

Pip Rich speaks to the people in the know to learn what look, colour and kit will make the biggest splash in 2023

THE 2023 TREND REPORT

The colour: aquamarine

You can't have escaped green as the most popular colour in home decor. The neutral that replaced grey in the mid 2010s as the wall shade of choice is here to stay, merely morphing from sage to olive to chartreuse. The reason for its popularity, of course, is its close links to nature, and its biophilic properties that evoke the spirit of outdoors and enhance a feeling of general wellness. "By the same token, aquamarine is the main colour my clients are asking for to use on boat interiors right now," says Jonny Horsfield, founder of creative studio H2 Yacht Design. "It reminds you of the sea and brings the outside in."

Ramon Alonso, president of design agency Radyca, agrees. "It's a colour we first started seeing in cars and is now popular in boats," he says. "It's such a relaxed shade, and because people want to be less serious now, it feels ideal for the moment we're in."

Influential design brand Edra has used aquamarine to startling effect for its Amare outdoor furniture, as cool as ice and as blue as the ocean, while Dolce & Gabbana Home has co-opted the shade into prints chosen to be reminiscent of the coastal landscape of Sicily. "Aquamarine sits well with both cooler and warmer palettes," Horsfield says. "It pops against greys and other neutrals." Ed O'Donnell, co-founder and creative director of interior design studio Angel O'Donnell, loves the shade for its mood-boosting qualities. "Its mercurial blend of green and blue is at once enlivening and calming, cooling and warming," he says. "It's a great colour for bright and playful bedrooms. It's also a great accent colour for woodwork, accessories and statement furniture. And because aquamarine has a sort of fluorescent quality to it, it's perfect for piping a cushion or chair in."



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The game changer: considered lighting

The spotlight is dead, and designers the world over are rejoicing at this news as they were longloathed by aesthetes for the unflattering glow they create. Now, people seem to be catching on that there is another way to illuminate your space. “Central lighting is over,” Alonso says, “and filling the ceiling with spotlights is out of the question. Instead, each light needs to be thought about, to be chosen because it creates drama, sets a scene, a mood or even allows for a room within a room.” This points to a wider move towards using light to create vignettes, little corners of glow that mean welcoming zones within a larger space. Designer and lighting maestro Lee Broom recently launched the Requiem series of lights that stretch almost to the floor in a standard-sized room, which he expects people to use in a corner rather than to walk around in the middle.

“This approach to lighting allows you to have different areas for different activities,” Horsfield says. “A moody cigar area, perhaps, or a brighter one for family games.” Bentley Home’s Acton lamp in moody dark glass will sit beguilingly on a ledge in the corner, while Lasvit’s Neverending Glory pendant is a sculptural installation in its own right. More is definitely more. “Even the most beautiful pendant light can appear lonely without other lights to accompany it,” says O’Donnell. “A room with table lamps, floor lamps and LEDs hidden inside handcrafted shelving and recessed ceilings can take on different moods with just the flick of a switch.”

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Clockwise from top left: Lasvit Neverending Glory; Alkhor, designed by Luxury Projects; Lee Broom Requiem Globe; Lasvit Transmission floor lamp; Galaxy, designed by Njord by Bergman Design House; Bentley Home Acton lamp. Opposite page: Lusine’s main deck saloon





Top and bottom: Moonstone, designed by Luxury Projects. Above: chair on Galaxy. Below: Versace Home Iconic coffee and side table



The look: future-stalgia

From its sense of hedonism to the pairing of unexpected colours, the 1970s has been influencing interiors for the past couple of years. Internationally acclaimed designers such as Bryan O'Sullivan, Maddux Creative and LALA Reimagined have been embracing curved sofas, bubble chairs and velvet fabrics in rich, deep hues, while floral prints and even coloured sanitary ware have been making a comeback. But for 2023 we're going back to the future, as influences keep hold of the best of the disco era and layer a modern sensibility over the top. "Future-stalgia is about taking the most fun parts of the past and moving them forward by adding in some positive energy," says trend forecaster and international designer Jane Boddy. "Take 180 House as a prime example." One of Soho House's latest locations opened on the Strand in London and has been influencing design directions ever since. It's full of warm browns, caramel tones and raspberry-coloured upholstery. "And it feels soft, fuzzy, almost delicious, like a peach," Boddy says. She refers to these hues as "digital tones", which feel very "current, very bright, very energising and right now." She suggests decorating with orange, yellow and kumquat, "which is a bit avant-garde and has a sour neon-ness to it". Future-stalgia is a vibe being embraced by Versace Home, ICE International rugs and the subtle but no less sumptuous Lipari sheet set at Quagliotti. It's an aesthetic that allows creativity to run wild, and it results in an inviting space where only good times will ever be had.



