectangles (7×20cm each)
1 medium egg, whipped, for brushing

For the Mazarin filling
35g soft butter
75ml sugar
200g almond paste, finely grated
(find a recipe on thespruce.com)
2 medium eggs, at room temperature
1t plain flour

To serve
A few fresh sprigs of tarragon, chopped
Vanilla ice cream or vanilla sauce

Preheat the oven to 175°C. Lay the rhubarb stalks on a baking tray, sprinkle the sugar and water over them and place the butter on top. Bake for 10 minutes on the middle shelf, remove and allow to cool, reserving any liquid for later use. Increase the oven temperature to 200°C.

Meanwhile, place three rectangles of puff pastry on a lined baking tray, each overlapping the next by about 1cm. Brush the pastry pieces with the whipped egg so they stick to each other where they overlap. Cut a 1cm-thick frame out of the remaining puff pastry rectangles. Brush the egg underneath and place the frame on top of the three joined pastry rectangles. Brush the egg over the pastry again and bake for about 10 minutes. (If it puffs up in the middle, push it down with a fork.)

To make the Mazarin filling, combine the butter and sugar, and mix in the grated almond paste. Add one egg at a time, then the flour, and mix well. Spread the mixture over the puff pastry and place the rhubarb on top. Bake for 20-25 minutes.

Make a syrup using the reserved rhubarb liquid by boiling it until reduced and thickened. Drizzle the syrup over the pie, then sprinkle the tarragon on top and serve with vanilla ice cream or vanilla sauce on the side.
SERVES 8

RHUBARB CHUTNEY WITH ROSEMARY
500g rhubarb stalks
1 onion, peeled and chopped
50ml red- or white-wine vinegar
50ml water
200ml sugar, with the juice of half a lemon added
3-4 sprigs of rosemary, chopped

Remove any stringy ribs from the rhubarb if the stalks are coarse, and chop roughly.
Boil the rhubarb pieces with the onion, vinegar and water for 5-10 minutes. Add the sugar/lemon mix and rosemary, and stir. Heat until boiling, then pour the chutney into sterilised glass jars and cool.
MAKES ABOUT 500ml

RHUBARB ICE POPS WITH STRAWBERRIES
225g fresh or frozen strawberries
250g rhubarb, sliced
300ml water
100ml sugar

Place the strawberries in a saucepan, add the rhubarb slices and water, and bring to the boil for 3-4 minutes, without stirring. Strain the liquid and pour back into the pan. Add the sugar and stir until dissolved. Cool and pour into plastic cups or ice-pop moulds. Freeze for a few hours, remove and insert ice-pop sticks, then freeze again overnight. To loosen the ice pops from the moulds, rinse briefly in warm water.
MAKES 6-8 SMALL ICE POPS

CARAMELISED RHUBARB WITH CARDAMOM ICE CREAM
For the cardamom ice cream
400ml milk
300ml double cream
1 vanilla pod, with seeds scraped out and set aside
6 medium egg yolks
200ml sugar
2t cardamom seeds, finely crushed

For the caramelised rhubarb
100ml sugar
2T butter
2T double cream
2 rhubarb stalks, chopped

To make the cardamom ice cream, bring the milk, cream, vanilla pod and seeds to the boil in a stainless-steel saucepan.

In a separate bowl, beat the egg yolks with the sugar. Pour the cream mixture over the egg/sugar mix, then pour everything back into the pan while stirring. Simmer until the mixture reaches 85°C or begins to thicken while whipping vigorously and preventing it from boiling. Remove from heat and add cardamom. Pour the mixture into a bowl and allow to cool, then freeze overnight, or use an ice-cream maker. Store in the fridge for 1-2 hours before serving.

For the caramelised rhubarb, melt the sugar in a frying pan and add the butter and cream, stirring, until the mixture begins to boil. Add the rhubarb and reduce the heat, allowing it to dissolve a little in the caramel sauce. Serve hot with the ice cream.
MAKES ABOUT 800ml, SERVES 4-6

RHUBARB TARTLETS WITH ITALIAN MERINGUE
For the tartlet cases
125g butter, soft
100ml icing sugar
½t vanilla extract
300ml plain flour
1 medium egg yolk

For the filling
2 rhubarb stalks (about 200g), sliced
2T water
100ml sugar
1T cornflour
1T cold water
1T butter

For the meringue
4 medium egg whites
250ml sugar
100ml water
¼t vanilla extract

To make the tartlet cases, combine the sugar, milk, cream, vanilla extract, flour and egg yolk, and mix well. Refrigerate the dough in a plastic bag for 30 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 175°C. Roll out the dough and line eight tartlet cases, cutting away extra dough. Prick holes in the crusts and bake for 8 minutes. Allow to cool.

