

TAILOR-MADE DESIGN BY KRIS TURNBULL

Ulster Tatler Interiors speaks to Interior Designer, Kris Turnbull.

How would you describe your eclectic styling and the way you work?

We don't have a house style, rather it's all about being the design lead and styling for our clients. I have such a broad client base, from very contemporary to classic country house and therefore it is about the integrity and application of the design principles, and creating beautiful spaces with my vision and interpretation.

#TeamKTS create unique and special spaces for people to live, tailoring each design project to the individual requirements of our clients. While the creative process is at the heart of the design studio, it is driven with clear methodology and planning, whether we are conceptually preparing a new house build with the architectural team or planning an interior fit out the team set goals, and plan carefully. Design is not something bought off the shelf, rather it is a journey and development



of ideas with our client's final concept at the foundation of the brief.

What is your design motto?

I believe that it is essential to tailor a design solution that is a combination of aspirations and how people want to live in the space.

What inspires you most?

Such a big question... on a personal level as a kid, I grew up in the greenhouses of my grandmother's home. She taught me colour and the amount of colours and tones in one creation, how to put form and colour together from such a young age. I get my broad styling from travelling around the world between projects. The Far East, Middle East and Africa are the biggest and most inspiring places for history, design, print and colour compositions. All of these experiences help me to compose my thoughts to then translate in the design studio. I like to challenge and question things and when it comes to black and white decisions, my thought process tends to be more tones of grey! My world in design is inspirational with artisan makers, textile productions and cabinet makers all coming together along with my personal ideas, making a very rich pool of creativity.

What is your biggest project at the moment?

A few things. My biggest and most challenging project is the refurbishment and extension of a country estate in Ascot with guest house, outdoor pools and mews. This project was completely reconsidered from the materials in the build, the spacial planning and how the client wants to live. The 28,000 sq. ft project is classical in architectural styling, yet the client wanted a very contemporary interior. Delivering this project, keeping the integrity from the outside in has been a special composition of design and materials. #TeamKTS will complete this February 2020 and I am very excited to see the final work.

What is your most treasured item in your home?

My home is a visual journey of my design career and full of pieces I love but the piece dear to me is a 1958 Pol Mara. Pol Mara was an apprentice of Picasso and his mid-century work is particularly

special. I found this work in a small gallery in Antwerp from his wife's private home collection. Love it!

Creating spaces that are both beautiful and comfortable is something that's inherent to your entire portfolio. What's your secret to achieving livable luxury?

There are many secrets but this one is a combination of the affinity for mixing styles and textures, but also the hard work and time to every design with a collection or individual pieces. More importantly when it comes to upholstery and seating, I must sit on the piece of furniture before I can ever recommend or design with it, so it is important to keep the balance between beauty and comfort.

What is the project you will never forget?

Designing the private residence in London for an International Royal Family.

Who is your contemporary muse or inspiration?

India Mahdavi.

What are you most excited about this year?

This past year has been so full with exciting things and now it's seeing these things develop and come to life. The new interior presentation in the Design Studio with bespoke textile collections, private label and new interior furniture houses. We are now representing Minotti and working closely with them to develop our contemporary interiors as well as artisan furniture and fabric houses in France growing our product and knowledge with period and classical interiors. In spring 2020 the new Kris Turnbull carpet and bespoke rug collections will launch. The in-house architectural, interior design and management team of 20 are inspiring and passionate and together we are delivering projects all through UK, Ireland & Southern Europe... bring it on!

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