

STEPHEN LEWIS
Founder and director
of British fabric and
wallpaper house
Lewis & Wood
lewisandwood.com

Best in their field: Retrouvius because they are unusual, creative and crafty with an interesting young clientele. Maria Speake has grown the business from what was essentially an interesting salvage company to one of the most exciting London interior design companies around by embracing a young, spirited and imaginative sense of style.

Rising star: Sophie Ashby is a powerhouse of energy and productivity. Her ability and rapid rise to prominence in the interior design world is obviously due not only to a brilliant eye for mixing art, furniture and antiques, but also to an extraordinary



amount of hard work, rigour and imagination.

Force for good for British style: I have tremendous respect for Olga Polizzi whose interpretation of the modern English country hotel is unsurpassed. Obviously as one of the Forte family she comes from a background steeped in the hotel business. What I love is her considered and expert

way of using fabrics and wallpapers to create a place that has an atmosphere that feels established and rooted in the English country aesthetic. Hotel Tresanton in Cornwall and Hotel Endsleigh in Devon are comfortable and without affectation – the whole effect feels charming and effortless, which is a hard thing to pull off but she certainly knows how.



ROSS SHARPE
Director, Yiangou Architects,
established over 30 years ago
and based in the Cotswolds
yiangou.com

Best in their field: Annabel Elliot's understanding of how to create the quintessential, eclectic, English country-house interior is unrivalled. Her work is subtle, quirky and imbued with a real sense of timelessness and understanding of context.

Douglas Mackie's intellectual understanding of space, and the dialogue between surface and object is exquisite, and I remember these qualities in him when we were both studying architecture at Cambridge.

Rising star: D'Erlanger & Sloan. They bring a pleasing fresh eye to interior design, with bold use of colour where needed and an unexpected use of texture. They just seem to get it, and with humility, grace and a very light touch. Wherever I can, I also implore clients to think of using exquisite British stones and marbles in interiors. The best champion of these wonderful, iconic, and sumptuous materials is Britannicus Stone. ▶