For the filling, bring the rhubarb and 2T water to the boil, then simmer, covered, for 3-4 minutes. Stir a few times, adding the sugar while stirring, and heat until boiling again. Mix the cornflour with 1T cold water and add to the hot rhubarb, bringing the mixture to the boil while stirring. Remove from the heat, mix in the butter, and cool. Spoon into the tartlet cases.
To make the meringue, place the egg whites in a dry bowl. Boil the water and sugar until the solution reaches 110°C, then begin beating the egg whites (the solution should reach 121°C). Slowly pour the syrup into the bowl with the egg whites and beat on maximum speed for a few minutes. Reduce the speed and beat for a few more minutes. Pipe the meringue onto the tartlets and singe with a kitchen butane torch.

MAKES 8 TARTLETS

CHEQUERED RHUBARB AND ACAI PIE

For the pie crust
125g soft butter
100ml icing sugar
300ml plain flour
1 medium egg yolk

For the filling
200g almond paste, finely grated
50g soft butter
2T sugar
2 medium eggs
2T plain flour
1t acai berry powder

To make the chequered pattern
5 rhubarb stalks, cut lengthways into 2-3mm slices
500ml water
200ml sugar
1 gelatin leaf

Preheat the oven to 225°C. For the pie crust, combine the butter with the icing sugar, flour and egg yolk, and mix well. Refrigerate the dough in a plastic bag for 30 minutes, then roll it out and line a 22cm pie tin, cutting away any excess. Prick holes in the base and bake for 12 minutes. While it cools, reduce the oven to 175°C.

To make the filling, combine the almond paste with the butter, sugar, eggs, flour and acai powder, mix well, and pour the mixture into the pie crust. Bake in the centre of the oven for about 25 minutes and allow to cool. Reduce the oven to 100°C. Place the rhubarb slices on a deep baking tray. Boil the water and sugar, and pour over the rhubarb. Bake for 2 minutes until soft. Lift the slices one by one and arrange in a chequered pattern on top of the pie, cutting away any excess along the edges.

Strain the rhubarb liquid from the baking tray and boil until 100ml remains. Soak the gelatin leaf in cold water for about 5 minutes, then lift it gently and add to the warm rhubarb liquid, allowing it to dissolve. Cool and brush over the pie; refrigerate for 10 minutes. Brush the gelatin mixture over it again (if the gelatin has solidified, melt it over a low heat on the stove) and serve.

SERVES 10

Chequered rhubarb and acai pie.
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Walk THIS WAY

A FAVOURITE HAUNT FOR DURBANITES AT PLAY, THE FLORIDA ROAD AREA HAS NEW FOOD AND LEISURE SPOTS SPRINGING UP ALL THE TIME. HERE’S OUR EXPLORE-IT-ON-FOOT GUIDE

1. JACKSONVILLE COFFEE
This hidden gem behind Hertex is the third offering from owner Clint Wolter, whose passion for great coffee and connecting with customers is obvious from the way Jacksonville is run. A relaxing space to work while enjoying a flat white. 327 Florida Rd, 031-312-0632.

2. CHARLIE’S CAFÉ & BISTRO
An eatery renowned for its weekend brunch, Charlie’s is a neighbourhood go-to for good reason, with excellent eggs and java. Sit on the deck and people-watch, then pop in next door to Egg to get your local design fix. 465 Innes Rd, 082-891-7088.

3. LOVE COFFEE
You’re in for divine espresso, brilliant design by Ken Leiman Furniture and masses of hanging plants in macramé creations by Lauren Taylor at this sweet café. Owner Jeannie McCall aims to continue what she calls ‘the Love Coffee culture’, where customers are recognised by name and their choice beverage remembered. Plans are also underway to build a deck and seating area off the front of the shop, fitted with planter boxes to continue the urban garden feeling. 281 Florida Rd.

4. AFRO’S CHICKEN SHOP
Designed by interiors expert Kevin Boyd, the homegrown ‘chicken and tjips’ chain’s newest space will soon be holding outdoor film screenings. 233 Florida Rd, 072-083-7526. afroschicken.co.za

Compiled by ROXANNE ROBINSON
Illustration GEMMA BEDFORTH
Photographs SUPPLIED

STILLS: ISTOCK/GETTY
Florida Road has long been one of the best-known and most-loved places in Durban. Commercial property regeneration company Urban Lime is now the largest landlord on the strip, and it has big plans for the area, including working together with the Ethekwini Metropolitan Municipality and Florida Road Urban Improvement Precinct to make the road more pedestrian-friendly by upgrading pavements.

We’ve also heard that the next wave of additions to the neighbourhood includes the first restaurant from the chefs behind Roti & Chai pop-up eatery (due to open in the next few months) as well as a vintage concept store by Zigzag surf magazine, a barber and a slow baked-potato take-out eatery called the Potato Exchange.

Spiga d’Oro owner Marco Santoniccolo speaks for many Durbanites when he says, ‘We love that there is this cultural integration happening without any influence from the powers that be. It’s the people who are cultivating this change.’

