

home&design

Design notebook by David Nicholls

Novel graphics This season the wallpaper company Graham & Brown has worked with the architect and interior designer Steve Leung to produce a collection that largely draws on Leung's Chinese heritage. Climbing florals, pretty blossoms and labyrinthine geometrics are very much the order of the day. The Ling design shown here, however, is less obviously of the Orient. The three-dimensional pattern is evidently raised, giving the surface a highly textured finish. Fine horizontal stripes between the thick lines add further depth and dynamism to the design. £26 per 10m roll, by Steve Leung for Graham & Brown (0800-328 8452; grahambrown.com).



Design luminary Rodolfo Dordoni is not a household name in Britain, but over a 30-odd-year career this design giant has worked for major brands including Cappellini, Cassina and Foscarini. The Lumiere XXL light shown here is for Foscarini, and is an update of the Lumiere design Dordoni created 20 years ago. The legs are lacquered, the blown-glass shade is opalescent, and the lamp stands 57cm tall. The XXL may refer to the price: £557 from the

Climate change With a new selling exhibition at Gallery Libby Sellers in central London, the design duo Clarke & Reilly have taken their deconstructed reimaginings of period furniture to a whole new level. Each seat has been 'reinvented' and then subjected to extreme weather conditions: first the winter gales and rain of a Peckham rooftop and then the sun-baked Californian desert. Prices from £7,200. The 1920s walnut chair shown here costs £9.600. The exhibition runs until April 26 (libbysellers.com).



Three of the best

Milk jugs Quail cockerel, £16.50, Liberty (liberty.co.uk); Legacy, £100, Georg Jensen (georgiensen.com/uk); frilledge creamer, £12, Linea at House of Fraser (houseoffraser.co.uk).

The insiders Using vintage print for an element of surprise

Cath Kidston designer Designing products that are 'modern vintage' - fit for today yet evoking a sense of nostalgia - is something that I've been doing since I set up my company 20 years ago. One of the first examples of this was putting a cheery vintage print on an ironing-board cover. At the time they were mostly grey and dull. I thought, why does domestic have to be dull? I have a photographic memory for print and can still clearly remember the 1950s-style rosebuds on my bedroom curtains. I'm influenced by memories such as these when I design, and look for modern ways to interpret them in our prints. Making it work in the home is about using print in a fresh and unexpected way. By using print where you least expect to see it you can create a contemporary focal point. In my own home I've used a 1950s-inspired floral-print wallpaper on the side of the bath. For the best original 1950s pieces I go to Ardingly International Antiques and Collectors Fair in West Sussex (iacf.co.uk/ardingly). There are also some great vintage shops near where I live in Stroud, Gloucestershire, in particular one called Duffle (2 John Street; 07828-672071).

