

GRAND DESIGNS



DREAM HOMES FOR THE REAL WORLD | JULY 2008 | £3.50

40 pages of
stunning homes

Summer style

TV HOUSE
THE THRESHING
BARN BROUGHT
BACK TO LIFE



OUTDOOR MAGIC
CREATE THE PERFECT
ENTERTAINING SPACE

KEVIN McCLOUD
ON THE WONDERS OF GLASS

PRETTY GLASSWARE
FOR GORGEOUS SUMMER TABLES

26 MUST-HAVE
SIDEBOARDS

CUTTING-EDGE KITCHENS
THE HOTTEST TRENDS TO INVEST IN



Designer notes... Nigel Coates

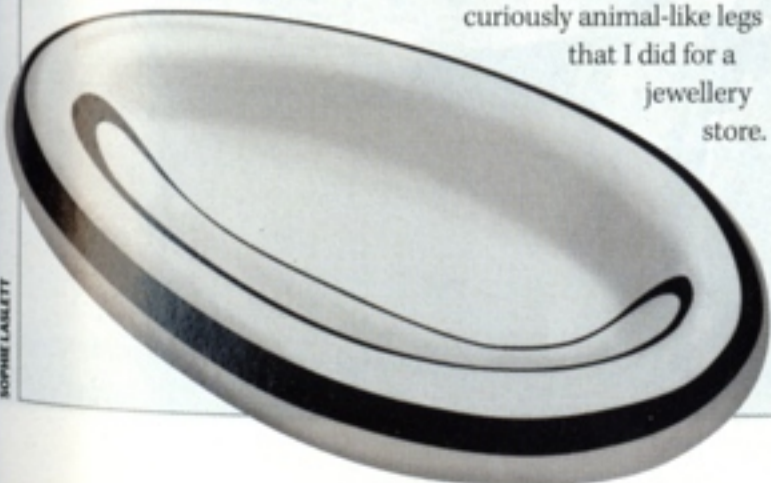
The A-list architect and designer shares his inspirations with us

Words **Joanna Booth**

Architect and product designer Nigel Coates is most famous for the Body Zone in the Millenium Dome, but that just scratches the surface of his body of famously sensual and creative work. When a client in Tokyo asked him to design a building that looked like it had always been there, the result was a bar, restaurant and club that from the outside resembles an ancient Roman wall, aptly named the Wall Building. He's also designed all kinds of furniture and interiors products, and at Milan this year launched a 25-piece range for Fratelli Boffi, chandeliers for Frag and a sofa and coffee table for Varaschin.

Where do you shop for design in the UK?

In the Royal College of Art, at the degree shows – it's a talented place. I've bought hooks which look like knives thrown into the wall, by Tianyi Chang (available at bouf.com), and some very pompous-looking ceramic busts of teddy bears by Chris Hudson, which are ironic and witty (see right). I also have a few of my own pieces, including a bowl I did for Alessi (see below), standard lamps for Fornasetti and a table with curiously animal-like legs that I did for a jewellery store.



Which designers do you think will be stars of the future?

There's a London-based collective called OKAYstudio (okaystudio.org) with a number of very talented young designers from all over the world, including Oscar Narud, Tomas Alonso and Shay Alkalay, who has just designed a multi-coloured stack of drawers for Established & Sons (see right).

Who is the designer you most admire and why?

He's a dead one, I'm afraid; it's Carlo Mollino. His work has a vitality and spirit, and his pieces often have elements of the human body or animals in them. I discovered him when an Italian journalist told me he saw similarities in our work, and I'm always inspired by him.

What's your holiday destination of choice and why?

Rio De Janeiro. It's a fantastically beautiful city, even in its landscape, where the architecture sets up a relationship with erupting outcrops of jungle and the ocean.

If you could live in any house, which one would it be?

The Casa Malaparte in Capri, Italy. The site is extraordinary – it's built into the cliff face, projecting out like a diving board towards the sea.

What's your proudest achievement?

One is the Mixtacity installation that I designed for the Global Cities exhibition at the Tate Modern last year. The other is the Wall Building in Tokyo, which I think inspired lots of people.

Stack drawers from £1,762.50, by Shay Alkalay for Established & Sons (020 7608 0990; establishedandsons.com).

Big Shoom fruit bowl £125, by Nigel Coates for Alessi (020 7518 9090; alessi.com). **Sir Goddard bear** £550, Chris Hudson Art (07739 523 182; chrishudsonart.co.uk)