6. SIDE BAR AT SPIGA D’ORO
Spiga d’Oro is a popular Durban hangout, so it’s no surprise that the restaurant has opened a sister bar next door. The venue hosts everything from art exhibitions to live performances, and on every first Thursday of the month, it’s home to the best party in the city. 200 Florida Rd, 031-303-9511. 

7. E C L E T I C
Nicola and Anton Oosthuizen have been running this vintage treasure trove for more than 18 years, and it’s known for its array of Mid-Century Modern furniture, antique glassware and artwork by Vladimir Tretchikoff – the artist is one of Nicola’s favourites. 155-157 Gordon Rd, 031-303-2218. eclecticantiques.weebly.com

8. F A L A F E L F U N D I
Owner Saar Ben Hamoo, who has apparently made over 1 million falafel in his lifetime, says it’s the secret family recipe that sets his apart from the rest. Get there early to beat the queues and grab a seat in the courtyard outside Cityzen Internet Cafe (and do buy some Falafel mix to take home for later). 161 Gordon Rd, 031-303-9169. 

9. K H A Y A R E C O R D S
Record lovers will adore Paul Batterly’s vinyl store, which also organises weekly music events. Don’t forget to ask what’s on the calendar for the month ahead.
85 4th Ave, 031-303-2936. khaya_records

10. T H E C O N C I E R G E
If you’re spending the night in Durban, you must stay in one of design and food aficionado Neil Roake’s ‘boutique bungalows.’ Located in a leafy courtyard, their three rooms have distinctive interiors that epitomise modern luxury, Durbs-style. 36-42 St Marys Ave, 031-309-4434. the-concierge.co.za
HAPPY MEALS
Johanne 14 (Quivertree Publications, R275) is award-winning food writer Hope Malau’s take on home-cooked, traditional South African food. The book acknowledges unsung kitchen heroes – mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings – and their ability to make culinary magic, often with very little. quivertreepublications.com

OCEAN VIEW
An all-day neighbourhood eatery in Cape Town that serves modern comfort food in a relaxed seaside setting, Lily’s is the ideal place for friends to gather. And when cocktail hour rolls around, the after-work crowd settles in for sundowners and dinners overlooking the Atlantic. The menu emphasises healthy options and highlights fresh, locally sourced produce. Shop 1, East-West Building, cnr Beach Rd and Surrey Pl, Mouille Point, Cape Town; 021-204-8545. lilysrestaurant.co.za

Food & drinks news

THE SPYTAIL BLACK GINGER RUM BOTTLE IS BASED ON A BATHYSPHERE – A PRIMITIVE TYPE OF SUBMARINE – AND THE DISTILLERY IN FRANCE WHERE THIS SPICED RUM IS AGED IS LOCATED NEAR THE RIVER CHARENTE, WHERE SOME OF THE WORLD’S FIRST SUBMARINES WERE BUILT AND TESTED. COMPLETE WITH GINGER AND SPICES, SPYTAIL MAKES A DELICIOUS COCKTAIL. SPYTAILRUM.COM

MAKE A WISH
Designed by Black Sheep Design and owned by design, food and wine lover Craigan Millar, Wishbone Cafe & Bistro Bar in Sandton is a welcome dining option outside the business hub’s heaving malls. The restaurant will feature a rotation of artworks every two months in collaboration with Berman Contemporary, and also offers a private dining area that’s perfectly equipped for business presentations. The Piazza, 11 Alice Ln, Sandton, Joburg. wishbonebistro.co.za

WINE TIME
IF YOU FANCY BEING REGULARLY INTRODUCED TO NEW WINES FROM A DIVERSE PORTFOLIO OF LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BRANDS, SIGN UP FOR NEXT-GENERATION ONLINE STORE PORT2PORT’S QUIRKY AND INFORMATIVE MAILERS. PORT2PORT.WINE

DOWN UNDER
Spiral Cellars has come to South Africa to share its stylish underground wine cellars, which can hold up to 1800 bottles of wine in professional conditions. The company has been producing cellars in Europe for 35 years, and its bespoke creations can be seamlessly installed in less than two weeks to complement an existing structure, or worked into the design of a new house. For more info, email info@spiralcellars.co.za. spiralcellars.co.uk
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SALVE FOR THE HEART

In the Cape Winelands valley of Wellington, a terraced garden abundant with salvias is a lush sanctuary for its new owners.

TEXT CATRIONA ROSS PHOTOGRAPHS JAC DE VILLIERS

THIS PAGE

Around the dam at Marquerite and Lourens Steyn’s farmhouse Klein Optenhorst in Wellington, morning light suffuses the iris, water plants and others such as gunnera, lady’s mantle, Salvia miniata and hostas. A wooden gazebo provides a finishing touch.

