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CHANTELLE  
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**i**esign  
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**The show season reviewed!  
What's trending in Bathtubs and Heating?  
in.Brief: A welcoming reception from Jess Lavers  
A week in the lives of Peter Joehnk and Corinna Kretschmar-Joehnk**



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# Season Showdown

After an age in the planning and a million miles walked, the September show season is over! We ask Justin Van Breda, Sue Timney, Brian Lawrence, and Roselind Wilson about their own personal highlights.

## Which shows did you attend in September, and did you have a favourite?

**Justin:** I've long been a huge fan of Decorex International, this year I chose to attend as an exhibitor and it did not disappoint! I immensely enjoyed the feeling of space that the new location of Syon Park offered. It was the perfect platform for us to launch our new collections and both our new vanity

designs and the latest furniture pieces were well received.

I thought the Decorex main entrance interpreting Hogarth's renowned 'A Rake's Progress' in celebration of this year's show theme, the 300th anniversary of the Georgians, was wonderful. The Future Heritage installation curated by celebrated journalist and broadcaster Corinne Julius was also really inspiring. ▼



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Sue Timney



Justin Van Breda

▲ My creative team also went to the Lapada Art & Antiques fair in Mayfair and they raved about it.

**Sue:** I had so many grand ideas about getting around the LDF venues this year during the ten days of the 2014 Festival, but ultimately as my own most recent West Dean project was being exhibited in the V&A, it made sense to hang out in the Brompton Design District.

For that reason I also had time to look

in depth at a slightly more conceptual approach to design which the V&A in particular nurture. I'm so glad I did; my ultimate favourite being the Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby exhibit Double Space in the Raphael Gallery. It was stunningly simple and yet beautiful.

**Brian:** I attended 100% Design, Focus and Decorex. My favourite was 100% Design – the entrance tunnel, designed by Studio Design UK, was fantastic and the hub opened into different areas so all the kitchen

and bathrooms products were together as were the lighting and interiors and other products, a really clever way for us visitors where the specialists were all in one area and not spread about all over the exhibition. The whole show is about modern design so a real breath of fresh air.

**Roselind:** With this being the inaugural year for Queens Park as a Design District and the fact that Roselind Wilson Design was a partner in this year's event, we were in full support of all the events taking place in ▼

▲ Queens Park including opening our own studio to the public to showcase our work. In addition I attended Decorex and The New York Design Centre following NY Design Week. My team attended 100% Design, Tent and Superbrands.

### Which exhibitor's display stood out the most to you?

**Sue:** The whole ethos of the V&A exhibits is what stood out to me. It wasn't just about product pushing – more about idea pushing. Placing new thoughts within the old, or at least placing new within the establishment. It also gave me time to reflect on where the

parameters of design and art, and art and architecture lie.

**Brian:** For me at 100% Design it was Dune who had the most amazing wall tiles which included circular shapes in the most wonderful colour ranges, also chic collections on mirrored tiles all beautifully displayed.

At Focus it had to be Bauman who had a mascaraed party and whose fabric collections are so modern and innovating for a contemporary look. This Swiss company launched their electrically lit voile fabric with tiny spec twinkling lights on it – a must for those extra special areas in a London

penthouse!

Decorex had to be Jacaranda carpets who showed their new lush silk looking plain carpets and new collections, really nice thick pile silky look and a great colour spectrum.

**Roselind:** The Little Greene paint company had a very creative stand at Decorex this year. It was visually effective and well constructed to showcase their product as well as stand out from the rest of the displays.

**Justin:** I loved Little Greene's stand at Decorex. It won the best stand award ▼



Syon Park's Great Conservatory impressed Justin



Roselind Wilson

▲ this year, which was no surprise to me as it's always inventive and engaging each year. It was lovely to see its consideration of the ceiling.

I also liked the selection of products at Timorous Beasties. We have worked with the company a lot and find the designs bold, innovative and cheeky as well as having that essential sense of humour. I adore the company's passion for design, colour and pattern. It is a wonderful interpretation of classic designs! I wasn't familiar with Bert Frank, but its lighting and modern take on vintage shapes combined with wonderful metals makes a beautiful collection.

#### What was your best new discovery?

**Brian:** Definitely the tiles made by Dune at 100% Design. They were a cut above anything else I have seen for ages and so different with such great colours and shapes. Finding something special and of such good quality is not easy.

**Roselind:** One of my suppliers (Hyde House Bespoke Furniture) launched a new product called 'Resinate' at Decorex and I can truly say that this was the best new discovery as it allows the application of wall papers into finishes that can be used for the manufacture of furniture, panels, anything. This innovative product allows us as designers to be more creative in our design solutions and is furthermore scratchproof and entirely durable.

**Justin:** I discovered Syon Park's Great Conservatory at the Decorex exhibitor party. It is a magnificent piece of architecture and a wonderful backdrop for this stunning show. Syon Park is worth a visit in its own right, but now Decorex is taking centre stage ▼



The Little Greene stand at Decorex caught Roselind's eye

▲ there, it truly is a great day out.

