



DESIGNER PROFILE

BROOKE COPP-BARTON

LOUISE O'BRYAN talks to the designer about her renovation of an Arts and Crafts house that reflects her love of timeless, eclectic interiors

PHOTOGRAPHS SOPHIA SPRING

As her first projects go, renovating this beautiful Grade II-listed Arts and Crafts house in west London for her friends was an impressive start for the interior designer Brooke Copp-Barton, who launched her practice three years ago. Not only was this project her big break, but it also cemented her passion for transforming period homes with a fearless mix of colours, patterns and styles to create a refined yet relaxed look. 'My ideal project is renovating an old property that has tons of original features in need of some love and attention,' says Brooke.

Jumping head first into this project, Brooke's brief was to restore the damaged period features and return the grand house to its former glory with as much charm and authenticity as possible. Original chimneypieces were reinstated with newly fabricated wooden surrounds; vintage and antique furniture was paired with contemporary bespoke sofas and tables; and rich colours and lively patterns were layered throughout to create a fresh feel.

Having previously worked in advertising, Brooke craved a more hands-on creative role. In 2011, she took some time out from her career to have a family and, during this period, she re-evaluated what she wanted to do. Having successfully renovated a couple of her own homes, she decided to turn what had previously been a hobby into something more substantial. She embarked on a part-time course at KLC School of Design, building up her skills and experience through internships and freelance work, including some time spent at Nicola Harding & Co. 'It was an invaluable and informative experience, learning from the best,' says Brooke.

Primarily working on residential projects, she is currently converting an old Cotswold farmhouse and several outbuildings into individual homes. 'My practice is compact and nimble, with just me and my assistant, allowing us to be completely hands-on,' she explains. 'I am inspired by the period from the turn of the 20th century through to the Bauhaus and mid-century modern design. Eileen Gray is a particular visionary for me – her lacquer work, her furniture design and, later on, her architecture.'

Brooke's confidence in combining colour, pattern and materials is no doubt what draws her clients. Take, for example, the muted pink banquette she had made for this Arts and Crafts house, which sits under vibrant green window frames and a bold blind in a Vanderhurd fabric. 'I love filling houses with unusual colour combinations, surprising fabrics and bespoke pieces – but it's also important to reflect the family who lives there,' she says. Brooke has showcased the owners' art collection in the sitting room above the mid-century sideboard and marine-blue sofa. 'My aim is to highlight the essence of a space and allow the owners to enjoy the wonderful quirks of their home.' brokecoppbarton.com ▷



SITTING ROOM (*opposite and above*) Brooke often takes inspiration from classic design – here, the 'Bolle' pendant light from Gallotti & Radice has a mid-century look. A bespoke sofa is covered in 'Sibton Marine' linen velvet from Claremont. The sideboard is from Fiona McDonald.



KITCHEN/DINING ROOM (*below*) The tongue-and-groove panelling is painted in 'Setting Plaster' and the walls in 'Vert De Terre', both from Farrow & Ball. Skinflint supplied the vintage wall lights. Dining chairs from Vinterior are teamed with a bespoke table and banquette



BEDROOM (*above*) The walls are painted in 'Oval Room Blue' and the woodwork in 'Inchyra Blue', both from Farrow & Ball. Cushions from Penny Worrall and a yellow bedcover from Soho Home complement the bespoke headboard and footstool.



BATHROOM (*above right and below*) The bath is from Drench. Brooke chose 'Green Santana' tiles for the shower and 'Blue Siham' tiles for the basin splashback, both from Bert & May. The vanity unit is an Arts and Crafts cabinet converted by Vanity Flair



Five of Brooke's latest discoveries

1 I really want to use the new **printed fabrics** by A Rum Fellow for George Spencer Designs – pictured here is 'Brakka', one of my favourites. I've been a fan of the company's rugs and hand-woven textiles for some time and can't wait to get my hands on this new print collection. georgespencer.com

2 Penny Worrall's **handmade cushions**, created from vintage textiles, are my go-to accessory. They are made with love, and it is wonderful how the old fabrics lend warmth and personality to a scheme. pennyworrall.com

3 Tallboy Interiors is my favourite recent antiques discovery and I've been desperately trying to place this simply stunning 20th-century burl walnut **coffee table** in a scheme. tallboyinteriors.co.uk

4 I have had my eye on the '**Moreau Armchair**' from Pinch for a little while. I love its curved shape and extra-large width – I think it would be so comfy to curl up on in front of a fire. Again, I have been a fan of the company's products for some time and I used its 'Anders Light' in a recent project. pinchdesign.com

5 Fiona McDonald's shop on Fulham Palace Road, SW6, is a treasure trove of **mid-century furniture** that I love going to. I never fail to find something to fall in love with. fionamcdonald.com □