

PROPERTY

Trends issue!!

THE PROPERTY MAGAZINE

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PEOPLE PLACES PERSPECTIVES

APRIL 2010

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Photographs **Sam Norval**
Assistant **Albert Brun**
Make-up **Infidels**

SPACE

There's a whole lot more to interior design and decoration than meets the eye. Not only must the designers or decorators have a deep and clear understanding of the latest innovations, but also they must know what makes each client tick. A close working relationship between client and interior professional is essential, but bear in mind that although these professionals can, to a point, adapt their talents to suit your needs, ultimately you have selected them for their signature style, which you know and love. So choose your design ally carefully, then step back, give them the time and space they need, and watch as they help you achieve your dream interiors.

Explain a little about the services you offer clients and how this reflects your company's signature style?

Our services mainly entail architectural and interior design as well as project management. We see ourselves as versatile designers, with projects varying from residential dwellings to commercial and industrial buildings, and we firmly believe that our industry is all about teamwork. We do not necessarily try and reinvent the wheel or follow trends, but rather strive towards honest architecture through sound building techniques and principles.

Current or recently completed projects that you are most proud of, and why?

The refurbishment of Mavericks. It was both fun and challenging, as it was my first interior design project. Being qualified as both a fashion designer and architect, I believe I have found my niche in the world of architecture, and that is being an architect and giving expression to the fashion designer in me through interior design. The project was challenging, as I was confronted mainly by existing building structures situated in an architecturally sensitive part of Cape Town.



Hanno de Swardt

Design Three Sixty

Which products or ranges are you most enjoying working with right now? Why?

The new Le Grande Range. At last – sexy light switch and plug covers!

Your personal design philosophy?

For me, 'God is in the details'. I always strive towards innovative yet functional design with sensitivity towards site conditions, scale, proportion, colour and texture. In a nutshell: 'Sexy green architecture!'

Which décor trends are you enjoying currently? Why?

Marmoran Metallica paint range – a very effective interior tool. Tinted mirror as cladding to walls or joinery units, custom-made pendants and perforated screening devices. The possibilities with wallpaper seems endless!



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Explain a little about the services you offer clients and how this reflects your company's signature style?

As a young, dynamic practice with varied expertise ranging from architecture, interior design, furniture design and project management, we pride ourselves on by being big enough to be professional, yet small enough to care. Our varied projects and clientele reflect our versatile approach to design.

Current or recently completed projects that you are most proud of, and why?

My current project includes a 176-room hotel/mixed-use development in Woodstock. Although the time constraints have been relentless, our client has given us the opportunity to express our design flare and has always engaged our vision to create a unique environment within a growing,



Greg Viljoen

Design Three Sixty

upcoming area. The pleasure of seeing this once-vibrant area metamorphose is rewarding.

Your personal design philosophy?

I believe good design stems from simplicity – de-cluttering spaces – and balancing personal surroundings to suit needs. Functional yet practical, with an edginess to question reason. Always be bold in your decisions, never be afraid of the canvas and what's available to you. There are so many wonderful products out there – use them with confidence.

Which décor trends are you enjoying currently? Why?

The combination of old and new, slick finishing with a sense of deliberate old-world charm, yet balancing scale and proportion. This is prevalent in design, lighting, materials, and furniture. LED lighting is becoming a big part of design as we are forced to contribute to the world's growing energy crisis. One of my new firm favourites is the new trend of amazing PVC/metallic fabrics in an array of colours and textures – the applications are endless.



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Explain a little about the services you offer clients and how this reflects your company's signature style?

The image and product range of Country Living is eclectic. You will find a mix of classic and formal items with informal items. The ambience of our stores is relaxed and the product range extends to quality homeware as well as exclusive imported furniture. Country Living is constantly complimented on the fact that our stores are forever changing their window displays and store layouts, maintaining a fresh and unique appeal. Exciting new stock that I seek out on frequent overseas trips is introduced on a regular basis.

Sandy De Bruin

Country Living (Head Office)

Current or recently completed projects that you are most proud of, and why?

I have expanded my Country Living stores to include franchised outlets in Bedfordview and now Atholl Square. When I opened Atholl Square it soon became apparent that I could not run all the retail outlets to their optimum and still travel, source and grow the Country Living brand. So since December, Tatiana Ambar and her daughter Olga have taken over at Atholl under the Country Living banner. I have also expanded my Bryanston shop together with a gorgeous grand bistro called Country Living Café.

Which products or ranges are you enjoying working with most right now? Why?

We are busy with a gorgeous range of furniture and wonderful accessories sourced from around the globe.

Your personal design philosophy?

Comfort and texture.

Which décor trends are you enjoying currently?

Colonial contemporary. What, in your opinion, are the two essential personal qualities that make for an excellent designer? Communication, and the ability to work with customers according to their requirements in the most stylish and effective way

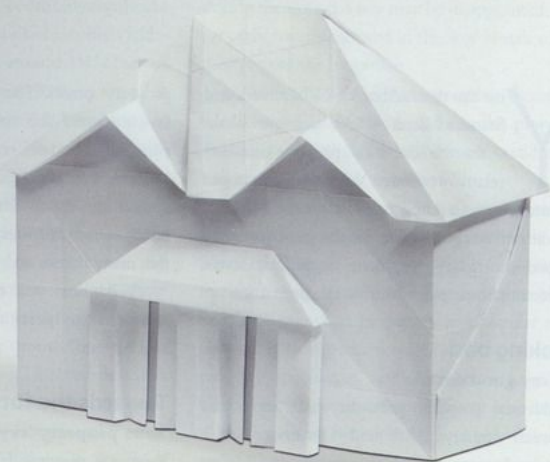


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