

design centre

CHELSEA HARBOUR

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Expert picks

Leading designers reveal their favourite products from Design Centre Chelsea Harbour right now



KATE EARLE

We use these Vaughan tables (2) a lot. They're incredibly practical – perfect for smaller drawing rooms. Also practical are the kitchen table and chairs (4, 5) from Vincent Sheppard – it's hard to find a good table

and this one's attractive and not too expensive.

For glamor, this mother-of-pearl tile (1) at Allfield has a gorgeous lustre. We're increasingly using pendants, rather than recessed lights, and this one by Vaughan (6) is attractively painted, and softened with pretty curves. We've just used the Nomadic Block rugs (3) in the hallway of a country house – I love the geometric pattern and soft, flat weave!

Kate is working on homes, hotels and yachts in the UK and overseas. Toohunter Earle (tel: 020-7349 9999, www.toohunterearle.com)

1 Mother-of-pearl tile (MRMP-01), £91.30 a tile, 60/60cm by 30.5cm, by Mays Romsonoff, at Allfield
2 Nest of mirrored tables (FTA47/L), gilt, £1,529, at Vaughan

3 'Nomadic Block' rug, wool, \$500 per sq metre, by Kelly Wearstler, at Tim Page Carpets
4 'Lloyd Loom' chair, from £200, by Vincent Sheppard

5 'Helink' table, oak, from £900, by Vincent Sheppard

6 'Hampton' lantern (CL57/R), ivory, £364, by Vaughan

“WE TRIED TO MAKE THE PUBLIC ROOMS LIKE THOSE OF A GRAND APARTMENT”



IT SEEMS FITTING that Twizzle should be named after the owners' daughter (as a conspicuously long-limbed baby, she was nicknamed after a TV puppet). The yacht's conception was an intimately familial affair from the start – the British husband-and-wife owners wanting to create a vessel suitable for a round-the-world voyage en famille.

As a result, the state-of-the-art 55-metre yacht by the De Vries shipyard is a strikingly homely affair by seafaring standards. 'The clients wanted Twizzle to be more like a house than a boat,' says Emily Todhunter of Todhunter Earle, who designed the interiors. 'We tried to make the public rooms like those of a beautiful, grand apartment, while keeping it comfortable and relaxed.'

In the main saloon works by Picasso, Kandinsky and Miró hang above inviting

fabrics and antiques, some of which were discovered in Paris by Emily and her client.

Much of Twizzle's furniture is freestanding, rather than in-built and beds have valances, further contributing to the domestic atmosphere.

Emily made extensive use of Design Centre Chelsea Harbour. The saloon contains leather stools by J Robert Scott, the main suite a pair of chairs upholstered in an elegant silver-blue silk from Chase Erwin. The bridge deck saloon, a cosy space with crowded bookshelves, is lit with white ceramic lamps from Porta Romana. Outside, wooden furniture from Summit adorns the main deck.

The layout and architectural elements of the interior were designed by Redman Whiteley Dixon. 'We did the look and feel,' says Emily, 'while they orchestrated the structural and technical specification.'





CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE The main saloon with sofa fabric from J Robert Scott and cushions from Zimmer + Rohde. A corner of the salon, the deck, Twizzle, spectacularly lit. The master cabin with fabrics from Chase Erwin. OPPOSITE, FROM TOP The sun deck. A ceramic Porta Romana lamp lights the bridge deck saloon, with sofa fabric from Alton-Brooks. PREVIOUS PAGE The dining room



The result of this collaboration is a unity of design and function. "My client is a great hostess," says Emily, "and so the galley is more like a domestic kitchen. She wanted to spend time there with the chef, discussing that evening's menu," she says.

Another illustration of design and function working together can be found in the dining room. Above the table hangs a canvas so large that it was decided not to have a direct door to the galley. As a result, service comes through the lobby.

Emily's work has been well received; since finishing the project, she has decorated no fewer than three homes belonging to her clients' immediate family. ■

To charter Twizzle, visit www.twizzle.org or contact Louise Pike at Nigel Burgess on 00-377-9797 8121 (www.nigelburgess.com) Emily Todhunter, Todhunter Earle (tel 020-7349 9999; www.todhunteeorle.com)