From top: Quagliotti's Lipari sheet set; ICE International rug; Versace Home Aeternitas love bed; ICE International rug; Versace Home Venus armchair; 180 House



PHOTOGRAPHY: JACK HARDY; COURTESY OF SOHO HOUSE; ICE INTERNATIONAL; VERSACE HOME; QUAGLIOTTI; COURTESY OF AMELS; LAURA POMONI

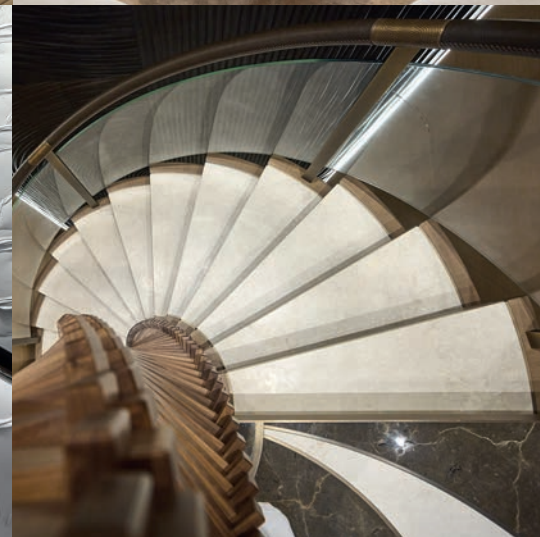
Opposite page: Galaxy's main deck saloon exudes future-stalgia



"Future-stalgia is about taking the most fun parts of the past and moving them forward by adding some positive energy"



Clockwise from here:
finishes on Lusine; Acala's
master cabin; Acala's
saloon; Summit Furniture's
Arc bar cart; Sutherland's
Franck lounge chair;
Annabella, designed by
Liaigre; Visionnaire's
Astrid chair

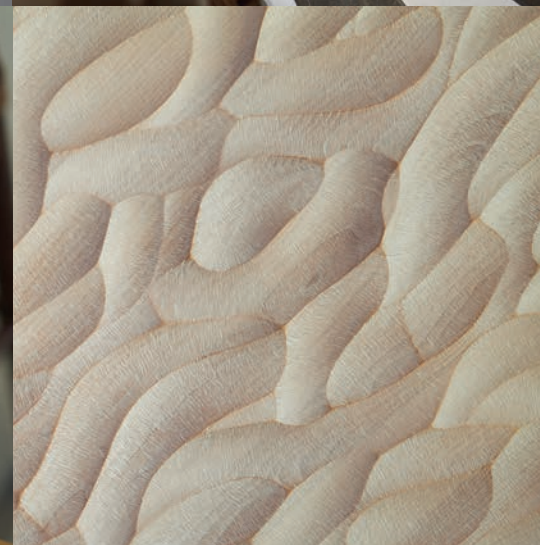


The finish: matt surfaces

"If there is one overarching trend, it's that we're now in an age of the flip flop, not the high heel," says Horsfield of Hz. "And what I mean is that people generally want to feel much more casual, more relaxed, more at home. As a direct result of this, matt surfaces are having a moment, stealing focus from the highly lacquered woods that have been all anyone wanted for years. Natural finishes are much more informal." Alonso of Radyca enjoys the subtleties that come from a matt surface. "They're like a nice, elegant Loro Piana suede shoe," he says. "They have some brightness to them and feel elevated, but you have to look carefully to really discover it and notice all the different textures within." He suggests that the best way to approach matt is to mix it with a bit of gloss, too. "It's about the balance," he says. "Rather than having five different textures I'd stick to just a few materials in a couple of different textures, so your overall effect is one of a relaxed, continuous flow."



