



So you've survived the Mayan end-of-the-world prediction and narrowly escaped the post-apocalyptic need to rebuild your entire house. But with a newfound *joie de vivre* and excitement for 2013, finding new inspiration for your interiors is a thrilling prospect. Especially with advice from these interior design experts to help you through.
By **Christine Grové**

Interior Motives and the people in the know.

Kitchen Zen EUROUCINA: TREVOR KING

With many years of experience in the decor industry, Caesarstone Marketing Director Trevor King has provided his insight on what will be big news for kitchens in 2013. Drawing on his knowledge and expertise in this interior space, King has predicted several key trends in kitchen design fresh from Eurocucina, the international kitchen furniture exhibition in Milan.

1 A PLETHORA OF TEXTURES

Mixing and matching textures and surfaces with countertops crafted from a mix of engineered stone, glass, stainless steel, wood and porcelain. Designers are also using wallpaper and textured paint effects to create visual and tactile contrasts.

2 VARIED VERTICAL SPACING

Surfaces and shelving are making appearances at surprising heights, and depths. Some shelves float a foot above ground while many cabinets are shot from floor to ceiling. On-trend kitchen islands feature overlapping countertops at slightly different heights, also counterbalancing one another at different angles.

3 VARYING SURFACE THICKNESSES

There are two trends that are appearing: Standard kitchen countertops have become thinner and more sleek looking. In terms of surface outlines, however, others strikingly used thin, medium and thick surfaces in their mix of overlapping countertops of diverse materials, sticking to rectangular shapes.

4 NEUTRAL BASE COLOURS

Neutral colours commandeer many of the new kitchens, with colour accents in styling to create mood and a sense of fun. White is the predominant colour, followed by the classics: grey, black and dark wood.

5 FEATURE WALLS

The familiar 'feature wall' trend appears regularly: Many kitchens include a mini feature wall between the hob and cabinetry, using black chalkboard, tiles or natural and engineered stone cladding.

6 COMPARTMENTALISED, OPEN SHELVING

Tall, compartmentalised, open shelves at

various heights are very prominent. Building this storage method into cabinets works well, or opt for free-standing or even floating shelves to break up big spaces.

7 BEVELLING

Subtle, simple beveling is the order of the day allowing surfaces to retain a more squared off look, while ornate, traditional Italian kitchens are adopting more voluptuous, classical edges.

8 LOW-HANGING LIGHTING

Island-aligned, low-hanging feature lights are everywhere. Functionality as well as design are important and even featuring low-hanging lights over the hob and prep areas.

9 SECRET APPLIANCES

Stoves, hobs and specialist wine refrigerators are often the only appliances to be seen in many Eurocucina kitchens for this year. Other appliances are cleverly hidden behind sliding doors and soft-close drawers.

10 CLAD CABINETS

Move over, *passé* paint! If you're not quite ready to embrace the *au naturel* look of wood, then textured cabinet-cladding provides an exciting alternative to smooth paint finishes, adding to the plethora of textures in the kitchen.





Natural Niche JULIA DAY

With a passion for international contemporary design and an inherent desire to bring cutting-edge design inspired by forward-thinking global trends to South Africa, Julia Day and her company, Generation, are distinct leaders in the local design industry.

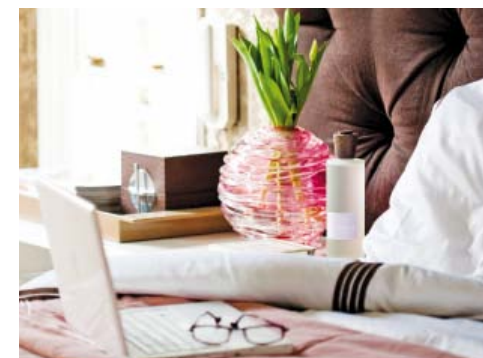
"My style has always been outward-looking and inspired by international architects, designers and fashion. I have admired the ethos of Italian craftsmanship, the inventiveness of designers such as Philippe Starke, fashion from Michale Kors, Chanel and Paul Smith, and the vision of architects such as Le Corbusier, Frank Lloyd Wright and Vico Magistretti. I like to absorb worldwide influences and then translate them through my own eyes into my own creation. "During the last 20 years, I've found myself increasingly wanting to ensure that people are educated, uplifted and comforted by good design. Good design has meaning and relevance, and is always founded on the premise of 'less is more'."

