

LONDON NOTEBOOK

Not to be missed in the capital this month...

1. GREAT OUTDOORS This annual event enables you to step inside the city's private gardens, squares and rooftop hideaways. This year's highlights include the historic gardens of Bell House in Dulwich, kitchen gardens created on a disused railway platform at Kensington Olympia and Oasis Farm in Waterloo, with its private walled garden designed by Dan Pearson. £15 in advance until 8 May; £20 on the day. 8 & 9 June, opensquares.org.



2. HOMECOMING H&M's growing interiors offering sees the opening of a second standalone store, housing a range of on-trend collections. Find tables, storage, stools, mirrors and pendant lights in a variety of contemporary styles. We love the metal-framed wooden garden furniture, pictured centre left – ideal for summer dining. H&M Home, 208 Regent Street, W1B 5BD, 0344 736 9000, hm.com.



3. CAPRI STYLE Maximalism is the buzz word of the day at the latest outpost of cool Parisian restaurant group Big Mamma, whose first opening across the Channel is a riot of colour and more-is-more interiors. A throwback to old-school Capri trattorias, Gloria shakes up its east London industrial setting with sunshine-yellow awnings, ivy-covered walls and terracotta pots overflowing with greenery. Gloria, 54-56 Great Eastern Street, EC2A 3QR, bigmammagroup.com.



4. BOTANICAL BEAUTY Plant lovers in the know will be familiar with the amazing array of indoor palms and succulents curated by horticulturalist Jin Ahn at Conservatory Archives, housed in a former Hackney ironmonger's. Now Jin and her partner Giacomo have opened another outpost in Clapton, full of tropical plants, vintage pots and quirky accessories. Conservatory Archives, 3-7 Lower Clapton Road, E5 0NS, 07470 641306 and 493-495 Hackney Road, E2 9ED, 07444 760607, conservatoryarchives.co.uk.



5. MARY QUANT This utterly compelling exhibition charts the journey of one of the key faces of the Swinging Sixties. Unseen pieces from Mary Quant's personal archive, plus more than 200 garments and accessories including the miniskirts, hot pants, vibrant tights and make-up that made her name, trace how the fashion designer started a revolution on the British high street. Until Feb 2020. £12. V&A, Cromwell Road, SW7 2RL, 020 7942 2000, vam.ac.uk.



6. FORM & FUNCTION Contemporary kitchen brand Poggenpohl has opened a Tunbridge Wells store. Housed in an elegant period building, it has all the latest ranges arranged in inspiring roomsets. Pictured is the +MODO, featuring shelving space between worktop and base cabinetry, price on request. Poggenpohl Tunbridge Wells, 39-41 The Pantiles, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 5TE, 01892 240745, tunbridgewells.poggenpohl.com.

7. PAINT THE TOWN Little Greene has opened its second store in the capital. The Chelsea showroom features the brand's full paint and wallpaper collections, a large format colour wall, a handy consultancy service and an on-site tinting and mixing machine for instant purchases. Look out for its latest wallpaper range – we love the Bedford Square Acorn, £73 a roll, shown. 310 King's Road, SW3 5UH, 020 7935 8844, littlegreene.com.



SPOTLIGHT ON...

Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour



(From top) The iconic domes; a space in the GP&J Baker showroom, created by Ben Pentreath; Halo pendant and the Glacier and Arctic lamps by Bella Figura; Avior pendant by O&A London at Thibault Van Renne; Hugo table by Ventura.



Beloved by designers and interiors addicts alike, Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour is a treasure trove of fabrics, furniture, lighting, wallcoverings, accessories, kitchens and bathrooms. This summer, its offering is enhanced with expanded showrooms, new brands and a redevelopment of the centre itself, in the shape of an impressive Design Avenue, connecting the domes directly with Design Centre East.

Reworked stores include a makeover for Stark Carpet, combining clean lines, subdued lighting, concrete floors and walnut finishes. A new store for Bella Figura puts craftsmanship first, with handmade furniture displaying the brand's lighting. Meanwhile, be inspired by the artisanal beauty of Edelman Leather's new collections, displayed against a backdrop of understated white oak, marble, glass and antiqued brass. And Fox Linton's newly expanded showroom has been reimaged to show its fabrics alongside new furniture by master craftsman Stuart Scott and statement lights by CTO Lighting.

Don't miss the latest arrivals:

- Rug specialist Thibault Van Renne showcases an array of handcrafted rugs in an art gallery setting.
- Ireland's bespoke furniture brand Ventura opens its first London showroom replete with directional headboards, lighting installations and luxury fabrics.
- Nina's Apartment brings to life interior designer Nina Campbell's wit and flair in a domestic setting.
- New pop-up Turnell & Gigon at Home, designed by Katharine Pooley, is inspired by *The Great Gatsby*.

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9166, dcch.co.uk.