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The Franck collection by Sutherland is the perfect case in point, gently angled outdoor chairs just made for reclining, laid-back in their natural teak finish. Summit Furniture's Arc collection is made to gather round a table for long lunches, while Visionnaire's Astrid chair, in deep, rich grey fabric, shows how to mix a more matt finish with just a hint of a gleam from its legs.



PHOTOGRAPHY: DAVID CHURCHILL; CHRISTOPHER SCHOLEY; LEONARDO ANDREONI;
JACK HARDY; GUILLAUME PULSON; WINCH DESIGN; COURTESY OF PERENNIALS
AND SUTHERLAND; MARK SELEN/STUDIO LIAIGRE/ SANLORENZO; LEONARDO
ANDREONI; VISIONNAIRE; AMELIS; BLUE IPROD.

The pattern: ripple effects

This is a trend towards organic shapes, a softening of everything from corners to edges. And that has led to ripple effects on everything – rugs, sofa ends, even ceilings. In fact, especially ceilings, because they tend to be low on yachts, having something you want to touch when it's easily within reach is really attractive, Horsfield says. "Rippled textures take their lead very clearly from the sea, and that's why we focus so seriously on surfacing and forging that link to the ocean. We use them in gyms, where quite heavy machinery is on display, to

help create a more soothing vibe." Victorious, the 85-metre explorer he designed, is a good example of this. And ripples are making waves everywhere. "Rippling pendant lights, rippled sofas, sculptural tables, wavy-patterned rugs, contoured chairs, to name a few," says O'Donnell. "Organic shapes – things that oscillate and flow – create movement and visual interest." The Transcendent collection at luxe rug makers Tai Ping shows this off perfectly, while the Frick rug at Luxence Luxury Living seems to move as light travels across it.

Top row: Victorious, Kenshō, Come Together. Middle row: Lusine, Come Together, Ahpo. Bottom row: Come Together (left and centre), Galaxy





* Alkhor's beach club has been designed by Luxury Projects with natural matt finishes fit for the "age of the flip-flop, not the high heel", as designer Jonny Horsfield puts it



PHOTOGRAPHY: PREVIOUS PAGES: LEONARDO ANDREONI, THESE PAGES: CAMPER & NICHOLSON INTERNATIONAL
COURTESY OF ESIGO, BLUE IPOD; MAURIZIO PARADISI; AHJOY CLUB



Clockwise from left: Audrey the First, designed by Mark Whiteley; Victorious, designed by H2 Yacht Design; Coral Ocean, following her 2022 refit, redesigned by the owner; Esigo custom wine cabinet; Resilience, designed by Team For Design - Enrico Gobbi



The kit: wine displays

It seems that no yacht is complete these days without using a wine cabinet as a room divider. With access from both sides, you can just about see through them, and they are often being placed between dining and living areas as a semi-partition. Horsfield says that all three of the yachts he's currently working on feature them in some way, shape or form, and they were previously seen on his influential *Victorious*. "Keeping wine on a boat is not easy," he says.

"Ships are like expensive washing machines - they'll churn your drinks no end. So it's about not just having your wine within easy reach, but also making sure it's secure." These cabinets are made of glass and lit from within, so that the bottles glow like jewels. Think of them like a wine cellar that you don't have to go below deck for, and turn to Italian brand Esigo as the makers of the ultimate floor-to-ceiling pieces of kit.

Above: the wine bar on Octopus, after her 2021 refit





“People are really craving a connection with the ocean, more than ever before”



Clockwise from top left: Galaxy's gym;Technogym Skillmill; Coral Ocean's indoor/outdoor gym; Ahpo's upper deck gym, designed by Nuvolari Lenard; Resilience's massage room and gym. Opposite page: Project X's gym is on the sundeck with 360-degree views



The lifestyle: gyms with a view

With physical and mental wellness continuing to be at the forefront of all our minds, it's no surprise that the superyacht gym continues to evolve. It's now taking centre stage and being placed in more prominent positions on top decks. “People are really craving a connection with the ocean, more than ever before,” says Ramon Alonso. “So gyms, the space where they want to really feel good, are coming up to the

upper deck, with doors that open and close completely so there is no barrier to the view.” He notes that the equipment continues to get more involved too; Technogym Skillmill is like a treadmill on steroids, while Hermès is finding a way to up the fashion ante with the launch of the new HermèsFit collection, made to exercise in, sure, but to be seen in, too. ■