Generation proudly imports De Padova, a renowned design brand steeped in the

essence of the intellectual elite of the 50s. De Padova's pieces are an expression of living culture that is neither driven by nor devoted to fashion or formal and technological innovations. Generation is a retail and interior design project company, based on custom design for residential, retail and bespoke corporate. Very personal and hands on, Julia and her team work under strong design format and technical skills, applied to design a personal and bespoke environment.

TRENDS FOR 2013

What's happening in the world is an opposing force to mass production and soulless items. We are opposing a Chinese culture of cheap, mass plastic. We are seeking items that have meaning, crafted by humans and speak individually. We are looking for a spiritual clean space. Varying away from big brazen "pop star" inclinations, all objet should create a lifestyle you find evident in white texture, and a natural personality. Look out for candles with unique custom smells, bringing out memories and nostalgia like "library" and "seaside".





International Expert KELLY HOPPEN

South African-born and London-based Kelly Hoppen is a globally-renowned designer and entrepreneur with an iconic neutral style. Her renowned interior design studio has not only created stunning interiors for the homes of an international high-profile client base, but also commercial clients such as Rhodes W1 Restaurant in London, boutique hotel Murmuri in Barcelona and most recently, LUX* Belle Mare in Mauritius. Kelly has received numerous awards and accolades throughout her career.

She has a flourishing furniture collection which has launched in over 70 stores globally. The ever-expanding Kelly Hoppen lines of product include wall art, fabrics, paints and wallpapers, candles and room scents, furniture, bathroom fittings, shutters and blinds, and a very successful line of home accessories and bed linen.

TRENDS 2013

It is now that time of year when we all begin to think about trends for the new year. The recession has had a big impact on the way people are living their lives and their core values.

Although times have changed as more people want sustainable and modern luxury, consumers are still holding on to classic and timeless pieces in order to feel a sense of comfort and meaning during these difficult times.

The juxtaposition between modern minimalism and classic elegance will play an important role in upcoming seasons. It is also important to highlight that the current generation loves travelling and taking inspiration from different countries and cultures especially as the world gets smaller. This is very much in keeping with the look I predict for 2013 which is global fusion with a return to the east meets west ideology.





Haute Glamour DAVID MUIRHEAD

Known for his high end residential and hospitality interiors David has stamped his mark of glamour and sophistication on his projects worldwide. Creating dramatic interiors and working with high profile clients, David Muirhead is an award winning name in the industry. Drawing on his love of fine art and travel for inspiration, he works closely with his team at David Muirhead and Associates which he considers family. He spreads his ethos of living life beautifully by maintaining the integrity that makes each interior not just a show piece but a true lifestyle.

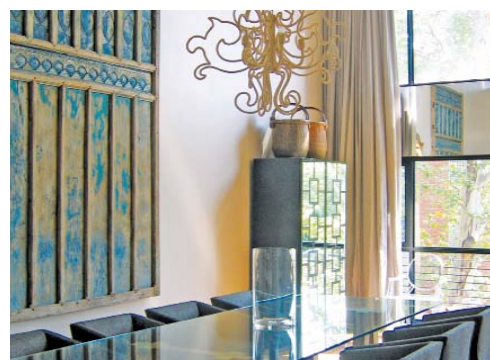
"I have a passion for antiques, fine art, travel and music. Entertaining goes hand in hand with interiors and lifestyle details are of paramount importance when entertaining. Mood and ambience is key in any interior, may it be a hotel or residential home. Interior design is an ongoing process and as we nurture our souls we should nurture, update and reinvent ourselves and our interiors on an ongoing basis. Investing in an interior is investing in a lifestyle."

TRENDS 2013

2013 is sure to be about comfort and simplicity with enormous focus on refinement and quality.

Classic modern spaces share the perfect balance on the 2013 stage, however there is a sense of 'less is more' that comes from the desire for quality rather than quantity. What would 2013 be without a sense of humour? There is sure to be something cheery and playful in the year ahead, our yearning for elements of fun and possibly an eccentric twist to our previously acclaimed perfection will add a sense of frivolity to this year of eternal optimism.

Character and personality are key in 2013 and it is essential that an interior reflect those that live in these spaces no matter what colour the canvas.



