

JANUARY 2008 £4.20

THE WORLD OF INTERIORS

KEW'S HANGING GARDEN: Miss North's Floral Picture Gallery

Medina à la Mode: Fashion Designer's Marrakesh Migration



01 >
9 770264 083118



network

Annabel Osborne chooses the best merchandise and events worldwide

From top:
armchair from
Loro Piana; lamp
from Armani
Casa; fabrics from
The Silk
Trading Co;
'Walnut and
Silver' kitchen
from Smallbone
of Devizes



■ With the opening of two new showrooms – Bristol in February and Chicago in May – as well as the launch of its 'Walnut and Silver' kitchen, 2008 is set to be a busy year for Smallbone of Devizes. 'Walnut and Silver' is a union of contemporary design and traditional British craftsmanship, with numerous special details: lit and mirrored plinths are set back to make the cabinetry look like it's floating; silver handles complement the rich black walnut; and drawers are lined with faux ostrich feathers. This strong modern effect is suitable for a range of homes, from traditional period houses to gleaming riverside conversions. Ring 020 7589 5998, or visit smallbone.co.uk.

■ Pepe Penalver heads a long list of talented Spanish interior-design firms. Founded in 1964 and specialising in fabrics for decoration and upholstery, the company has beautiful, colourful textiles that match the spirit and diversity of its native country. Current collections include ethnic-inspired fabrics, stripes and geometric designs reflecting the colours of the desert. Pepe Penalver will be exhibiting at Intergift in Madrid, 17-21 Jan. Ring 00 34 91 729 3357, or visit pepepenalver.com.

■ ABC Carpets is holding its largest-ever end-of-year sale, featuring some 3,000 pieces, on the second floor at Harrods (28 Dec-26 Jan). The discounts are staggering, with 75 per cent off handmade Nepalese carpets and 60 per cent off selected Persian and Aubusson designs. Don't miss your chance. Ring 020 7893 8548, or visit abchome.com.

■ The Heveningham Collection is an elegant range of handcrafted iron furniture made in Britain. You will spot many of its creations in the world's finest hotels, including Sandy Lane in Barbados and the Berkeley and Claridge's in London. This double chaise-longue (130 x 203cm) is new to the collection and would be a joy in any garden or on any terrace or poolside as the frame can be left outside come rain or shine. It's available in black, dark green, gunmetal or white, with cushions in 'Sunbrella' showerproof fabric. It's just one of many pieces from a beautiful range that also includes dining sets, stools, sofas and benches. Ring 01962 738877, or visit heveningham.co.uk.

■ With over a quarter of a century of experience, And So To Bed offers one of the most inspired and comprehensive collections of beds, bed linen, mattresses, furniture and accessories in Britain. Its fabulous new showroom in Bristol, spread over 460sq m, displays its vast new bed and furniture ranges, available in hand-painted and upholstered finishes. All pieces share a distinctive attention to detail and hand-finished construction. And So To Bed, Squires Court, Boot Lane, Bristol BS3 4BU (0808 144 4343; andsotobed.co.uk).

■ Italian cashmere specialist Loro Piana, renowned for its soft-as-butter clothing, has introduced a new line of home fabrics and furnishings. Expect to find sofas covered in shantung and silk velvet, armchairs in angora and – the pièce de résistance – carpets made from 100 percent pure cashmere. The range is available in five colour schemes incorporating 300 different shades, from natural tones to greens, blues and intense reds. Still not satisfied? Then Loro Piana will make up a colour for you. It's the ultimate in bespoke luxury. Ring 020 7499 9300, or visit loropiana.com.

■ London-based fans of The Silk Trading Co now don't have to venture far to find its best-selling drapery and fabrics. A full design service, a dedicated department for trade and its signature textiles by the yard are now available on Harrods' third floor. As well as offering a full range of off-the-peg home furnishings, it will also take commissions for bespoke designs – anything from bedding and meditation pillows to handbags and beds for pets. Ring 020 7730 1234, or visit silktrading.com.

■ Fashionistas and design fans will be jumping for joy at the launch of Giorgio Armani's new kitchen range. Continuing the success of his Armani Casa home line – typified by the slick lamp shown here – the designer has used cutting-edge technology and interactive kitchen systems to achieve a stylish, state-of-the-art finish. Materials used include Brazilian *sucupira* wood, black metal with a satin finish, unique laminates with a bronze woven surface and washable fabrics for covering shelves. Armani Casa, 113 New Bond St, London W1 (020 7079 1930; armanicasa.com) ■



'Silver Nautilus' bed from And So To Bed; cushions from Pepe Penalver; double chaise-longue from The Heveningham Collection

