

# RIVIERE

*Exquisite natural rugs, custom designed and handcrafted in Kathmandu, Nepal*



For the last 15 years Camilla and Leo Riviere have been designing custom rugs, which are handcrafted in their own workshop in the Kathmandu valley of Nepal and in Rajasthan. Inspired by extensive travels in Europe and Asia, and with backgrounds in art and design, the couple founded Riviere in 2005. Since the beginning, the idea has been to combine craftsmanship and creativity to produce original rugs that will last for generations.

In an increasingly mass-produced world dominated by synthetic materials, Riviere's rugs stand out as a more natural and truly unique alternative (no two projects are ever the same). Using only the finest grade, hand-carded and hand-spun Tibetan wool and pure Chinese silk, the rugs are hand woven with a minimum of 100 knots per square inch (there is also a wide range of other knot counts). Wool is one of the most eco-friendly fibres of all, completely sustainable and renewable, with little environmental impact throughout its production process. Other yarns available include mohair, nettle, linen, and Tencel, which

is derived from wood pulp. From the hand dying of the natural yarns to the highly labour intensive weaving process, the whole process is carried out by artisans using traditional techniques that have been passed down through generations.

Today, Riviere has a collection of more than 100 designs and each one can be customised with a choice of colour, size, shape and materials. In addition, the company provides a colour matching service and an extensive library of more than 2,000 colour tufts at their showroom on Lots Road in the heart of London's Chelsea Design Quarter. Working closely with some of the leading interior

## Riviere

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**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** Faded coral hues weave throughout Ocean Blush; the Rothko Jade design derives inspiration from the works of '50s impressionist, Mark Rothko; bold geometric shapes of Gio nod to the iconic mid-century Italian designer Gio Ponti; Titania is made from 100 knot Tibetan wool and botanic silk; Caumont Symphony Patina, a re-edit of Riviere's classic Caumont design



architects in the UK and worldwide, Riviere also offers a fully bespoke design service that gives the industry the scope to create one-off pieces for their clients: rugs from Riviere's Modern Classic, signature Geometric and understated Elemental and Abstract collections have all been commissioned for mansions and superyachts around the world.

Although they tend to avoid trends in their own designs, the couple has recently noticed the return of colour blocking and geometrics to the world of

interiors. Both Camilla and Leo have a thorough appreciation of architecture, paintings and interiors, and are influenced by art forms such as fabric prints, wood carvings and fret works. For instance several of their designs, such as Moma, Rothko and Raku, take inspiration from renowned artists such as Mark Rothko; while the pattern on Nam Khong stems from the wood carving on the monks quarters at the Wat Xieng Thong in Luang Prabang, Laos.

Whereas in the past all collections were developed internally, last year the couple began collaborating with select artists and interior designers, kicking off with Caledonia, a range of five rugs co-created with O&A London that were inspired by the Scottish landscape. Like the rest of the collections, these are unique pieces of floor art hand designed to become cherished antiques of the future.



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# HOME ACCESSORIES

Pull together a project like a pro with these fabulous finishing touches





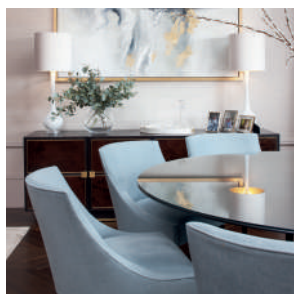
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DESIGN SERVICES

# BERNARD INTERIORS

*An interior design practice renowned for creating timeless spaces*



## **Bernard Interiors**

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Award-winning interior and architectural design studio Bernard Interiors has been working on high-end residential and commercial projects throughout the UK and abroad for more than a decade – and this year, they’ve never been busier. ‘During lockdown we received more residential enquiries than ever before, as people began to reassess their homes and way of living,’ says founder Jen Bernard, who delivered two back-to-back projects during Covid-19 – a spa in Hampshire and Nightingale Place, a luxury retirement development in Clapham. The latter involved designing a myriad of social spaces: the restaurant, library, bar bistro, cinema and health club. ‘We took our inspiration from Clapham Common, London and popular culture, mixing classic and contemporary to create a unique interior that would appeal to all,’ she explains,

talking about projects that took almost three years to complete.

Of course, the studio’s approach is adapted to each individual project, but what remains the same is their tailored service, which is executed with exceptional attention to detail – whether the team is working on space planning and architectural intervention, bespoke joinery, furnishings or a lighting design scheme. The success of Bernard Interiors, says Jen, is built on delivering an outstanding, confidential and personable experience that begins with her natural intuition and ability to put clients at ease. She is involved throughout, driving projects forward with her infectious energy and creativity. ‘As a practice, we are always inspired by our client’s vision. We invest time into researching the history of the property, its surroundings and our client’s lifestyle, all of which influences our comfortable,





**CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** Private town house residence dining room; the residence's sumptuous drawing room; private town house residence kitchen and living space; the residence's master suite

timeless designs.' Typically, a residential interior might bring together vintage and salvaged pieces with specially commissioned furniture, reflecting the owner's character and interests, or, where appropriate, existing schemes may be refurbished instead of replaced.

Behind the scenes, meticulous processes are in place from concept presentation through to completion, which ensures that every project runs smoothly. 'It's all well and good delivering beautiful interiors, but the way we get there is just as important,' says Jen. 'By having a clear process, it manages expectations, keeping relationships with clients, professional partners and suppliers strong, and enabling us to complete on time and budget.' Combining luxury and sustainability is also an important consideration for the practice, which strives to use high quality materials that will stand the test of time. And nowhere is this more in evidence than its own workspace, The Church, a 5,000 sq/ft former church hall, built in 1900, that last year was completely transformed into a bright, airy studio, complete with a full materials and specification library that clients can visit by appointment for consultations.

Other past projects include refurbishing a Grade II-listed, six-bedroom Arts & Crafts family home in Northumberland; a contemporary mansion in Surrey whose owners' brief specified that space for formal dining and entertaining was a priority; and a private residence on Marbella's Golden Mile, where outdoor living was as important as the interior. 'Exceeding the expectations of our clients is of the utmost importance to us – and we deliver this time and time again,' concludes Jen.

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