

The
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AUTUMN
EDIT

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H&M INTERIORS

Tom Cox, co-founder

“For this project, we used a glazed partition in a large room to meet the brief of finding a

middle ground between open-plan living and separate rooms. We like to use glazed partitions as they define areas and create clever spaces within a space. They are also visually more interesting than a fully open-plan layout and afford beautiful views from one room to another, allowing light to flow throughout.

In this kitchen and living area, we reconfigured a Georgian shopfront, adding reclaimed window panes for authenticity. It’s always key for us to layer interiors with art, antiques and intriguing objects to create interest and reflect character.

Atmospheric lighting, too, was a focus. Where electricians often encourage vast numbers of spotlights, we prefer using decorative lighting, such as interesting flush lights for low-ceiling heights, picture lights for highlighting art, and table lamps for softness, making sure to always add dimmers to create further mood.”

LEFT Innovative use of waist-height glass partitioning and atmospheric lighting both delineate and unite two separate uses of space within the same living area.



STEPHENSON WRIGHT

Natalie Stephenson and Juliette Wright, founders

“This large double-aspect sitting room was notable in that it had a fireplace at one end, and a television at the other, raising the question as to which way the seating should face. We approached the issue by placing seating ‘in the round’. Positioning the sofas in a U-shape formation, we would be able to offer the option of both aspects for the clients and their guests when the room is in use.

In this seating arrangement, drawing the furniture slightly away from the walls poses an issue when it comes to positioning electric sockets for the table lamps, so floor boxes were set into the floor under the sofas. This required precision planning. We also had to very carefully make a tiny incision into the rug to slot wires through neatly away from sight.

The room also had relatively low ceilings which made it feel cosy, however, we wanted to introduce elegance and a feeling of space. We did this by fitting the curtain poles at ceiling height to create a long drop of fabric – we chose a silk-wool blend which we know drapes well in columns. All the curtains and blinds are electrified for ease of use. Further work on the lighting system, with the help and advice of Future Light Design, enabled us to drop the ceiling slightly to accommodate modern pinpricks of light for perfect layers, which worked to highlight key areas.

Storage-wise, a requirement for space was paramount, so additional storage was designed in the form of sideboards to either side of the fireplace, along with joinery around the television to display a selection of the family’s collected treasures.” ▶

ABOVE At one end of the double-aspect room the furniture placement focuses the eye on the fireplace, flanked by sideboards that cleverly conceal additional storage.

BELOW Bespoke cabinetry beneath and surrounding the television works to conceal family items and display art and collected pieces.