OPPOSITE PAGE, FROM TOP

Klein Optenhorst is a water-wise take on the English garden, with gravel paths and species such as echlums, euphorbias, rose campions, phlomis and a wide variety of salvias; indigenous Hyparrhenia hirta and other grasses in pale tones mimic the lightness and delicate nature of English herbaceous borders.
n the 32 years Marguerite Steyn and her husband Lourens have been living in Wellington in the Western Cape, they’ve always opted for a low-maintenance, structured town garden – but Marguerite secretly wished for a sweeping green wonderland overlooking a stretch of water.

‘Our daughter was getting married and we couldn’t seem to find the right venue,’ she says. ‘Then Klein Optenhorst came on the market and my ears pricked up. Imagine a wedding under the big oak.’

It was the cool canopy of venerable trees that attracted Marguerite: a yellowwood, a southern magnolia, wild olives including one gnarled specimen roughly 400 years old, oaks and plane trees with weaver bird nests overhanging the dam. Spellbound, the couple bought the property in April 2016.

Situated on the outskirts of the historical Wamakersvallei in the Cape Winelands on dusty Bovlei Valley Road, Klein Optenhorst features an 1820s farmhouse surrounded by farms and mountains. Here, previous owners Jenny and Naas Ferreira cultivated a terraced garden which Jenny, a salvia expert, opened to the public biannually.

‘Jenny has a passion for plants and gave her life to this garden in the 29 years she had it,’ says Marguerite, who’s committed to learning more about plants and is continuing to take cuttings and grow saplings in the on-site nursery with the aim of replenishing the garden. Fortunately, the Ferreiras’ long-standing gardener Solomon ‘Solly’ Franke has stayed on to assist.

From a simple garden consisting of a lawn around the back stoep with a slope down to the neighbouring farm, the Ferreiras excavated, creating three main terraces: lawns at the top and bottom, a gravel garden in the middle, and other intervening areas, including borders of flowering shrubs. A walkway running the length of the slope became the central axis, with cypress trees on each side and a side gravel path to allow wheelbarrow and lawnmower access to each level.

Repetition and mirror-planting provide the structure for a relaxed, romantic look accented with shaded seats, water features and statuary peeking through the foliage.>
Sections down the side of the house are planted with ferns, camellias, port wine magnolia and several variegated plants. The botanical stars of this garden are salvias and abutilons, which thrive here in a rainbow of colours: from afar, the bell-shaped flowers of the latter give the impression of roses, but have a softer look and are much easier to maintain.

In the gravel garden, plants suited to Wellington’s hot, dry summers include pride of Madeiras, *Phlomis italica*, cistus and some of the 90 different salvias that Jenny grew. She found *Salvia leucantha* ‘White Mischief’ and ‘Danielle’s Dream’ growing on a smallholding in the former Western Transvaal and, with the owner’s permission, introduced these unusual white- and pink-flowered varieties to the gardening world; they are especially popular in the United States and Australia.

Salvias offer great variety in size, shape, structure and flower colour, and their abundant pollen and nectar lure bees, butterflies and flocks of sunbirds. They are generally unflinching in heat, particularly *S. canariensis*, *S. clevelandii*, *S. somaliensis* and *S. desoleana*, as well as most of our indigenous salvias, such as *S. lanceolata*, *S. africana-lutea* and *S. disermas*. As Jenny advises, a good soak every seven to 10 days and a generous mulch help in dry weather.

From the fountain at the top of the driveway to the pond with its water spouts and Chinese proverb and the dam, water features bring sound, light, movement and relief from the heat. Klein Optenhorst’s water allocation from the Kromme River fills the small dam built by the Ferreiras in the clay area at the bottom of the garden. Inspired, their farmer neighbour later built a larger dam on the other side, and the Steyns now benefit from its overflow.

Their daughter’s wedding reception was held under the sprawling oak full of fairy lights a week before Marguerite and Lourens moved in. ‘It feels as if we’ve always lived here,’ says Marguerite, who explores the garden’s secret places with her two young grandsons. Among her delights are the birds on the dam and the sounds of farm life, of tractors and farm labourers chatting while pruning vines. ‘Looking out over a dam to Groenberg mountain has always been my dream,’ she says. ‘I almost pinch myself every morning.’
NEW ORLEANS has recently seen a slew of cool new offerings open their doors — but the city shows no sign of losing its authenticity.

TEXT MARY HOLLAND
PHOTOGRAPHS SUPPLIED
Renowned as the birthplace of jazz and distinctive Caribbean-meets-the-South style, New Orleans has never needed trendy hot spots to attract travellers. If anything, the trendy spots needed New Orleans. Yes, there are hip hotels and artisanal coffee shops, but there are also stalwart jazz clubs, graveyard tours and dingy dive bars. In New Orleans, Louisiana (or NOLA for short), you can have both your craft coffee and your authentic jazz experience – with a side of cheap beer to boot.

