



## LITTLE BLACK BOOK

# HENRIETTE VON STOCKHAUSEN

Co-founder of VSP Interiors, Henriette von Stockhausen works with Jane Petti on beautiful projects in London and Dorset. Here she shares some of her favourite resources and specialist contacts

### Which collections inspire you?

When decorating period properties, I love to combine new fabrics with antique borders and details, or even use antique fabrics or rugs. One of my favourite contacts for a never-ending supply of antique, characterful textiles and trimmings is Susan Deliss ([susandeliss.com](http://susandeliss.com)). She has a veritable Aladdin's cave of goodies that I cannot resist. I also love Robert Kime fabrics and wallpapers as they have the feel of faded grandeur that I look for. Will Fisher at Jamb has my favourite, the Jasper collection by the amazing Michael S Smith.

For more modern or town residences, I tend to stick with plainer, simpler fabrics from Colefax and Fowler or Turnell & Gigon, and bring interest to the scheme through the use of colour and art. I love fabrics and trims from Paolo Moschino for Nicky Haslam; Ralph Lauren for his plains and herringbones; and Pierre Frey has a wonderfully broad selection of luxurious fabrics in fantastic colourways.

### Where do you source interesting lighting?

I love Vaughan lighting for its beautiful table lamps and for staples such as picture lights. We also often buy antique vases, lidded urns and even planters and pottery, to customise into lighting. I find that lighting is one of the most essential items in interior design as it creates the mood.

### Where do you look for antiques?

Everywhere - from the little local antique shop to online at [the-saleroom.com](http://the-saleroom.com). I am addicted to finding treasure; it all started when I studied at Sotheby's. I am a collector at heart and can't stop myself scouring the website [decorativecollective.com](http://decorativecollective.com) every night before I go to bed. My absolute one-stop-shop is Guinevere Antiques on the King's Road in London, and antique dealer Edward Hurst in Wiltshire is



another firm favourite from whom I've discovered some wonderful treasures.

### Which craftsmen do you admire?

I adore working with Adrian Everitt at Bone Black. He is one of the most talented specialist paint effect artists and his knowledge of period interiors is second to none. I am also very excited about working on a furniture collaboration of 'out-of-the-ordinary' pieces with the ever-flamboyant and creative bespoke furniture maker Jonathan Sainsbury. His eye for detail is very rare and has often been a huge help to me.

### What events are in red pen in your diary?

The Decorative Antiques & Textiles Fair in Battersea is one of my favourites and I try to visit at least twice a year. There is also a

TOP LEFT Furniture, wallpaper and lamp from the Jasper collection by Michael S Smith, exclusively available in the UK at Jamb.

TOP RIGHT Guinevere Antiques on the King's Road in London is a mecca for one-off buys.

ABOVE Padishah hand-printed linen fabrics from Susan Deliss.

great antiques fair at Shepton Mallet in Somerset, which is on every other month and presents some interesting dealers.

### Do you have your eye on anything for your personal redecoration projects?

I am desperate to use one of the hand-painted panoramic scene wallpapers from de Gournay in my dining room. I am always excited about new finishes and techniques - in my head I could redecorate every six months. I also covet anything from Zardi & Zardi. ■



# Adding CHARACTER

Introducing characterful features such as wall panelling, shutters, window seats or picture rails can reinstate lost authenticity or inject much-needed charm to every room

**W**hen a home looks bland and boring, or lacks charm or interest, the answer to the problem may not always lie in simply adding attractive paint colours or pretty soft furnishings. Sometimes, to increase an overall feeling of charisma and character, a range of more architectural enhancements is desirable and eminently achievable. Whilst some of these may only be possible to carry out during a substantial renovation, a great many appealing alterations are smaller in scale and genuinely quick and easy to do.

The key is to first work out which areas of the home need addressing. What is lacking and where? Have important elements been removed by previous occupants? Think of the 'period details' so beloved of estate agents' brochures: original fireplaces, picture rails, ceiling roses, cornices and architraves, panelled walls and doors, and wide timber floorboards. It may ▶



**ABOVE** This antique fireplace, originally from a French chateau, creates a striking focal point in this room, designed by Henriette von Stockhausen at VSP Interiors.  
**LEFT** These Victorian-style tiles are laid in a traditional Harrogate pattern, £96.32 a square metre, Original Style.