

My passion for design and creativity is long-standing, but being able to realise it through establishing my own company 13 years ago, rather than working in a large corporate environment, has enabled me to be bold and inspirational with private clients and developers...

#### Designer Background continued

...Our schemes are holistic and elegant, derived from my corporate background, but luxurious, tactile and vibrant as I rent my own creative preferences.

#### How would you describe your personal interior design style?

My style is modern, contemporary elegant with a touch of glamour. I love to use calming colours and tactile natural materials, such as marble and semi-precious glass to add that touch of luxury to the scheme, providing an overall sophisticated and timeless design. I also love symmetry where schemes are balanced and stable.

#### Where does your design inspiration come from?

Everywhere! I take inspiration from reading professional articles, literature and magazines, visiting historical buildings and travelling to foreign cities, but really my inspiration just comes from living life and working alongside a truly passionate and creative team.

#### In what direction do you feel that design is moving towards in a general sense?

Working within the high end, luxury property sector, I continually see a trend for personalised features, with the inclusion of quality, bespoke key pieces of tactile and comfortable furniture, as well as intelligent

and innovative home technological solutions. All of these elements, presented within an elegant and timeless design scheme, combine to create a truly personal, vibrant interior, scheme tailored to the client's personality.

#### Name five key themes to consider when approaching design in the future:

- One:** Integration of innovative technological solutions, such as home automation, lighting design, multi-room audio, home cinema and entertainment rooms, intelligent heating and ventilation and future proofing a home.
- Two:** Connectivity and integrated spatial design of interior spaces for future occupants.
- Three:** Employing an exemplary design scheme with exemplary and timeless responsibility.
- Four:** Functionality and longevity of the interior and architectural design.
- Five:** Sustainability and environmentally conscious design.

#### If you could offer one piece of advice when it comes to product design, what would it be?

While developing furniture and bespoke solutions, always ensure that form and functionality are considered in equal measure.

#### How important are The International Design & Architecture Awards as recognition of talent and achievement?

Our team at Oakeve, were absolutely delighted to be presented with the International



Design & Architecture Award for the category of Residential Property £2.50m to £20m in 2016, as we believe it is a very prestigious and revered accolade. It acknowledges the passion, commitment and hard work of our creative team, offering recognition and respect from our peers and within the interior and architectural industry as a whole.

#### What projects are you currently working on?

We have some incredible projects that we are working on at present. Hurlingham, which is a 1800sq ft Manor House, including which is a 10,200 sq ft, luxury style Arts & Crafts quality mansion and Chesham Grange, which is a 8,750 sq ft Georgian style country home alongside various other private client projects including a contemporary lakeside country retreat, a complete refurbishment of the Home Counties and a stylish, very modern family home in Berkshire.

#### What are your aims and goals for the next twelve months?

Our goals and ambitions for this coming year are to grow our interior design business, to continue to exceed our current client's expectations and to develop further our bespoke furniture collection and bespoke solutions under our Mackintosh Special brand. I am also keen to get something back to academia that has given me so much, and recently been awarded the role of Design Mentor and Assessor at the IAD being an active role within the IAD, as well as providing work experience for interior Design students.

