

SPEAR'S

TOP RECOMMENDED INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Fiona Barratt-Campbell *Fiona Barratt Interiors*

Distinguished individual

FIRM SIZE *Boutique*

FOCUS *Timeless design*

Fiona Barratt-Campbell has been busy designing Monticello, a new development in Rome looking onto St Peter's Basilica and the Apostolic Palace comprising luxury apartments and villas where Italian marble meets antiques and chic lighting.

The interiors guru says she has always been inspired by the rugged landscapes and Roman remains of Northumberland. She began her career 17 years ago, influenced by her grandfather Sir Lawrie Barratt, founder of the largest residential property company in the UK.

The designer and her husband, football royalty Sol Campbell, live on the former site of King Henry VIII's country residence. She is a trend-setter and not a follower, as she feels that fads 'can lead you away from your core design ethic'.

Tara Bernerd *Tara Bernerd & Partners*

Outstanding in field

FIRM SIZE *Boutique*

FOCUS *'Industrial glamour'*

Tara Bernerd has been instrumental in the redesign of Kimpton Fitzroy Hotel in Bloomsbury, a £75 million refurb that's entirely transformed the historic Hotel Russell.

The Belgravia-based designer's signature style is luxury with 'an industrial edge'. She's been busy designing hotels worldwide, such as the Four Seasons in Lauderdale and the Thompson Hollywood LA. 'Increasingly, hotels are becoming our key focus,' she says, 'but I quite fancy doing another yacht'.

She loves interweaving art into her interiors, using paintings to add colour to a textured, neutrally tinted space rather than creating boldly-coloured walls. 'For me art and design are intertwined,' adds Bernerd, whose career began with designing her own loft, aged 20.



Steven Ballard *Ballards Group*

Best of breed

FIRM SIZE *Boutique*

FOCUS *Interior furnishing*

Ballards designs and manufactures bespoke interior furnishings. From design through to installation, the firm will handle the entire project to make the whole process as easy as possible for clients. As managing director, Steven Ballard ensures clients receive the best furnishings possible with the highest-quality fabrics and that the firm employs the best people within the industry to complete the projects.

'I oversee every element of all the projects to ensure 100 per cent satisfaction,' says Ballard. 'I never know who is likely to call, anything from a private client, whether direct or their office, to the office of a royal family or to the local customer wanting a small chair re-covered.'

Working closely with interior designers, he holds weekly meetings to discuss ongoing projects or site inspections to see new locations. Mondays are always kicked off with a staff meeting to run through every project they have going and keep everyone updated on any new ones. 'My father was taken by my grandfather to start work as an apprentice upholsterer. Luckily, after 10 years, he was able due to retirement to buy that business, which at the time specialised in upholstery, cabinet making and carpets,' Ballard tells *Spear's*. Ballard's father ventured into curtains and employed a seamstress to make in-house for him. Over the course of the

«1980s he worked exte in the Middle East and t projects helped build B and its reputation. 'By th time I joined in 1985 we workforce of 12. This gra the next 30 years and is workforce of 25,' says B

One of the highlights past 12 months was wo closely with a London ir designer on a nine-mon overseas project to refu a master suite. This pro included some of the m detailed curtain design had worked on for many 'We included bespoke e on pelmets and curtain designs made were mu perfect for every elem explains. 'Ballards took personnel to the site to the existing furniture, w meant we had to ship o equipment needed to m upholstery workroom an an 18-day period. We lo forward to the next pha project, hopefully in 20

Justin Van Breda *Justin Van Breda*

Distinguished indiv

FIRM SIZE *Boutique*

FOCUS *'Effortless des*

South African designer,

Breda recently brought lesser-known makers of accessories, tableware, at the Lots Road Design Chelsea – with astounding

Formerly of Nicky Ha Breda has eclectic influ have always loved the A period, and I'm mad abo Georgians,' he enthuse Breda, the point of a r make the client happy; a philosophy he brings to in London, Cape Town, the Caribbean. He is al of The Fabric Room, rep international design; along with his own fab is represented by Harro sells his own products UK, USA, Australia and