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ELLE DECORATION

SOUTH AFRICA

**INSIDE A
STATEMENT
JO'BURG
HOME**

25
Covetable
Kitchen
Looks

**SOUTH
AFRICA**
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THE *Art of* DESIGN
Global Inspiration, African Style



'All the interest continues to fall on our continent – and with good reason. Design and art are thriving here'

It's opportune that as we wrapped up this issue, the DECO team was preparing to head to Milan for the world's biggest design fair, Salone del Mobile, not only to take note of the latest releases in furniture, lighting, bathroom and kitchen innovation, and – always a favourite – the intersections between interiors and fashion (watch out for our in-depth report-back), but also to attend the ELLE DECO International Design Awards (EDIDA).

We got the scoop on the EDIDA winners just in time to make it into our May issue, a round-up of design – both global and local; then there were the star-struck moments when meeting some of these luminaries in person at the fabulous awards ceremony at the city's Teatro dell'Arte. For me, the chance to socialise and share ideas with my fellow Editors-in-Chief from the other 24 DECO titles around the world was particularly valued, especially as we look ahead and build on the strengths gained by our proudly South African edition's 20 years in publishing.

All the interest continues to fall on our continent – and with good reason. Design and art are thriving here, and it's often a lack of resources or access to even the most basic funding and marketing that can be the drivers of the sort of creativity that stands out for its sheer energy and originality. The same applies to the industries found at Jo'burg's newest cultural hot spot, Victoria Yards, where a bevy of artisans and artists have set up studios – from well-known names like Blessing Ngobeni and David Krynauw to an entirely new crop on the verge of being discovered.

You'll see more of that exuberance in Jo'burg entrepreneur Metse Phiyega's knockout home by Egg Designs, while Soweto-born chef Wandile Mabaso's visually dazzling and utterly delicious culinary creations will blow you away! It's all proof that the best of the best is right here on our doorstep.

Leigh

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PHOTOGRAPH ADAM LETCH



NANA OCRAN

London-based Nana is a writer, a lecturer and the Managing Editor of the British Council UK's People's Stories Project. She's currently developing an initiative with it to identify new, non-fiction, arts-related stories and commentary by young writers in Africa.

Her recent travels took her to Marrakesh for the 1:54 Contemporary Art Fair – see her report on it on p26.



ANJI CONNELL

An interior architect and landscape designer, Anji trained at the Inchbald School of Design in London. She now lives and works between the UK, Hong Kong and SA, with projects taking her further afield to the USA. When she's not documenting her travels on Instagram, she writes for *Pro Landscaper* magazine, and was the ideal person to compile DECO's guide to Hong Kong on p112.



KHOLEKA KUMALO

This Durban-born, Johannesburg-based freelancer dreams of being a pianist, makes a living from writing and editing, and is fuelled by music, food and love. In this month's issue, she writes about the life and times of the late Bra Hugh Masekela and honours the legacy of this great South African jazz pioneer on p126.

LIVING

TRAVEL • FOOD • DRINKS • GARDENS • PEOPLE



PHOTOGRAPH BELINDA BATH

Explore Hong Kong's bustling streets (p112), take a sneak peak inside the coolest new designer hotels (p122) or plan the perfect Winelands break (p116). Celebrate the best of local with Michelin-trained chef Wandile Mabaso (p118) and music legend Bra Hugh Masekela (p126).



(From left) Kowloon by night, Wong Tai Sin Temple and incense detail

TAI HANG

Charming, and one of Hong Kong's best-kept secrets, Tai Hang's quaint streets are packed with cute little restaurants, bars and tea shops. **Second Draft** gastropub has locally brewed craft beers and creative cocktails. Explore **Minimal**, a tiny vintage decor shop, then have tea and cake at the **Hello Kitty Café**. **Elementary**, which offers a contemporary Australian menu in a laid-back, industrial-style space.



Hong Kong's harbour and Star Ferry

Culture Club

Hong Kong's vibrant neighbourhoods offer a dizzying choice of cool restaurants, bars, shopping and sight-seeing, especially when explored with the guidance of local interior designer Anji Connell

TEXT ANJI CONNELL PHOTOGRAPHS BELINDA BATH

Hong Kong is an intoxicating mix of old and new, where East and West collide. It's a modern city intensified by the richness of an ancient society that's at once beguiling and exciting. Beyond its urban heart and vertiginous neon-lit skyline is an abundance of beautiful beaches framed by lush, verdant mountains. In its teeming streets, super-sleek boutiques, bars and restaurants sit side by side with hole-in-the-wall printing presses and Chinese medicine emporia. Its booming art scene is best signified by a gleaming new tower dedicated to art and lifestyle: the world's first vertical art gallery, H Queen's, which proudly proclaims Hong Kong's confident bid for cultural attention. This energy and the high costs of space in the central business district have encouraged gallerists, artists, designers and chefs to migrate outside the central area, creating cool new neighbourhoods. The colonisation of discarded factories and warehouses in the city's gritty industrial fringe has, in turn, resulted in a flourishing loft scene.

