



The BIG picture

Lisa Keates won Residential Interior Designer of the Year at the 2014 Northern Design Awards. Her entry was a stunning interiors project on a Grade II listed Georgian Hall in Cheshire. Her own home is a quirky, yet comfortable cottage, overlooking the Bridgewater Canal in Preston Brook

1 My award: it's a very pretty glass sculpture that tapers to a point on top and I'm terrified of breaking it. It will find its permanent home in my office, where large dogs (Lisa and her husband have a blonde lurcher, a rescue dog, called Bailey) and small children (their daughter, Willow) can't touch it!

2 I made this myself; it's a collection of keys taken from all the homes I've lived in over the years. It includes the keys from old clocks owned by my grandfather. It's a nice way to hold onto keepsakes, I think.

3 I made these cushions especially for this room; they're Dedar fabric with a mother-of-pearl button design. I wanted to bring an element of fun to the room and the choice of eclectic fabrics helps do that.



4 This is an antique Juju hat. It came originally from Cameroon and is a feather tribal head-dress. I found this one in an antiques shop on the Kings Road, Chelsea. It's faded and battered, but I love the exuberance. I just used one of these, made from spotted Guinea Fowl feathers, in a design. It's so dramatic.

5 In front of the Juju hat is an Indonesian wedding mask. My husband and I bought this in Ubud, Bali, on our honeymoon.

6 I have a bit of a thing for old dining chairs. I pick them up in flea markets and bric-a-brac shops and renovate them. I move them around the house, which is starting to fill up! We don't have a favourite seat, it's more a case of which is safest to sit on!

7 We make a big batch of damson gin every September. I bottle it up and it's makes a lovely gift to take to dinner, or for friends at Christmas.

8 These tables are my in-house joke. I bought them from a cheap and cheerful warehouse in Clitheroe that imports all kinds of stuff from China- not a place you'll find many interior designers shopping!

9 I call this my survivor sofa. We had only had Bailey a few days when we went out and left him home alone. On our return he'd completely destroyed this and most of the rest of the downstairs too. I had it re-covered by Mirmac, who I use for many of my projects, and it looks as good as new!

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Lisa Keates of Keates Interiors of Cheshire