**SLEEP**

**Henry Howard Hotel**
A glimmering white townhouse with an ornate facade and a big ol’ porch, it’s likely this would be your fantasy hotel when visiting the South. Henry Howard Hotel is located in the peaceful, historic Garden District and boasts 18 classic rooms decorated with antique pieces as well as a beautifully restored parlour that’s perfect for a bourbon-fuelled afternoon. [henryhowardhotel.com](http://henryhowardhotel.com)

**Catahoula Hotel**
It’s hard to believe a business district could be home to such a cool boutique hotel. Positioned among big corporate buildings, the Catahoula Hotel is a brightly renovated Creole townhouse that dates back to 1845, with 35 simple, stylish, unfussy rooms, a rooftop terrace and a pisco bar. [catahoulahotel.com](http://catahoulahotel.com)

**Ace Hotel**
Occupying a restored Art Deco building, the Ace Hotel’s entrance is flanked by lush plants – a sure sign that it is an oasis in the city. Inside, there are 234 rooms designed by famed New York decorators Roman and Williams, a lobby bar dotted with vintage furniture and rugs, and an adjoining coffee shop, Stumptown Coffee Roasters. The adjacent hotel restaurant, Josephine Estelle, serves excellent Italian-meets-NOLA dishes and the rooftop (with a pool and bar) offers 360-degree views over the city. The clincher is Three Keys, an intimate events space that showcases live music. [acehotel.com/neworleans](http://acehotel.com/neworleans)

**Caribbean Room at Pontchartrain Hotel**
It’s unlikely you’ll find an eatery that oozes more charm than the Caribbean Room by acclaimed chefs John Besh and Chris Lusk. As a tribute to the previous restaurant that was once a NOLA landmark, the dress code at this elegant Creole restaurant is formal, and gents are expected to wear dinner jackets. The dining room has a fine-dining-meets-country-club feel, complete with rattan furniture, hanging plants and palm-printed carpets. [thecaribbeanroom.com](http://thecaribbeanroom.com)

**Seaworthy**
A collaboration between Ace Hotel and New York’s Grand Banks (a floating oyster bar on the Hudson River), Seaworthy was bound to be a success. While the setting is old – it’s housed in a 19th-century Creole cottage – the stylish interior and refined food are anything but. Downstairs you’ll find a raw bar that shakes up craft cocktails and offers daily oyster specials.

**EAT**

**Willa Jean**
There are a number of foods you shouldn’t leave NOLA without eating, and biscuits (baked goods that are basically like large scones) are among them. Local favourite Willa Jean is so serious about biscuits, it has an entire menu section dedicated to them. The modern Southern restaurant does breakfast, lunch and dinner, but the most unforgettable meal is weekend brunch, which has a menu peppered with comfort food such as crawfish and grits, BBQ shrimp, cornbread, fried chicken – and biscuits, of course. [willajean.com](http://willajean.com)

**Seaworthy**
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Ace Hotel in New Orleans features a French Deco-inspired lobby bar decorated with artworks and trinkets.

You’ll find modern Israeli cuisine at chef Alon Shaya’s eponymous restaurant; Ace Hotel boasts a wide range of events spaces, including a live music venue called Three Keys; Seaworthy restaurant is known for its fresh seafood dishes (right) and stylish interior (bottom right); at Ace Hotel, guests can dine alongside the rooftop pool (below) or at Josephine Estelle restaurant (left), which specialises in Italian-meets-Southern cuisine.

With 234 spacious rooms designed by New York decorators Roman and Williams, Ace Hotel is a must-visit destination for design lovers.
In the cosy upstairs dining room, expect distinctly Cajun dishes by chefs Kerry Heffernan and Daniel Causgrove that make use of the city’s abundance of fresh seafood. seaworthynola.com

**Shaya**
If you like modern Israeli cuisine, chef Alon Shaya’s restaurant offers small plates such as fresh labneh and lamb kebabs with tahini that will make you forget about shrimp and grits. Provided it’s not too humid for outdoor eating, Shaya is home to a cute courtyard that is considered one of the best dining destinations in the city. shayarestaurant.com

**DRINK & LISTEN**

**Bacchanal Wine**
This is your hot ticket to the coolest backyard party. Don’t be put off by the unassuming building – walk through the wine shop and on the other side you’ll be met with a sprawling back garden with tables, string lights and folks bopping their heads to live music. Grab an empty table, buy your wine from the store, order seriously good Mediterranean dishes from the hatch, then kick back and listen to some fine music. bacchanalwine.com

**The Spotted Cat Music Club**
Heard of Bourbon Street? Skip it. It’s iconic, but today you’ll find more drunk students than authentic music venues there. Rather head to Frenchman Street, the less touristy version, where locals will tell you to visit The Spotted Cat Music Club. At first glance, it looks like a ’90s dive bar, and inside you’ll find a host of excellent musicians playing everything from blues to funk and modern jazz. spottedcatmusicclub.com

**Preservation Hall**
Founded in 1961, Preservation Hall is a NOLA icon. It has a well-founded reputation as one of the best jazz venues in the city, and it hasn’t lost its edge. The space remains small, hosting intimate performances by some of the city’s best jazz musicians. To secure a seat, you can book tickets online, but if you’re willing to wait in line, entrance is cheaper at the door. preservationhall.com
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT
Henry Howard Hotel is named after famed architect Henry Howard, who designed the townhouse in the 1860s; The Spotted Cat Music Club is a local favourite for live music; choc-chip cookies reign at Willa Jean bakery; award-winning bar director Lauren Schell serves up NOLA-themed craft cocktails at Seaworthy (bottom right), which features a relaxed outdoor eating area (below); Preservation Hall was founded in 1961 to preserve and promote traditional New Orleans jazz.

OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT
Try a frozen wine slushie, or F’rose, at Willa Jean; the walls at Josephine Estelle are adorned with palmetto murals salvaged from the New Orleans Opera House; all rooms at Henry Howard Hotel include local artworks; offering daily oyster specials (bottom right), Seaworthy is located in a 19th-century Creole cottage (bottom far left).
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Paarden Eiland, Cape Town, South Africa
FROM THIS floating Stiletto basin TO THE textured Infinito wallcovering AND Quadro mirror with brass frame, ALL BY SALVATORI, GET inspiration for your bathroom (P110) AS WELL AS all the other rooms IN YOUR HOME
THE BATHROOM COLOUR CODE

From rose-tinted walls to gold-and-green details, the latest bathroom trends are all shades of stylish.

PRODUCTION BY RESHOKETSWE (SHOKI) MOKALE PHOTOGRAPHS SUPPLIED
Forget those mumsy offerings of the 1950s – the next generation of pink bathrooms is subtle, sophisticated and incredibly current. If you prefer white porcelain, pair yours with a blush-toned feature wall and copper accents, as seen in this Cuna bath in White with steel frame in Copper finish by Patricia Urquiola for Agape (opposite page). Available at Lavo Bathroom Concepts for R137 940.
FOCUS bathrooms

MARbled BLACK

Black bathrooms are still a major trend, only this time around, matt finishes have been replaced with marbled versions. Experiment with inky tiles and accessories, or make a grand statement with marbled sanitaryware, such as this In-Out freestanding bath in Nero Marquina marble by Benedini Associati for Agape (above). Available at Lavo Bathroom Concepts for R427 500.

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
1. Epoxy-coated, galvanised mild-steel towel rail in Black R3 640, LIM
2. Marble tumbler in Grey R145 and 3. Umea soap dispenser in Black R155, both Weylandts
4. MR202 tall basin mixer in Chrome and Nero Marquina marble R13 221, MR250 basin mixer R8 934 and MR220 bidet mixer R8 188, both in Chrome and white Carrara marble, all from the Marmo collection by IB Rubinetti, Lavo Bathroom Concepts
5. Chenille Border towels in Black from R16 each, MRP Home
6. Omega toilet brush set in Matt Black R1 059 and 7. Black tile sheet in glass from the Venetian Smalti collection by Douglas Jones, R170/sheet (29.5×29.5cm), both Italtile
8. Canal Grande Stripe tile in White in semi-polished finish R1 020/m², WOMAG
9. Luxor tile sheet in natural stone from the Ancient Blends collection by Douglas Jones R275/sheet (31×30.5cm), Italtile
10. Round metal shelf mirror in Black R500, MRP Home.
The Spartan Boxx boasts a striking rectangular frame to combine both form and function. Designed and manufactured with the finest locally sourced stainless steel, the efficient Automated Heating Technology reduces electricity consumption to the equivalent of just one light bulb. Add a market-leading guarantee, and fluid filled for even heat distribution, it’s no wonder we’re South Africa’s leading heated towel rail manufacturer. For more valuable information, call 0861 JEEVES (533837) or visit www.jeeves.co.za
The natural look is big in interiors, and that extends to your bathroom. From wall panels for insulation to textured units for storage, wood adds warmth and interest to a space, as seen in Geberit’s new iCon bathroom series (below), with its illuminated mirror, two-tap basin, two-drawer vanity unit and tall cabinet, all in Natural Oak.

This page, clockwise from top left:
1. Chevron White flooring in European Oak from the Legno range R1 194/m², Oggie
2. Sense wood-look vinyl tile in Beige R399/m², WOMAG
3. Nouveau pendant light in birch plywood and bamboo veneer R4 500, Minima
4. Tara brass basin mixer by Dornbracht in Matt Platinum R13 395, Flush Bathrooms
5. Woodline basin in Light Oak veneer by Benedini Associati for Agape R51 870, Lavo Bathroom Concepts
10. Cork Family sidetable (one of three different designs) by Jasper Morrison for Vitra R7 720 each, Créma Design
FOCUS bathrooms

GILDED MALACHITE

Reminiscent of Victorian bathrooms and vintage glamour, brushed gold and emerald green is a winning colour combination. Get the look with lush foliage, faux-stone wallcoverings and brass fittings, such as this Liberty I wall lamp in brass and crystal glass with gold-plated finish (left). Available at Luxxu.

