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LIGHT Fantastic



With the summer months upon us, the days are getting longer and garden parties are at the forefront of everyone's minds. And garden lights are essential for creating that perfect party atmosphere, whether that's relaxing with friends or celebrating a special day. Follow Lighst4fun's golden rule of lighting at three levels; ground, mid-range and above and you will be guaranteed to create the perfect mood. ☐

www.lights4fun.co.uk

DON'T RAIN ON AIDEN'S PARADE

We sit down with Designer Michelle Derbyshire to discuss her work on the latest offering from Chester Racecourse, a luxury raceday dining experience; Parade with Aiden Byrne.

What were your first thoughts about the concept?

When I was first approached about Parade with Aiden Byrne, I thought it was a fantastic idea and I was really looking forward to being involved. The brief I received from Holly and Charlotte at A Styled Lifestyle instantly made me fall in love with the concept and it was something I could really envisage working. To me, Parade was intended to be a jewellery box in the centre of the racecourse; a really high end, luxurious and totally unique venue, ready to be discovered. To top it off, we have Aiden serving a delicious menu, coupled with a prime location and beautiful interiors, a truly winning combination.

How influential have you been in the development of the concept as a whole?

I felt really lucky coming in on the project at a time where I could still have a say on a lot of the elements. Being Australian, I'm very black and white in my attitude, so there were things I knew I wanted to incorporate and luckily the team were very receptive to my ideas.

What brief were you working to and have you deviated from it at all?

The brief was to create a luxury, high-end and comfortable venue with plenty of light, incorporating both classic and contemporary features. It was an interesting project for

me because, as opposed to doing a normal restaurant where there are constraints such as materials to use, these weren't much of an issue with Parade.

However, with the space essentially being a glass box, there were limitations as you'd usually decorate the walls, but we managed to work around this.

Please can you explain the interior concept?

Being a viewing point for the guests was obviously of paramount importance, so Parade has glazed elevations. We needed to keep these windows free from decoration, which is unusual compared to other sites where you would typically decorate the





walls. The solution we came up with was to shift our focus to the ceiling, which is a beautiful copper colour. The overall idea was to create a light, invigorating and luxurious summer space that has a classic feel rather than being trend driven. The colour palette is a muted mint green, gold and white paired with plenty of leafy plants. This is going to be the point of difference to other venues within the racecourse, which tend to have a darker, more masculine palette. There's an overall air of luxurious comfort at Parade, with a mix of table and lounge seating for guests so that people have a variety of places to sit - from the viewing deck upstairs, to the bar and the restaurant.

As we understand, there's been a tight turnaround on this concept. How long has the process taken from initial drawings to execution?

I started on the job at the end of February where it was literally a concrete slab. I remember looking at it and Richard Thomas turning to me and saying, "Are you up for the ride?" I always am, so it was a no brainer. We had to get to work straight away as construction had already started and the builders needed to know about fitting points and the such... a couple of weeks later we had produced a scheme.

What has been the most exciting part of the project?

I have really enjoyed working with the girls (Charlotte and Holly from A Styled Lifestyle) as they really understand the importance of attention to detail.

How do you feel Parade and the interiors you've created will set this new facility apart from other racecourses throughout the UK?

It's really exciting from this point of view as I just don't think there's anything else out there like it. We deliberately didn't look into other racecourses and their offer because we wanted to ensure we designed it as we would a normal restaurant, rather than a sporting venue. It's not only a beautiful space but it has so much to offer. It's a great all-round experience for the guest, which was really important to me when I agreed to take the project on. I think it's vital to design to a space that is backed up by the food, service, wine and overall atmosphere and this is something I feel really passionately about. 🍷

www.chester-races.com/parade



Interiors News

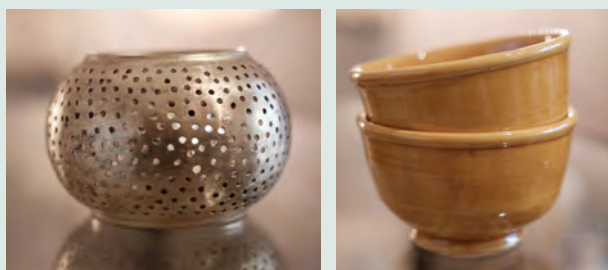
The very latest news, advice and trends from the world of interior design

WORDS: LOUISA WARDE

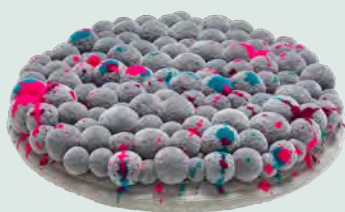
So Marrakech

Always on the look out for new shops to browse and inspire us, we were delighted to step into the new SO Marrakech on George Street, Altrincham. Founded by Anissa Damoussi, the store is a calming haven of authentic Moroccan homeware and accessories. The ethos is one of combining natural materials, sustainability and centuries old techniques with a modern Moroccan aesthetic. For us, it's a must pop in and see for yourself.

SO Marrakech, 123 George Street, Altrincham, WA14 1RN,
www.so-marrakech.co.uk



3 OF THE BEST... FLOOR CUSHIONS



1

Talking point

This Pom-pom floor cushion may look like the kids have spilled paint but it's a great addition to a home and it can be customised in colour and size.

£POA, www.myk-berlin.com



2

Durability

Every family needs a giant bean bag floor cushion, don't they? Practical, adaptable and durable, it can be used inside or out and is waterproof.

£59.99, www.beanbagbazaar.co.uk



3

Colour pop

Add a touch of colour to your garden with this fuschia box cushion. Comfortable and washable it can make the firmest of seats a welcoming one.

£35, www.raggedrose.com



RECLAIM YOUR INTERIORS

Add some originality to your kitchen with a beautifully reclaimed or upcycled free-standing storage cabinet. Not only are you doing your part by giving vintage furniture a new home but you will be adding a little effortless chic to your home. Effortless shabby chic, we love it!

From £650, www.scaramangashop.co.uk



HOT SUMMER ACCESSORY

We are huge fans (no pun intended) of ethical lifestyle brand Lola & Mawu and obsessed with their vibrant colour ways and inspirational pieces, and so it was no surprise when we received news of their latest product from northern Ghana. An essential accessory of summer for one, these fans will also give your walls an immediate injection of colour and style.

Bolga Fans, from £28, www.lolanadmawu.com

• TAKE TWO •

The perfect cover-up for those summer evenings



Super soft merino,
£132

www.tollymcray.co.uk



Cotton twill herringbone,
£29

www.cultfurniture.co.uk

One to Watch



JOJO BRADLEY INTERIORS

Whilst JoJo Bradley Interior Design offers a whole host of design services, from sourcing antiques to re-imagining your complete home, we were drawn to this fabulous nursery design, which seems even more fitting as it is our family issue. Where function meets form, we love the fact that the colour scheme will grow with your child and we would never have thought of hanging hot air balloons from the ceiling.

JoJo Bradley Interior Design, www.jojobradleyinteriors.co.uk

BOTANICA MAXIMUS

The summer collection from The French Bedroom Company has our interior tastebuds tingling and none more so than the accessories collection from Danish design house Au Maison. Go bold with your blooms and make a statement. From £35, www.thefrenchbedroomcompany.co.uk

