

CREATOR

A black and white fashion photograph featuring a man and a woman in a close embrace. The man, on the left, has dark hair and a light beard, looking intensely at the camera. The woman, on the right, has blonde hair and is looking slightly away from the camera. She is wearing a dark, textured garment. The background is dark and out of focus.

FASHION AND LIFESTYLE PUBLICATION

KAMINI EZRALOW BRONZE

Kamini Ezralow defines the description of a global interior designer. Her roots are in India and South Africa, but she grew up in Hong Kong where she was educated at the German school and travelled widely with her family as a child. She spent her gap year in Paris and attended University and design school in London, eventually setting up design practices both in Hong Kong and LA. For the past seven years she has been based once again in London, which offers perfect access to her clients in Europe and the Middle East, as well as excellent links to Asia and the States. A true internationalist, she is fluent in English, French and German.

It was her love of textiles that first drew her to interiors, inspired by the jewel-like saris, often embroidered with shimmering gold and silver thread, which her mother wore. She took a degree in European Studies initially, but it was on a buying trip to Delhi with her mother (who ran a home accessories store in Hong Kong) that she realised interior design was her true vocation. She studied at the InChbold School of Design in London, subsequently setting up her first business in Hong Kong. When she married her American husband, Orrin, a doctor of traditional Taoist medicine and an ordained Buddhist teacher, the couple decided to move to his home town of LA. There Kamini founded a studio called Dao Designs, which expressed much of what underpins Eastern philosophy in the context of space. As Kamini explains, "Design is not just about environment. It is about environment – the way the flow and energy of a room can make you feel".

Head-hunted to return to London as the Managing Director and Creative Director of Intarya (the interiors division of leading UK property developer, Northacre), Kamini spent six years in this role, covering the spectrum of projects from palaces, villas, townhouses and

penthouses to yachts, hotels, spas and restaurants. In this time, she grew the company from being the small, development-based interiors arm of Northacre to a high profile, international design studio in its own right. Her signature blend of clean, contemporary lines with unashamedly old-fashioned glamour won her acclaim and saw her garner awards, most notably her first yacht interior, Celestial Hope, a 47m craft built by Heesen, in which she took inspiration from the barefoot chic found in beach houses on the Hamptons. The boat won six awards, including a coveted Superyacht plaudit and the Asia Boating Award for Most Innovative Interior Design.

At the beginning of 2012, she set up her own London-based studio, Ezralow Design, with Orrin working alongside her to handle business and branding strategies. Current projects include blue chip residences in London, Dubai and Hong Kong, a boutique hotel in Europe, the complete refurbishment of a client's superyacht and a palace in Saudi Arabia. In April 2012, she also launched her first furniture collection, Bronze, at the Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan, a collaboration with Italian family firm, Orsi, which won instant plaudits. More designs for the collection will be launched at next year's Salone.

As a designer, Kamini considers one of her biggest compliments to be that so many of her clients return to her again and again, trusting both her unerring eye for design and the emphasis she puts on their very special relationship. She says, "The essence of what I do has never really changed from when I first started. I see my role as creating homes that have a positive influence on how people feel and how they live their lives. My aim with every project is not just to give the client what they want – but to give them more than they could ever have expected".





Leading interior designer, Kamini Laskow, has launched her first collection of furniture, Bronze, a collaboration with Italian family firm, Ovis. Bronze takes its name from the fact that every one of the initial eight designs features some sort of bronze detailing, often of the most subtle kind. Its impact is thus formally glamorous and yet understated, a reflection of the interior Laskow creates for her discerning, urban and international clients.

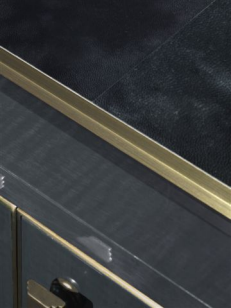
Bronze takes its inspiration from the elegance of Art Deco, but brought right up to date through masterful combinations of antiqued bronze with grey-stained teakwood, grey-stained parchment, mink, lacquer, cashmere and silk. Its clean lines, fine materials and luxurious finishes give it a timeless quality, which allow the pieces to work as harmoniously within a very pure interior as in a very grand one. It is also ergonomic, functional and comfortable. Laskow is as driven by how a room - or a chair - feels, as how it looks.





The collection is also a celebration of traditional Italian craftsmanship. Desi is located in the Calabria district of Italy, a region once renowned for its artisan heritage. Egoluso wanted to harness the talent available in the locality, in a bid to prove that luxury is no longer about a price tag, but represents quality of materials, generation-to-generation skills, and intent of design. The collection features the combined expertise of metal workers, master ironworkers, cabinet makers, wood carvers, bronzeers, lacquer workers and specialist upholsterers. The materials are also among the finest to be found in Italy including fabrics by Donghia (part of Rubelli), cashmere by Loro Piana, dyed parchment and stained glassware. However, it is Egoluso's open eye for design and confident decision that has won broader immediate acclaim. Launched at the Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan in April of this year, it attracted immediate attention from designers, buyers and the media – a huge compliment to its creator, who had previously designed furniture only for specific sites and clients, as opposed to a wider public.





The first half of the collection includes a woven-cashmere bedhead, diamond-veneer dining table, parchment-covered dining chairs, sycamore-and-parchment sideboard, crackle-finished credenza, sycamore-bedside tables, painted folding screen (by artist Piero Comandini) and a set of pedestal chairs with mirrored tops. In the future in 2013, the second part of the collection will be launched featuring upholstered chairs, coffee tables and dining tables.

For Ludlow, the opportunity to design and show her own collection of furniture is an exciting and enjoyable venture. "I have known Ono for many years, having collaborated with them on bespoke pieces for various clients. Bruce came about through a conversation we began a few years ago, but to bring it from idea to fruition is incredibly rewarding. As a designer, you hope to create something with universal appeal, but all through the process, I kept asking myself, what would I love? If like me, you are a person who appreciates that true quality and craftsmanship equates to luxury, more than price tag ever will, then Bruce is for you."







