



### *Keech Green*

**Background** Michael Keech (right) and Graham Green (left) set up their architectural design company in 2002. They met while working at Ralph Lauren. They specialise in high-end remodelling and refurbishment of domestic interiors, and have a team of eight at their Chelsea Harbour offices.

**Projects** Michael and Graham are currently working on executive offices in Berkeley Square, penthouses in New York and Hampstead, a Kensington mews house, an apartment in Mayfair, the refurbishment of a mansion in Geneva, and the interior design of two new-build apartments in Dubai. This year will also see the completion of their first super-yacht project.

**They say** Our style is masculine and glamorous and can be best described as a conjunction of the clean lines of modernist architecture and the opulence of art deco.

**We say** A committed team with its design roots firmly fixed in art deco, but delivering a sleek, modern version that is both elegant and comfortable. Michael and Graham are not afraid to gut a building and start from scratch in the pursuit of excellence. They also specialise in bespoke furniture.

**Contact** Keech Green, 414 The Chambers, Chelsea Harbour SW10: 020-7351 5701; e-mail: info@keechgreen.com; www.keechgreen.com



### *Tessa Kennedy*

**Background** Tessa Kennedy launched her interior-design career after spending three years working with David Mlinaric. In 1968, she won a competition to design the Grosvenor House Hotel, launching her own company with Michael Sumner that same year. In 1988, she reformed as Tessa Kennedy Design, and now has a staff of 18 designers with projects around the globe.

**Projects** Right now, Tessa is working on the interior architecture, façade and decoration of a new-build house in Moscow. She is also doing the interior architecture and design of a new-build house in Hampstead; the conversion, in a modern style, of two apartments in Kensington; and the redesign of the main rooms of a house in Mayfair, complete with eighteenth-century-style ceilings and cornices.

**She says** I would describe my style as opulent, rich, unafraid of colour; I relish giving my clients the houses they thought they could only dream of.

**We say** A prestigious designer with a wealth of experience and a starry list of clients, from royal families to actors and pop stars. Tactile, sometimes theatrical, and always richly detailed interiors are trademarks.

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### *Robert Kime*

**Background** Robert Kime started as an antiques dealer, and has been decorating houses since the Seventies. He has a staff of 20, based at his Wiltshire design studios and at his Kensington furniture and fabric showroom. He is best known for his interior-decoration projects for the Prince of Wales at Highgrove and Clarence House.

**Projects** Robert and his team are engaged on a large manor house in Gloucestershire, and a Grade II-listed country house in the Thames Valley. He has recently completed the renovation and refurbishment of a house on a large estate in Tuscany.

**He says** In harmonising new elements with the existing architecture and objects, I create rooms with no excess. A recent project necessitated an enormous amount of architectural work on a simple eighteenth-century house, and I felt the old house was losing out to the modern services. I like to preserve the existing fabric, which means one has to decorate less.

**We say** Robert Kime is perfectly at home designing the grandest of houses, yet with a lightness of touch, so that his interiors look gently evolved. One of the UK's most highly respected interior designers.

**Contact** Robert Kime, 121 Kensington Church Street, W8: 020-7229 0886; www.robertkime.com



### *Sylvia Lawson Johnston*

**Background** Sylvia Lawson Johnston trained at the Inchbald School of Design, before establishing her Aberdeenshire interior-design company in 1982. She employs one other designer, and has recently refurbished her design studio.

**Projects** As well as the architectural restoration and interior decoration of a Napoleonic battery in the South of France, Sylvia is doing the renovation and decoration of a seven-bedroom family house in Aberdeenshire, the refurbishment of two Chelsea apartments, the upgrading of a London home in a modern style, and the restoration of a colonial home in Antigua.

**She says** I like glamorous projects, working in traditionally proportioned buildings. I like to produce a modern look, using tonal colours and different textures. The overall aim is to achieve a peaceful, elegant place to live in.

**We say** For those in search of soigné modern interiors neatly dovetailed into period buildings, Sylvia is the designer to call. Her understanding of historical projects is second to none. Scottish residents may be smug to have her in their midst, but she works all over the UK and abroad, too.

**Contact** Sylvia Lawson Johnston Interior Design, The Stables, Inverernan, Strathdon, Aberdeenshire: 01975-651402; e-mail: info@sljinteriors.co.uk; www.sljinteriors.com



### *Charlotte Lane Fox*

**Background** Charlotte Lane Fox has been an interior designer for 25 years. Having trained for three years with Colefax and Fowler, she joined her mother's interior-design company, Prue Lane Fox, forming a successful design partnership that has lasted for two decades. A high percentage of work is repeat business.

**Projects** Charlotte's ongoing commissions include the total redecoration and refurbishment of a mews house in Knightsbridge, and the complete renovation of a large flat in Regent's Park. She is also working on a family house in Southwold, which is being built 'from scratch'. Last year, she completed the interior decoration of two period houses in Kensington with modern schemes. Prue Lane Fox prefers to focus on just one big job a year.

**She says** Our priority is that people feel it is their house. We aim to work within their style and requirements rather than imposing our own style, so the interiors reflect the client, incorporating their favourite possessions.

**We say** A design team that offers a pleasing convergence of Prue's traditional English style and Charlotte's talent for creating modern interiors, but always with a healthy respect for period architecture.

**Contact** Prue Lane Fox, 19 Soudan Road, SW11: 020-7627 3311; e-mail: charlotte@pruelanefox.com



### *Hugh Leslie*

**Background** Hugh Leslie studied design in his native New Zealand, before coming to London, where he worked for Colefax and Fowler, John Stefanidis, and Mlinaric, Henry & Zervudachi, followed by a stint with Chester Jones. He launched his own business in 2003, and has a team of five at his new South Kensington office.

**Projects** The team is currently working on the complete refurbishment and decoration of two houses in Notting Hill, a country house in Hertfordshire, and a house in Wimbledon, as well as the refurbishment and decoration of an apartment in the Montevetro building in Battersea, and the interior design of new-build houses in Sheen and Buckinghamshire.

**He says** We love creating memorable homes that are inviting and intriguing. From architecture to decoration and sourcing artwork, we like to combine styles to surprise and challenge people's expectations. Artwork, textiles and objects are all essential to reflect our clients' individuality.

**We say** A designer with cast-iron credentials, having worked with key names in the business, who has an infectious love of colour, textiles and artwork. He enjoys the challenge of complete refurbishment projects.

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