

THE LAST WORD

REAL INTERIORS

WE ASKED **ANA ENGLEHORN**, FOUNDER AND INTERIOR DESIGNER, **ANA ENGLEHORN**, ABOUT WHAT GRABS HER ATTENTION, INCLUDING THE RENAISSANCE PERIOD, GEORGE CLOONEY'S ITALIAN VILLA AND A RATHER FAMOUS TV APARTMENT

If you could go back and design in a different period of history, when would it be and why?

I actually think the period we are living in right now is extremely exciting, because anything goes. At Masterpiece last year we were shown how well contemporary pieces sit alongside antiques, lightening the atmosphere and adding an exciting, stimulating air. The only period I can think of that gives me that same thrill is the Renaissance.

Coming after the cultural decline of the Middle Ages, it was a period of great excitement and rebirth.

Much like a workout anthem, what song or artist inspires you in your work environment?

Breathe from Jax Jones – it uplifts and energises me. It does depend, though, on what kind of work I am doing. Jax Jones is for cycling to meet clients

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or suppliers. If I have to concentrate on something administrative I would actually choose something more like Enya.

Which iconic figure, past or present, would you love to design a home for?

I am not so much interested in the person as in the building they own. George Clooney with his house in Lago del Como would do! It's an 18th Century villa in Laglio, right by the lake. It would be a dream restoration.

What film or television series for you encapsulates the perfect on-screen interiors?

I absolutely love Friends. I still watch reruns. It has all a series should: comedy, love and some action. The interiors in Monica Geller's apartment are homely and REAL, the best detail being the purple walls!

Name another designer working now whose sense of style you admire.

Jamie Drake has a wealth of experience and doesn't seem to be afraid of anything. He mixes eras and styles in the most imaginative ways, making it look perfect. I would love to work with him!

Name a change you'd like to see occur in the interior design industry.

I would love people to be more aware of the hard graft that goes on behind the scenes. Sometimes I have the feeling that interior design is still seen as a job a bored housewife does and there is no skill or training behind it. I would love to see an organisation, like the BIID, not only make sure interior designers meet a certain standard, but also really support them, showing the world the tact, skill and learning that goes into the job.

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