

cover

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CARPETS & TEXTILES FOR MODERN INTERIORS



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Wool art by by Damien Hirst,
Francis Bacon and more



[COVER loves]

HOT THE LIST

Lucy Upward highlights some of the best rugs and textiles that have come to COVER's notice in the past few months – perfect for the interior trends of 2014



Facial expression

With Lucky Boy Sunday's *Face It* cushion, made of 100 per cent baby alpaca, you need look no further for a soft and comfortable headrest – that is, if confronting the rather scary visage depicted doesn't banish thoughts of relaxation. Despite being, in the words of the Danish brand, 'Slap, bam, boom, in your face' this is a super cool cushion in colours that are perfect for the current interior trend of pastel shades.

www.luckyboysunday.dk



Razzle dazzle

Spanish rug and wall textile designer Natalia Palazón has released a new collection called Soft Art, a series of handmade felt designs for the wall made in limited editions. This design, *Esfera Rayada*, is made of 100 per cent natural wool felt. It comes in a vast array of colours, including this fantastic two-tone design, which enhances the optical illusion of the pattern. Palazón plays with the effects of light and shadow on the three-dimensional surfaces to add to the visual effects.

www.softart.es



A winter's tale

Inspired by William Morris's poem *Iceland First Seen*, the design team at exclusive London brand Liberty travelled to Iceland and created a series of textile patterns exploring their experience. *Branch Flower*, from the autumn/winter 2013 collection of Liberty's Seasonal Tana Lawn designs, is wonderfully wintry, with a rather eerie feel to it. Furthermore, with blue being the most important colour trend for 2014, it seems like a good choice for this season.

www.liberty.co.uk



Handmade for the feet

One interior trend for 2014 is the craft or handmade aesthetic, a look that has been growing in importance for several years as a backlash to all the mass-produced goods on the market. *Prologue to the Grounded Joys Rugs* is the name of the 2013 graduation project of Daniel Costa from Design Academy Eindhoven. It encapsulates these ideas of using traditional craft and creating a one-off design. Shown at the DAE during Dutch Design Week in October, the rugs incorporate both industrial and artisanal rug-making methods like weaving, tufting, beading and stitching, to create a wonderful sensory experience for the feet.

www.daniel-costa.com

[COVER loves]



Mexico way

Mexican designer Elissa Medina's *Huichol* rug is made of wool felt pieces hand-stitched together to make what looks like a colourful animal skin. Medina's work references both textile traditions and Mexican folk art such as *huichol* beadwork sculptures. The design represents the dichotomy of Mexico's current cultural situation, both affirming its traditions and embracing its inclusion in a globalised world. The blue version of the *Huichol* rug was recently on show at the Museo San Ildefonso in Mexico City. www.elissamedina.com

Photo credit: Santiago Casserino



Cotswold chemistry

Peter Thwaites and Rebecca Aird founded handmade fabric and wallpaper company Rapture & Wright in 2004. The nature-inspired designs are printed in a barn in the Cotswolds and retain a beautiful handmade feel, perfect for the current interior craft trend. In 2013 the company exhibited at Designjunction during the London Design Festival, displaying a new experimental handmade wallpaper, *Zephyre*, a bespoke design full of what R&W call 'workshop chemistry'. www.raptureandwright.co.uk



Fantastic Formafantasma

The work of Eindhoven-based Studio Formafantasma showed at the MAK in Vienna this autumn in the duo's first solo exhibition, *The Stranger Within*. The theme of the display was the fascination evoked by the 'exotic'. It featured both older works and new commissioned pieces, including this rug, also named *The Stranger Within*, which combines exotic and tribal aesthetics. This piece was made by Italian rug company Nodus. www.formafantasma.com