The Young Professional

SPARK INTERIORS: DANIEL CALBACHO AND PAUL MRKUSIC

Spark interiors is the new, hip design initiative resulting of a collaboration between Daniel Calbacho and Paul Mrkusic. Daniel, having a background in graphic design and marketing, and Paul a background in architecture. They offer clients a well-integrated service ranging from design consultancy to interior architecture and design for retail, corporate and residential clients.

We approach every project differently, bringing in vintage elements, but of course keeping it more modern, funky, sophisticated, fun and playful. We push people to be brave. We find that with a lot of young professionals trying to create their new home, they are afraid of making the wrong decisions. When they purchase items, we encourage them not to worry and trust their own judgement. Don't be afraid of what you like, your home is not a showroom, it should reflect your personality.

We help with a good visual eye to assist the client in making their choices. The home today can change easily, don't be scared. A wall can be painted, objects can be added and removed. We like taking

the experimental route, trying new things, encouraging the client to do the same.

Tips for smaller spaces like apartments – practicality is key. Think New York or London. Look for items with multifunctional aspects and that are aesthetically pleasing. Make use of lighter colours and large artworks.

We apply two techniques to make spaces appear larger. Firstly, photographic wallpaper creates virtual space, such as natural scenes. Secondly, mirrors and lighting are essential, for example, using roller blinds instead of heavy material curtains, will give a room a much lighter, modern and sophisticated look and feel. Our design heroes range from 1930s Hollywood to Frank Lloyd Wright.

TRENDS 2013

Juxtaposition of new and old, bringing in unique elements to reflect a certain quirk or side of personality. More neutral and fun sophistication rather than lavish opulence. More glass than ornate wood and tiles, wallpaper prints as well as combining different textures.

Colour Craze

PLASCON 2013 COLOUR FORECAST

Anne Roselt, Plascon's colour manager sheds her expertise on the colours we should look out for in the new year. In compiling the 2013 Plascon colour palette, Anne worked with both local and international advisers.

"From the gloomy economy to ecological and environmental disasters, intertwined with the excitement of sporting and cultural events, fashion and new technology – what society is really craving is balance. Trends are really a reflection of what is happening around us, and as the mood changes, so do the feelings. This forecast depicts where we see colour moving. Through the calm found in the palettes called Pause and Simplicity, or the energy of Contrast and Dare, it explores ways of using colour to create harmony and balance."

THEME ONE: SIMPLICITY

Light, white tones are taken to the next level with the judicious use of accent colours, metallic tones and textured layering. This approach to neutral colours adds a sense of interest and depth, which allows for the creation of spaces that are calm and collected, but still distinctive.

Key Influences: Everyday escape, understated elegance, modern sanctuary spaces, raw and refined, whites to calm and sooth, burnished copper and antiqued gold, rough textures, countryside sophistication, safari chic.

THEME TWO: CONTRAST

Contrast sees deep blues and greys used together to create a contemplative and grounded feeling. This is given a sense of energy with high-contrast brights like pink and yellow. The combination may be unexpected, but extremes of colour balance each other perfectly, keeping the overall effect in check.

Key Influences: Colour-defined spaces, zinc tones, mid-century nostalgia, 50s urban chic, vintage brights, dark and sumptuous backgrounds, generous sense of space, sophisticated energy, form and order, optimism.

THEME THREE: PAUSE

Pastels are updated with a grounded feeling with the addition of neutrals and greys in Pause. This collection of colours is therefore light and feminine, but still connected and mature. The overall effect hints at nostalgia, while retaining a very welcome sense of the contemporary.

Key Influences: Sorbet tones, shimmer and sparkle, Great Gatsby, 1920s femininity, cut glass, cupcake aesthetics, girlish but grownup, antiqued finishes, childhood nostalgia, dusky rose tones, powder pastels.

THEME FOUR: DARE

With a nod to retro sensibilities, shape and colour are used to their fullest in Dare. While colour-blocking makes a bold statement, the zinc-toned brights help to keep the entire look contemporary and considered, and the overall feeling is energetic without being manic.

Key Influences: Afro-chic, colour-blocked geometrics, boldly minimal, folk-inspired art and craft, saturated colour, leather and painted wood, understated warmth, berry toned purples, familiar forms, old and new, retro influences revisited. ♡