As a design discovery, I think Konig Colours from Nina Campbell is a great new collection of paint colours. The chart is painted, rather than printed so it allows for a much clearer indication of what you get. I particularly love the choice of yellows, which are lovely and chalky and have just the right amount of brown in them.

**Sue:** That even A Place Called Home can be in Trafalgar Square!

### What would you add to an interior design show to improve it?

**Roselind:** Better lighting. I really love attending the shows and exhibitions but I can never understand why the lighting has to be so bad. A harsh cold white light can be too clinical and impersonal and deter one from stepping into the display to enquire further about the product. A more ambient, warmer light would be far more inviting.

**Justin:** An interior design dialogue forum is an exciting idea that I believe is being worked on. This would be an amazing adjunct to the show. I really enjoyed the interactive demonstrations being put together at each show, specifically the 'In The Making' installations at Decorex.

I loved that more fabric houses decided to exhibit and take part this year too.

I think a small "best off the high street" in interior design featuring a curated collection of things from suppliers such as Anthropology, OKA, Zara Home and The Conran Shop, would be interesting as we cannot ignore the exposure our clients get to these brands, nor should we be too elitist as

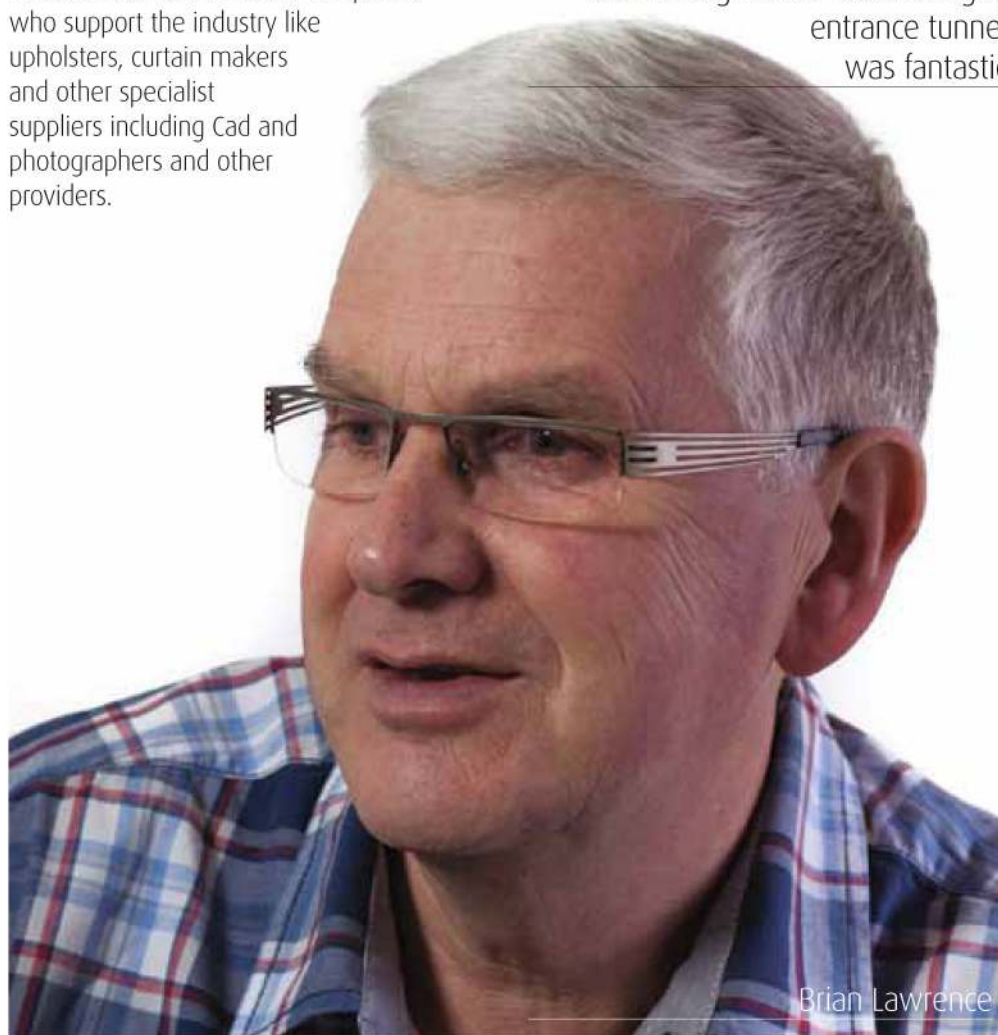
designers and ignore them.

**Sue:** The establishment of the LDF has brought international design attention back to London – quite rightly...! Could we make it more joined up now please as it may be in danger of splintering off into elitist groups, and segregation is not what it is about.

**Brian:** I would like to see more art and accessories also more about how products are made and their background. Spina at Decorex had trimmings being made which I visited. Also for me to see companies who support the industry like upholsters, curtain makers and other specialist suppliers including Cad and photographers and other providers.



Brian thought that 100% Design's entrance tunnel was fantastic



Brian Lawrence