Typical colourful Hong Kong low-rise buildings in To Kwa Wan



Dragon Festival, (opposite) Temple Street market



WAN CHAI

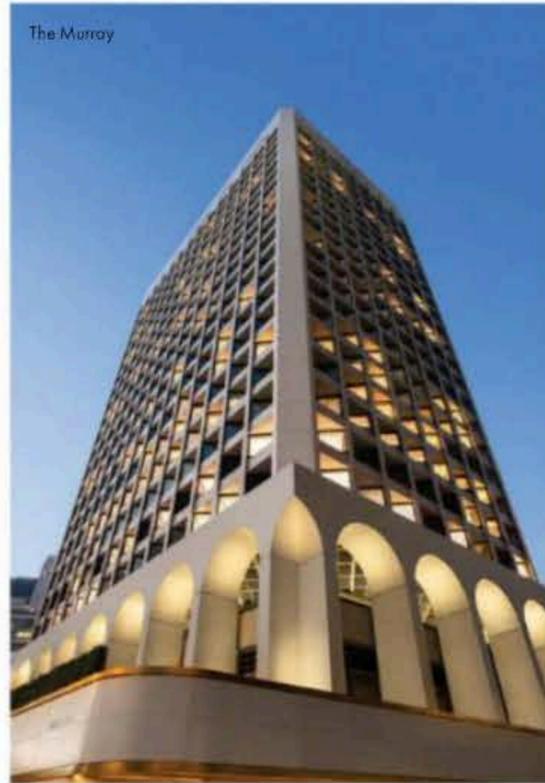
Hong Kong's former red-light district, now gentrified, has countless fabulous restaurants. Star Street Precinct is its coolest quarter, a funky area overflowing with design-driven lifestyle stores, bars and small trendy eateries. **Wanchai market** is a visual feast for the eyes. Better still, wander around Cross Street and shop with the locals. Join the queue at **22 Ships** for Jason Atherton's take on inventive Spanish tapas seated around a bar where you can see all the cooking action. Spend the night in the heart of Wan Chai at **The Fleming**, an urban boutique hotel inspired by Hong Kong's iconic cross-harbour ferries.

Bookmark **Catch** for a fabulous brunch in Kennedy Town, not too far away, or have a bite at **Chino** which does modern Mexican using Japanese ingredients. Stop for a nightcap at **Missy Ho**, a tiny, eclectic bar with graffiti, Chinese ceramics, swings and a dressing-up box. Or head to Sai Ying Pun for a gin and tonic at **Ping-Pong Gintoneria**, named after its premises in an old ping-pong supply store.



CENTRAL DISTRICT

Pop in for drinks at **Please Don't Tell**, a tiny bar at the Landmark Mandarin Oriental Hotel. Enter through a phone box by dialling 1 and find green felt walls, taxidermy, cosy booths and pretty mean cocktails. Or partake of a restorative libation at **Dr Fern's Gin Parlour**, a hidden bar in the Landmark. Go for *dim sum* and fine Cantonese fare at the Michelin-starred **Duddells**, with interiors designed by Ilse Crawford and a clubby atmosphere. **Sevva** remains a chic stalwart for fine dining with 360° city views. Be sure to visit **JOYCE boutique**, a fashion-maven destination with secret VIP rooms, while **Lane Crawford** interiors stores in Pacific Place and IFC are where you'll find the best of contemporary furniture, lighting and *objets*. Rest your weary head at achingly cool, minimalist hotel **Tuve**, or at the newly opened **The Murray**, Foster and Partners' re-imagined 1960s Hong Kong landmark.



The Murray

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OF THE MURRAY; DUDDELLS; JOYCE BOUTIQUE



Duddells



Hong Kong harbour



Ho Lee Fook

SHEUNG WAN

Put on your comfy shoes and explore this quiet, laid-back hipster haunt that straddles busy Hollywood Road in Central. Wandering its hills and lanes, you'll discover quirky design shops, as well as independent coffee bars and restaurants that edge up to walls of street art around every corner. Go rummaging through the shops and stalls of Cat Street, Upper Lascar Row, for antiques, Mao-era memorabilia and propaganda posters. Tai Ping Shan Street, meaning 'the mountain of peace', is a bucolic area with more galleries, cool cafés and bars, and some of Hong Kong's oldest temples. **Ho Lee Fook** (meaning 'good fortune for your mouth') is a funky Chinese kitchen that's full of quirky details, such as its 'wall of lucky cats' and comic-like illustrations by local artist Jonathan Jay Lee that entirely capture the feel of Hong Kong. **ChaChaWan** is a must for its über-cool Issan Thai cuisine, while **Bibo** offers French gastronomy amid art from some of the world's most renowned street artists. The tranquil PoHo area offers even more quirky dining and shopping spots, such as **Teakha** for tea and pastries.



Kwan Yam temple in Ping Shan

Ho Lee Fook

WONG CHUK HANG

Explore Wong Chuck Hang's art galleries, eateries and designer spaces in unassuming industrial buildings. Visit **Casa Capriz** for vintage Italian furniture, **Manks** for modern Scandi design and European antiques, and **Mirth Home** for colourful bohemian finds. **The Edit/Editecture** is an independent fashion boutique in a voluminous space. End the shopping spree with a sky-high tippie at **Above**, Ovolo Hotel's trendy rooftop bar.



Wong Tai Sin Temple



Iconic Hong Kong taxis



Dim sum



Joyce boutique

DON'T MISS

Eat at one of Hong Kong's legendary *dai pai dong*s, open-air cooking hawker stalls which are famous for churning out delicious local dishes at high speed and rock-bottom prices. **Sing Heung Yuen** on Gough Street serves its iconic macaroni-and-tomato soup with options; pork chop or beef with a fried egg on top. **Get an invite** to the members-only China Club. **Ride the star ferry**; the journey back has breathtaking city views day and night. Go in daylight, return in darkness and experience the stunning light show, *A Symphony of Light*, in all its glory. **Travel with the locals in a ding dong** [tram] to enjoy Hong Kong at a slow pace (not much else is slow in Hong Kong!). Sleep over at **Little Tai Hang**, a contemporary home away from home in Tai Hang.