



MY LONDON

Design journalist and curator **Max Fraser** shares his passion for ergonomic homeware and Moorish food



Secret address? I'm a fan of the **JASPER MORRISON SHOP**, a tiny retail space linked to the designer's studio in Shoreditch. It's a

sort of anti-retail exercise as there is no street window – only a black door with a buzzer. If you favour simple, well-designed objects, you'll love it here.

Favourite corner of the city? I grew up in north London and remain on that side of the river. My life is mostly focused on central and eastern parts, living as I do in EC2 at the brutalist Barbican estate. **THE BARBICAN**, is not only architecturally iconic, it's extremely well-located and surprisingly quiet for central London.

New kid on the block? I'm a big fan of **LEAH JENSEN**, a ceramicist whose work is so labour intensive that she can only produce a certain number of her vases each year. She meticulously carves facets into the surface of wet clay which creates a relief effect that catches the light at subtly different angles. I admire anyone with the patience to work with such extended amounts of concentration on such beautiful objects that will last forever.

Hidden gem? Many hidden gems are hiding in plain sight. **THE PRIORY**

CHURCH OF ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT is a recent discovery for me. Founded in 1123, it sits nobly in the centre of the city and has a chequered history of damage, repair and destitution.

Supper to remember? I love **MORO** on Exmouth Market in Clerkenwell – its food is Moorish-inspired and never fails to deliver amazing flavour with no pretensions. The lamb dishes are heavenly and the restaurant's space is simply designed.

Favourite hotel? I like a hotel to feel markedly different from my home but I do want to feel welcome and comfortable, so small, independent hotels are often the way to go. I like **HENRIETTA HOTEL** in Covent Garden for its or prime yet quiet location, while **ZETTER TOWNHOUSE** in Clerkenwell is cosy and a bit 'British quaint' with great food options nearby.

Best autumn hangout? At the end of September, there is a renewed energy in the city after the relative quiet of August. The place is buzzing and new ideas are being unveiled, especially during **100% DESIGN**, which showcases new products, refreshing innovations and pioneering talents for all to discover. *Max Fraser, content editor, 100% Design, 19 to 22 September; 100percentdesign.co.uk.*



FROM TOP LEFT The Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great; *The Vision of Rimini* by Leah Jensen; Zetter Townhouse bedroom suite; Barbican Centre. **RIGHT** Henrietta Hotel lobby bar. **BELOW** Tableware from the Jasper Morrison Shop

