

A chat with...



Tori Murphy

A small brand with big plans, this Nottingham-based design house is all about being British

Words: **Sophie Baylis**

What inspired you to establish an English-made brand?

While working in Milan as a textile designer, I spent a lot of time on the factory floor and in the fabric archives surrounded by vintage Chanel, Christian Dior, Versace and Ferragamo fabrics. It was always the simple woven fabrics that struck a chord with me. There was beauty and integrity in them that had stood the test of time and I thought, "I wonder if I can do this in England?" I returned to the UK and worked for a menswear company that operated with English factories. Seeing inside factories in Manchester, Leeds, Leicester and Nottingham ignited something in me and the seed was sown. As a business, we are now in a wonderful position that 90% of our products are made in-house in Nottingham and if we can't do it, we'll find the closest person, factory or mill that can. It was never a sales tactic to make all our products in England; it was a deep-rooted desire to create a brand that had integrity woven into it.

How have attitudes changed recently towards buying British?

In the five years since establishing the Tori Murphy brand, I feel attitudes are increasingly positive. Sales are growing overseas, UK retailers, including Harrods, Harvey Nichols and Heal's, continue to support us, and more companies are approaching us asking for help to manufacture in England. Understanding the story behind a brand is becoming more important to people across all areas, including food and fashion, and this has led into other areas, including our textile industry. Buying British is cool again, and long may it last.

Why is it important to support British brands?

Can you imagine Britain without industry? Without potteries in Stoke-on-Trent, shoe making in Northampton, furniture making in Long Eaton, weaving in Lancashire? There is a tremendous amount of knowledge, skill and craftsmanship on all of our doorsteps that should be supported because it will have a direct and positive impact on our communities. In our business, we have three members of the same family working with us and I'm really proud of that. We are making a small difference to our local community by providing skilled work for skilled people who love what they do and I think this is reflected in the quality of the end product and, most importantly, the customer enjoys it and is proud of it.

0115 960 8472 or www.torimurphy.com

1 Climbing Chevy cushions, £69.95 each.

2 Woodhouse Check cushions, £64.95 each.

3 Climbing Chevy rectangle tray, £29.95.

4 Woodhouse Check round tray, £34.95.

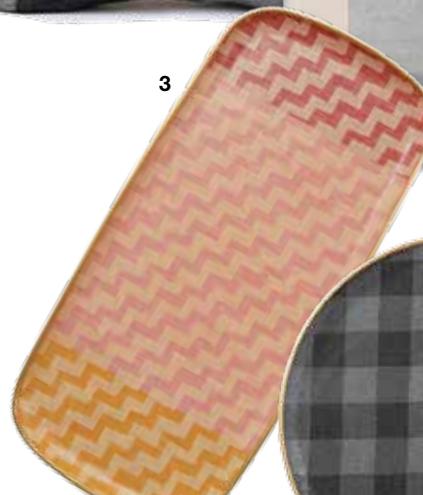
5 Climbing Chevy fabric in Radish on David Seyfried Elystan sofa, £2869.



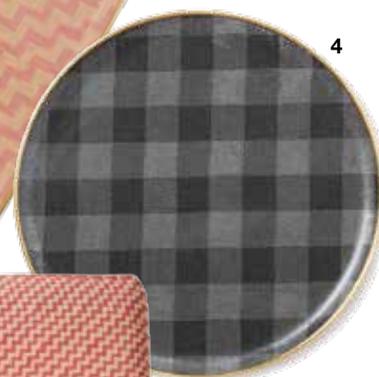
1



2



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4



5

New this month...

Words: **Sophie Baylis**



1

1 Uma is inspired by an old bedside table discovered at a French flea market. The main structure is oak, with a raw steel compartment and a small drawer for stashing essentials. Available at Caravane priced £538.

020 7486 5233 or www.caravane.fr/en

2 The Anglepoise 1227 Mini Ceramic collection re-imagines George Carwardine's metal shade in gloss white bone china. Comprising wall lights, pendants and this table lamp, priced £120, as always the flexible lamp arm will allow the light to be directed where it is needed most.

0333 212 1915 or www.heals.com



2

3 A zesty burst of burnt orange delivered by Terence Conran's Marlowe sofa will bring vitality to living spaces. An interpretation of a classic mid-century style, Marlowe is upholstered in felt and finished with splayed oak legs. The two-seater is yours for £1099 from John Lewis (shown), while the three-seater is £1149. There's a coordinating footstool too, priced £399.

0345 604 9049 or www.johnlewis.com



3

Take three... Wall lights



Right: Suitable for indoors or outdoors, Dock, in antique brass, can be wall- or ceiling-mounted and has a two-year guarantee against corrosion. Priced £80 from David Hunt Lighting.

01295 672200 or www.davidhuntlighting.co.uk

Right: Original BTC combined two of its trademark materials to create the new Minster lamp, £145, featuring a prismatic glass shade mounted on a Stoke-on-Trent bone china wall bracket.

020 7351 2130 or www.originalbtc.com

Left: Danish designer Søren Rose was commissioned to design the Walker lamp for The Silo, a former grain tower converted into apartments in Copenhagen. No two apartments are the same but each is fitted with the brass Walker lamp, £249 at Nest.

0114 243 3000 or www.nest.co.uk



New this month...



1

1 1838 Wallcoverings is backed by more than four generations of experience in the traditional craft of surface printing, a technique developed in the 1830s to replicate hand-block-printed wallpaper. Inspired by the English countryside, Prior Park (priced £95 per roll) is from 1838's new Rosemore collection. Available in three colourways.

