

# Mix Interiors

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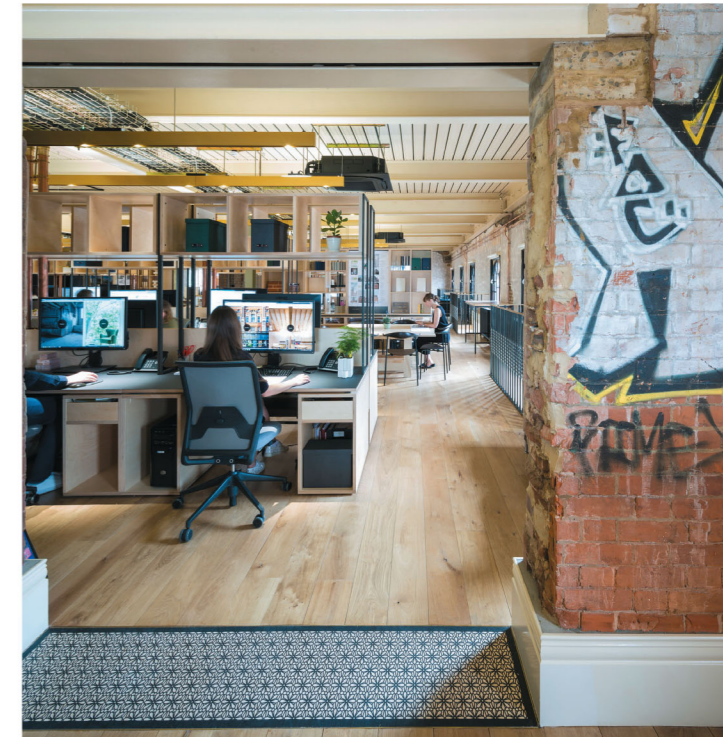
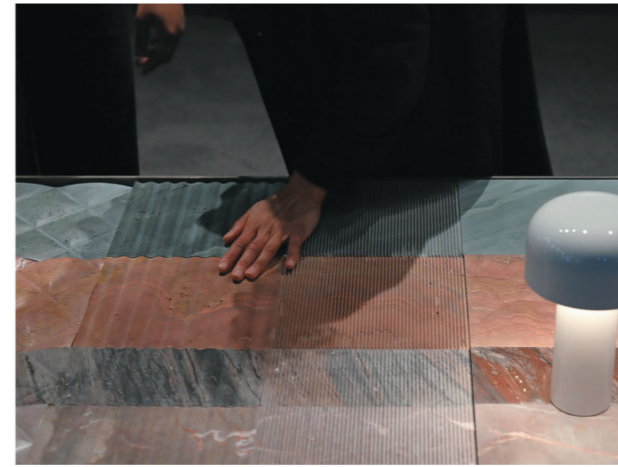




# Material Matters

*The stuff projects are made of: our industry expert's picks*

**MARIA CHEUNG** is director and head of interior design at **SQUIRE & PARTNERS**. Cheung works closely with a network of in-house departments, overseeing the studio's design direction.



## **NATURAL STONE**

Natural stone is a material that we use time and time again for bathrooms, kitchens and feature joinery. It can be very sustainable, particularly if sourced from local quarries, and if installed with foresight it can be reused. Stone can have so many different textures and finishes applied, which changes the touch and feel of the material. We embraced this with our Stone Tapestry installation for *Surface Design Show 2022*, where we highlighted innovative applications and the reuse of stone.

## **TRAMAZITE BY BASED UPON**

Tramazite is an incredible bespoke material created by *Based Upon* – made from resin infused with metals and coloured pigments. These materials are hand-worked in multiple layers, as a contemporary interpretation of ancient lacquering techniques. It has incredible depth and visual appeal. We used it for our own office reception desk and most recently at the mixed-use *Lancer Square* development in Kensington, to create a swimming pool feature wall that evokes a feeling of nature.

## **PRINTED PLYWOOD BY SQUIRE & PARTNERS**

When we reimagined *The Department Store* into our offices, we uncovered striking floor finishes such as original teak parquet flooring and a mosaic threshold. Inspired by the mosaics, we looked to construct beautiful thresholds throughout the building, in a cost effective way. Using patterns designed by *Eley Kishimoto* inspired by the building, we experimented with reprographic printing onto plywood. This technique retains the grain and texture of the timber and can be used as a surface finish for anything if protected with coats of lacquer.

## **VELVET**

Rich velvets, such as *Kvadrat's* Balboa range by *Sabco*, have great acoustic absorption, immediately make a space feel warm and add luxury and softness. We love the way that the fabric moves in the light and have been using it in the cinema spaces of our recent projects, as well as in a recent installation as a surface to display stone objects upon.