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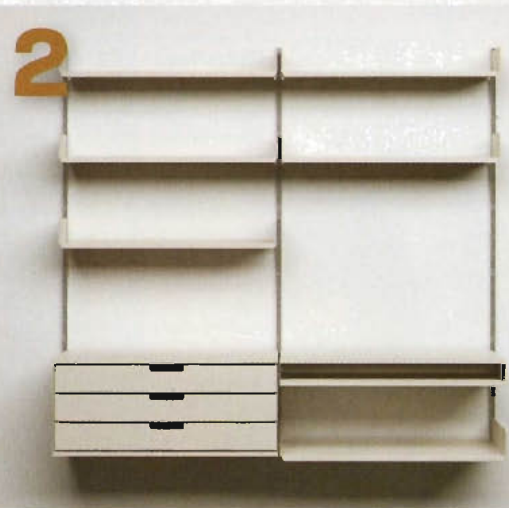
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Debra McQuin's

top 10



American born Debra McQuin is the principal designer and managing director of McQuin Partnership Interior Design. The company specialises in high-end residential projects in London, the southeast and southwest France. She trained at KLC School of Design and became an Associate Member of the British Interior Design Association (BIDA) in 2008. She also brings to her interior design practice many years of business experience as a senior-level executive in the advertising industry, working for companies such as Ogilvy & Mather and JWT – to name a few.



DEBRA'S FIRST real project was to redesign a friend's house in London's Notting Hill. After giving her friend advice on designing the interior of her previous house, she then came back to her for further advice when she moved. At that time, Debra was in the middle of her course at KLC, so she said she'd be glad to help again, but this time for a fee.

Since then her career has snowballed and she has worked on many projects including the refurbishment of a Holland Park mansion flat, the restoration of a ruin in southwest France, updating the soft furnishings for a Grade I listed house in Regent's Park and the interior of a new-build country house annex. Debra, though American by birth, has lived in Europe for 17 years. She is married with one son and lives in London and Brassac, France. Log onto www.mcquinpartnership.com

1 These Bisazza glass mosaic tiles (www.bisazza.com) always look luminous and glamorous, even when used in the tiniest of spaces, such as this cloakroom. Bisazza has a wonderful range of ready-mixed colour palettes or you can create a bespoke one, as I did here.

2 This Vitsoe 606 Universal Shelving System was designed by Dieter Rams in 1960. It's an enduring design classic and is simple, functional and incredibly flexible. It shows off what's on the shelves, not the shelves themselves, so it's ideal for displaying a collection or just for blending unobtrusively into a room. I recently installed this system in a client's home study, but it's also the system I have in my own office (www.vitsoe.com).

3 I love the sculptural quality of these Adam Aaronson vases (www.adamaaronson.com) and used a group of them in this Cotswold country house. In this room full of contemporary art they definitely hold their own and create a focal point on the coffee table. Adam Aaronson's gallery, Aaronson Noon, is full of fun and fabulous creations, and during the week, it's a working studio where you can go to see glass blowing.

4 I think a good reading lamp is essential, and the Artemide Tolomeo Mini table lamp is one of my favourites. The adjustability of the lamp means you always get the light in the right place. They work particularly well as bedside lamps; I just used a pair teamed with

small Saarinen tables in a chic design for a teenaged girl's bedroom (www.designer-lamps.com).

5 These Cineak Strato cinema chairs have to be the most comfortable chairs in the world! At the touch of a button the seat reclines, and the headrest and leg rest lift to the perfect angle (www.cineak.com). They even supply a nifty little mahogany drinks tray that slots into the arm of the chair. My client and her children absolutely love them.

6 William Yeoward uses colour and pattern more boldly than most designers and I love his style. His King's Road shop is one of my favourite places to browse. I think these appliquéd cushions and wool throws provide the perfect finishing touches to this country house study (www.williamyeoward.com).

7 This Fine Art Lamp Beveled Arcs chandelier is a showstopper. I used it in the dining room pictured because it had enough elegance to work with the Grade I listed interior, whilst still adding a contemporary edge (www.fineartlamps.com). A matching (though larger) chandelier hangs in the adjacent drawing room.

8 This Florence Knoll bench is simple and stylish and especially nice when covered in buttery-soft leather (www.knoll.com). I used it in this Notting Hill townhouse as an anchor to the seating area, since its low profile doesn't close off the room or block sight lines. The bench works equally well in a hallway or dressing room.

9 These Knuckey Furniture china cabinets are veneered in beautifully grained macassar ebony with a bird's eye maple interior and have all the necessary shelves and drawers to store china, crystal and flatware. I chose them for this London dining room because of their unusual height, which provides a striking alternative to a traditional sideboard (www.knuckeyfurniture.co.uk).

10 I have a particular fondness for this Cherner chair (www.chernerchair.com) since my grandfather used to have one at his desk. The moulded ply is a feat of 20th century engineering, but the sinuous shape is what makes it such a stunning piece of furniture. In this French country house I've paired it with a Danish rosewood desk of the same period.

If you are an interior designer and would like to be interviewed for a future issue of inDesign Magazine please email jackie@cimltd.co.uk