01254 397631 or www.1838wallcoverings.com



2

2 A new collection of Orla Kiely printed fabrics is now available through Ashley Wilde from £18 per m. Featuring old favourites like the Linear Stem (shown), Abacus Flower, Seventies Oval Flower and Orla's signature Multi Stem print on 100% cotton canvas, colours range from warm dandelion, seagrass and pale rose to cool greys and duck egg blues.

www.ashleywildegroupp.com



Five minutes with... Jackson & Levine

When Laura Jackson (left) and Alice Levine (right) were planning their first supper club, they asked Habitat to lend them the tableware. It was the start of a beautiful partnership, resulting in the Jackson and Levine collection of kitchen linens.

How would you describe the style of your collection?

We decided to work with khadi fabric from India, which is hand-spun and hand-woven in a traditional weaving village with one of Habitat's oldest suppliers. The fabric has a wonderful loose quality that gives a relaxed, informal feeling to it and means that each piece is entirely individual and not machine perfect.

And what about patterns and colour?

A cool, neutral base stripe underpins everything – allowing you to layer colour on your table on top – and then we've added an accent in the form of hand-printed botanical motifs (illustrated by Habitat's pattern designer Martha Coates), giving a nod to the foraged herbs we use in our cooking and table decorating.

What are your top dos and don'ts when setting a table?

Don't feel like you have to stick with the same crockery for each course. Experiment with options other than white! Think about what colours will complement each of your recipes: dark inky blues to highlight orange-based dishes or green glazed tableware to make beetroot pinks really stand out. Start with a neutral base palette (white/grey/raw wood) for your table and layer colour on your table with glassware, crockery, table linens and plants. These are all cheap and easy to update to keep your dinner parties different each time.

Why are finishing touches important?

Very simple finishing touches, like a beautiful napkin or table runner, are understated, simple ways to make a meal feel a little bit more special and less run-of-the-mill. And when it comes to the apron, if you're spending a lot of time preparing amazing recipes in your kitchen, then you should have something equally amazing to wear while doing it!

0344 499 4686 or www.habitat.co.uk



Left: Hand-woven khadi cloth placemat, £20 for a set of four, Burlo 24-piece cutlery set, £65, and hand-woven khadi cloth screen-printed napkin, £2, all by Jackson & Levine at Habitat.

New this month...

1 It's easy to see how the Decibel collection by Waterworks was inspired by the arm of a classic record player and the volume knob of a vintage radio. The collection includes this deck-mounted three-hole mixer with lever handles offered in chrome (shown), £432, nickel, £476, and graphite, £519.

020 7384 4000 or www.waterworks.com



2 Recline in serious style with Nika Zupanc's new Stay daybed for Sé, upholstered in your preferred fabric or leather, and further customised thanks to the choice of finishes for the powder-coated steel frame. Priced at £3354.

020 7627 4282 or www.se-collections.com



Smart Home...

Grohe Sense

Grohe Sense and Grohe Sense Guard are designed to address the very real issue of water damage in households. The Grohe Sense (£51.99) smart water sensor monitors humidity, detects leaks and alerts homeowners instantly in case of a problem, while Grohe Sense Guard (£439) is installed in the main water pipe and can switch off the water supply in case of a burst pipe. Both are monitored and controlled using the Grohe Ondus app. Turn to page 89 for your chance to win a Grohe Sense system.

0871 200 3414 or www.grohe.co.uk



3 Rexa's Unico bathtub is both a shower and a bath, exclusive at Day True, priced £7500. Made of Corian and available in five colours, the slats – which, when removed, can be hung on the wall (as shown) or put into the custom-made box – are lightweight, self-supporting and unbreakable. The bath can be filled from traditional taps or by an integrated filler positioned on the inside of the tub.

020 7788 9229 or www.daytrue.com

Shop here...

deVOL

If you like classic-contemporary kitchens made by hand in the finest materials, head east

Words: **Sophie Baylis****Where is it?**

Six months in the making, deVOL's second London showroom is now open in Clerkenwell.

Why go?

If you don't know deVOL, its new east London showroom is a stylish introduction, serving up a selection of its beautiful bespoke furniture, fittingly finished in Clerkenwell Blue, a new addition to deVOL's paint range. Star attractions include a large, marble-topped island from The Real Shaker Kitchen collection and a small walk-in pantry with tongue-and-groove panelling and marble flooring from deVOL's sister company, Floors of Stone. Finishing flourishes include deVOL's new aged brass pot filler taps, created in collaboration with Perrin & Rowe, its super-comfortable Bum barstools in solid oak, and its Crackle pendant light worked in ceramic and metal. There's even a wall dedicated to gorgeous green tiles inspired by classic East End pubs and handmade by deVOL's in-house ceramicist.

When to visit?

Open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.30pm; Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

deVOL
36 St John's Square
London
EC1V 4JJ

020 3879 7900 or www.devolkitchens.co.uk



Click here...

Martin Moore Stone

Martin Moore Stone has launched a fresh website, bringing together its extensive range of new and antique stone floors and fireplaces with the option to buy online for the first time. This is backed by design inspirations, detailed specifications, advice, sampling and even delivery bookings. Also on offer are bespoke floors, designed and made to order using a combination of materials including slate, marble and antique stone.

www.martinmoorestone.com

