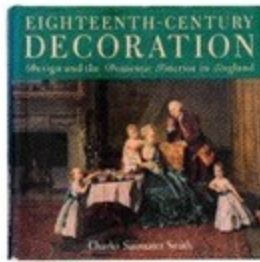


SELF PORTRAIT

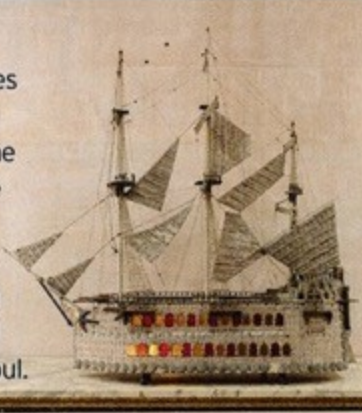
Charles Saumarez Smith's book **EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY DECORATION** is a constant source of inspiration for me. It is a collection of paintings that illustrate period interiors. The fantastic colours are a helpful guide when I am choosing a palette for a room.



Last year I bought a fantastic Windsor **ARMCHAIR** from Robert Young at Masterpiece. It is a peculiar amalgam of design - halfway between country chair and city chair. It has yet to arrive, but is going to go into my snug.



The **ANTIQU** **TRADE** today faces many challenges. Sourcing has become even harder and we have to find special pieces, such as this model galleon from 1930, that have real beauty or a lot of soul.



It was after a conversation with Michael S Smith that I came to realise that one should not be disheartened by compromise. The needs of the house, the client and the restrictions of the budget all push your creativity.

I understand why some people have a problem with **REPRODUCTION PIECES**, but if they are faithful copies of well-chosen originals and made using the same techniques and materials, like Jamb's chimneypieces, they can be a dream. They allow us to have beautiful designs that are not available or frighteningly expensive.

I didn't really start doing anything creative until my twenties, when I was living in Mid Wales with a group of hippies. A guy there used to make furniture out of remnants of old barns. It was dreadful, but I thought it was fantastic and it inspired me to go off to furniture college to train as a cabinet maker.



I love the way **HOWARD HODGKIN** uses colour, and his abstract patterns. There is currently an exhibition exploring his love affair with India at the Victoria Art Gallery in Bath.



My go-to **PAINTS** are from Edward Bulmer - they have beautiful colours (such as 'Brick', pictured). And Claremont **FABRICS** are the best (such as 'Milton Damask', pictured).

Max Rollitt

THE INTERIOR DESIGNER AND ANTIQUE DEALER PAINTS A PICTURE OF HIS LIFE, WORK AND INSPIRATIONS

I have four sons: my eldest, Laurie, is an illustrator; Ed has just left school and is working for Sue Townsend at Ortigia; and Alf and Will are still at school. We are also the guardians of a boy named Stephen, whose parents live in Hong Kong. He goes to school with my sons and has become part of the family.

My love of **CYCLING** began in my teens, when in the holidays I would tour the country with my friends, staying in youth hostels. I saw a lot of England and enjoyed the independence. The next journey will be from Munich to Verona over the Alps. I have a titanium American bike, a Litespeed, which is now old by modern standards ☐

