

All you need to know about everything from ergonomics to materials to lighting, with three experts in their own fields, plus 10 pages of the best products around

Tech Spec

THE EXPERTS



Maria Cheung

Head of interior design, Squire and Partners
Maria led the FX-award winning project 8 Stratton Street, a bespoke headquarters for a multinational company in Mayfair, London, and is currently working on high-end residential projects including a new-build apartment block in Primrose Hill and two new builds, also in Mayfair.

76 **Designers Judgement**

Maria takes a look at the new 2017 high-pressure laminates collection from Polrey, and casts her designer's judgement



Jill Entwistle

Editor & writer
Jill is an editor and writer who specialises in architectural lighting, following 12 years as editor of Light magazine. She has authored two Designing with Lighting books: Hotels, and Bars and Restaurants, and is an affiliate member of the International Association of Lighting Designers.

78 **Light & Tech**

It's been a long time coming, but now lighting is being recognised in special awards in this month's Surface Design Show, reports Jill



Annabelle Filer

Creative director, SCIN
Annabelle has a passion for materials and is the creative director for SCIN, the materials sourcing and research company. SCIN has just opened a new showroom/gallery in Clerkenwell with a materials library and galleries dedicated to companies specialising in materials or architectural components.

82 **Materials**

Annabelle takes a look at the emerging technology of 3D printing, and the exciting materials it is creating



Architectural moldings get the 3D printing treatment – see Materials, from page 82

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POLYREY'S 2017 COLLECTION

REVIEWED BY
MARIA CHEUNG

The new range of high-pressure laminates from Polyrey is put in front of the interior design department at Squire and Partners



When selecting a finish I look for suitability of the material quality to the application and how it could enhance the design of the space, furniture or product.

In the Polyrey 2017 collection of high-pressure laminated surfaces there is a good range of colours, textures and finishes to choose from and the exciting possibility of creating individual digital design. While some of the oversized photographic prints in the catalogue may be

a bit loud, there are horses for courses – one can imagine bold prints being suitable for retail environments where high impact is demanded while the geometric, monochromatic designs offer some urban cool, and the more subtle patterns and delicate textures might be suitable for spaces where one would linger longer.

As with similar manufacturers' products, there are a significant number of timber-effect laminates, and some of the Polyrey's collection

are pretty convincing imitations. Imitations, however, always raise the question in my mind of why pretend to be timber when, no matter how good the photographic quality, colouring and surface texture are, the edge finish, detail and repeating pattern will always highlight that it is not the true material?

The most beneficial qualities of high-pressure laminates are that they are robust and easy to maintain. As a factory-produced material, they can

also offer uniformity in colour, texture and precision that natural materials cannot. And as this 2017 range shows, there is now a wide and varied selection of designs, textures and colours to choose from, as well as bespoke options to personalise your project.

Exploiting the qualities of this material very successfully is Polyrey's Monochrom – a solid core material in black and white and in six finishes.

Being solid core allows joints and edge details to be

seamless as well as offering the possibility of patterns and shapes to be cut out of the material without revealing a different core.

I look forward to the next development where designers can create their own textures and even add layers to the lamination, which would offer depth that the digital print doesn't yet allow.

But the million dollar question has to be: would I specify it? The answer is yes, and I'd score it 7/10.



THE JUDGE

↘ Maria Cheung

Maria Cheung heads up the interior design department at Squire and Partners. She led the team for the FX Award winning project 8 Stratton Street, a bespoke headquarters for a multinational company with high-quality offices, lounges, meeting rooms and social spaces.

She is currently working on high-end residential projects including a 37-apartment new-build in Primrose Hill, London and two new builds in Mayfair.

Interior design is a passion, and what Cheung strives for in each project is to create beautiful spaces that transcend beyond their functional requirements to surprise and enhance the user's experience.

Squire and Partners is an award-winning architecture practice which has been designing and executing buildings on key sites in London and internationally for more than 35 years. The practice's approach to design assumes that every site has its own history, character and needs. Derived from a sense of place, buildings respond



Top left, Maria Cheung

Top above, 8 Stratton Street (lounge view)

Above, Spa at St Edmunds Terrace apartments, Primrose Hill

to underlying themes of materiality, scale and proportion that are common to their locations, while revealing a commitment to contemporary design and detailing.

Key projects include the award-winning headquarters for fashion band Reiss and trade union UNISON, the Mayfair House, Knightsbridge Apartments and masterplans for One Tower Bridge and Chelsea Barracks.