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT
1. Quadro P Square-sided heated towel rail in Black-coated finish R4 670, Jeeves
2. Mobile long pendant light R995, Weylandts
3. Peacock Green granite slab R2 500/m², WOMAG
4. Andros tile sheet in Green and White natural stone from the Aegean Honed collection by Douglas Jones, R269/sheet (30×30cm), Italtile
5. Hoya carnosa kokedama from R350 (small), Opus Studio
6. Calacatta Statuario porcelain tile from the Maximum Marmi collection R1 364/m² (60×60cm), Studio Masson
7. Retro brass mirror R6 995, Weylandts
8. Marbled resin soap dispenser by Studio W R190, Woolworths
9. Freestanding bath R49 249 and
10. Trioval basin R5 141, both from the Cape Cod collection by Philippe Starck for Duravit, Duravit.
When it’s not drying towels, it’s making a statement.

The Bathroom Butler Heated Towel Rail will never rust or leak, is 60% more efficient, and has a built-in temperature control button. As part of a range of innovative, stylish and superbly made bathroom accessories your old heated towel rail might not be the only victim of progress.
NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE

Timeless design meets technical know-how in the three-oven Aga Total Control cooker (R199 000). Complete with a slumber mode for slow-cooking or to heat up your kitchen, this power-saving oven can be managed remotely from your phone. agaliving.co.za

SIPPING PLEASURE

For stemware with a difference, turn to interior designer Liam Mooney’s new Cape Town studio, where you’ll find these limited-edition Memphis crystal wine glasses (R80 each). liammooney.co.za

PAST PERFECT

To create a retro-inspired cooking space, usher in elements of classic 1950s decor with a vibrant aqua cabinet or glossy Smeg ’50s Retro-Style fridge-freezer (above; R34 999). Sculptural Galliano pendant lights (€930 each; excl shipping) by Delightfull add visual drama. smeg.co.za; delightfull.eu

GO INDUSTRIAL WITH EDGY STAINLESS-STEEL SEATING, SUCH AS THIS PARIS MID-BACK BAR STOOL (R1 176), WHICH COMES IN RAW (PICTURED), BLACK AND WHITE. ECLIPSE GROUP.CO.ZA

VITAMIN SEA

Le Creuset’s latest colourway, Ocean, will be in store from mid-August and includes this striking stoneware vase (R490), which comes with a five-year guarantee. lecreuset.co.za

OLD-SCHOOL FURNISHINGS GET MODERN UPDATES IN INNOVATIVE BUYS IMBUED WITH THE CHARACTER OF A BYGONE ERA

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COOL COUNTERPOINT
Draw inspiration from this bathroom interior by Douglas & Company by combining complementary paint tones, such as Plascon's dark-grey Stormy Forecast B1-C1-2 and light-pink Ceramic Peach 01-B1-3. plascon.co.za; douglasandco.co.za

PURE GEOMETRY
Energise a pared-down colour palette with this 100% wool Sucré rug in Mist (R14 600, 200×300cm) from the Bolivian collection. hertexhaus.co.za

GREEN PIECE
This year’s Pantone choice has paved the way for verdant shades. Embrace the trend with a Flynn two-seater sofa in Dark Green velour by Malene Lillevold (R11 299). za.sofacompany.com

HEAVY HITTER
With dyed black oak veneer, the exquisite Angelica standing mirror from the Thomas Bina range weighs an astonishing 123kg (R24 995). weylandts.co.za

LEATHER ACCENTS
remain classic, as seen in the Elma scatter cushion in Biscuit (R1 399) by Country Road. woolworths.co.za

LIGHTS OUT
Good news for allergy sufferers: the natural fill in Granny Goose down and feather duvets is triple de-dusted and encased in tightly woven, down-proof cotton fabric, so you – and your sinuses – can rest easy. grannygoose.com

HOLDING IMAGE OF ORCHARD HEIGHTS HOUSE COURTESY OF DOUGLAS AND COMPANY, DOUGLASANDCO.CO.ZA.

FEATHER STILL: ISTOCK/GETTY. FOR SUPPLIERS’ DETAILS SEE THE STOCKISTS PAGE
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**lounge**

**ROUND TABLE**
This minimalist coffee table (R6 490) fuses nero marquina marble and gold epoxy-coated steel to beautiful effect. 
lim.co.za

**HEAD EAST**
Asian-inspired styling is big in interiors at the moment, making the Formakami Pendant light (R4 610) in JH5 by Jaime Hayon for &tradition a fashionable choice. Pair with the Mayor sofa (R106 379) by Arne Jacobsen and Flemming Lassen, the Moor rug in Red Heather by ATWTP (R40 578) and the Palette table (R30 036) in JH7, also by Hayon, for a cohesive feel. 
cremadesign.co.za

**PLUSH PEDESTAL**
If you ever needed a reason to put your feet up, this velour Nille ottoman (R3 699) by Cathrine Rudolph, with its elegant metallic base, is it. Available in Plum (left) and Fungi. 
za.sofacompany.com

