

# Design Q&A

TOM BARTLETT

Founder of Waldo Works

**How would you describe your aesthetic?**

At Waldo Works Studio we are known for our contemporary approach to design and graphic clarity. However, we also often work on listed historic houses. The fact that we like to make our approach very sensitive to place allows us to bridge both worlds successfully.

**What was the first space that left an impact on you?**

I remember, aged four, my family's drawing room being painted – turning from white to dark red. I recall the impact that the change of colour made, and ever since I have viewed colour as an effective tool.

**Quick spring update?**

Edit your stuff. I am bad at it myself, but we all have too many things. Also, really rearranging shelves has a huge impact on your interior.

**Key trends for 2017?**

Hopefully everyone will stop using grey constantly. It's the beige of our times! The good thing is that materials are getting more characterful again – we are looking at a lot of chunky terrazzo (like the long bar we did at The Laslett hotel) and coloured veneers (like our panelled purple bar at The Rockwell hotel).

**What trend will you never follow?**

We never try to



Selfridges International Customer Services



Art Collector's house



make someone look explicitly wealthy. We really don't like that 'international elite' look.

**What does luxury mean to you?**

The word has lost all meaning, so not a lot! Having a house built for you or an interior done properly is a real luxury. Otherwise it is just an overused word.

**My home is...** A converted spice warehouse, so it has a good scale to it. I gravitate towards simply shaped furniture and a background palette of blue, white and grey, with some intense yellow and red bits too.

**What was the last thing you changed?** I painted my TV room a sort of black green, it is such a good colour to be in at night, and looks great as a backdrop to my

growing collection of yellow Holmegaard Carnaby glass.

**Which building would you tear down?** The Walkie-Talkie in the City. It reminds me of a thumb recently hit by a hammer.



West London town house



**FABRIC**  
Christopher Farr Cloth.  
christopherfarrcloth.com



**SEATING**  
Chinotto chair.  
azucena.it



**LIGHTING**  
Nocturne Workshop.  
nocturne-workshop.com



**UNUSUAL OBJECTS**  
Flow Gallery. flowgallery.co.uk



**PAINT**  
Emery & Cie.  
emeryetcie.com



**FINISHING TOUCHES**  
Les Couilles du Chien. lescouilles-duchien.com



**WALLPAPER**  
Hermès.  
hermes.com

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