**ADD A TOUCH OF PAINTERLY TEXTURE TO ANY SPACE WITH THE BRUSHSTROKES RUG (FROM R41 992) BY FASHION DESIGNER ELIE SAAB.** therugcompany.com
ENJOY YOUR OUTDOOR AREA THROUGH THE COLDER MONTHS WITH DURABLE FABRICS, WARM ACCENTS AND MATERIALS THAT CAN WITHSTAND THE ELEMENTS

COMPILED BY CHRIZANDA BOTHA PHOTOGRAPHS SUPPLIED

BRIGHT SPARK
Lantern lovers will adore this quirky glass-and-walnut Amarcord floor lamp (R30 500; 82cm tall) by Porada. maldini.co.za

CAST IN STONE
The concrete Slim Soma planter (R8 950; 1.2m tall) by Laurie Wild van Heerden of Wiid Design was so well received at this year’s Chelsea Flower Show in London that the stand it was on bagged a silver medal. indigenus.co.za

FINE FOUNDATION
Make your patio flooring stand out from the rest with longer-length Nutmeg Piazza pavers (POR; 21cm long). corobrik.co.za

ITALKERO’S SMART-OPERATING FALÒ EVO OUTDOOR GAS HEATER (FROM R22 999) MEANS CHILLY NIGHTS DON’T HAVE TO BE SPENT INSIDE. AVAILABLE WITH WHEELS AND AN OPTIONAL CLIP-ON TABLE IN A HOST OF HUES. MOBELLI.CO.ZA

ON THE SLAB
Extend your patio’s lifespan by investing in surfaces that will last for years to come. SapienStone’s porcelain slabs (pictured: Basalt Black, POR) are scratch- and weather-resistant and ideal for counter tops, walls or floors. studiomasson.co.za

TWO’S COMPANY
What better way to snuggle up in the winter sun than on the Tribú Mood day bed (R100 520) by Studio Segers? marlanteak.com

OUTDOOR
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Look for the competition entry form in the Win section at houseandleisure.co.za and ensure that you submit your entry before 31 August 2017. For competition rules, see houseandleisure.co.za/terms-conditions.

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I was born in QwaQwa in the Free State and raised in boarding schools in Joburg, Bloemfontein and KwaZulu-Natal. My experience in architecture design, brand building and management consulting equipped me to start this new chapter in my life as curator of Sanlam Handmade Contemporary Fair. I wasn’t necessarily looking for it, but I believe what’s meant for you won’t pass you by. The best building in the world is the Barcelona Pavilion in Spain by architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. At home, my most cherished design product is my Thalia Strates handbag. My list of top, young, rising South African creatives includes fashion designer Rich Mnisi, style blogger Lulama Wolf, performer Manthe Ribane, interior designer Donald Nxumalo, furniture designer Siyanda Mbele and musician Langa Mavuso. When I dress to impress, I wear my stiletto courts. My go-to comfort food is a really basic Caprese pizza – it’s perfection. My roommates think that I eat more pizza than the regular person. In my kitchen cupboard are staples such as peanut butter and tea – all variations of them. I love eating at Momo Baohaus in Illovo, Joburg, and good old Nando’s.

When it comes to winter drinks, my favourite is a tie between a mocha and a simple cup of tea. I always have to travel with another person. I’m not good at being completely alone. I’m also really clumsy, so I would lose everything if I travelled solo. Plus, who is going to take all of my pictures? I like to bring back perspective. If a trip helped me see something in my life differently or appreciate something more, it was worthwhile. I’ll never forget my holiday in Cuba, for good and bad reasons. The hotel and waiting staff treated us so poorly, proving that good service is a true luxury. Cuba also showed me the art of hustling: at every single corner, someone was trying to haggle with us for money. My next dream holiday destination is Tunisia, specifically Sidi Bou Said. I haven’t yet been around Africa, so that’s at the top of my to-do list. I’m currently reading Shantaram by Gregory David Roberts. I call it my retainer book, because I’ve been reading it for three years and am dreading the day when I finally reach the last page. I’m also reading Year of Yes: How to Dance It Out, Stand In the Sun and Be Your Own Person by Shonda Rhimes. At the moment I’m listening to ‘Home’ by Langa Mavuso featuring Dylan Fine, ‘Coaster’ by Khalid and ‘Mad’ by Solange Knowles featuring Lil Wayne. I hate it when I’m hungry and cold. It’s the worst combination! In my next life, I would come back as a child of six years old or younger, who never grows up and whose only worries are her next adventure and when she will eat and sleep. If I could change one thing about South Africa, it would be to rid our country – and others worldwide – of greedy leadership. When I was younger, I used to think that I’d be rich by 25. Not quite. All I need to make me happy is family, love, food, comfort and an abundance of travel. sanlamhmc.co.za
Monmouth Avenue, Claremont. Interior Architect: Zeanne Duminy.

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