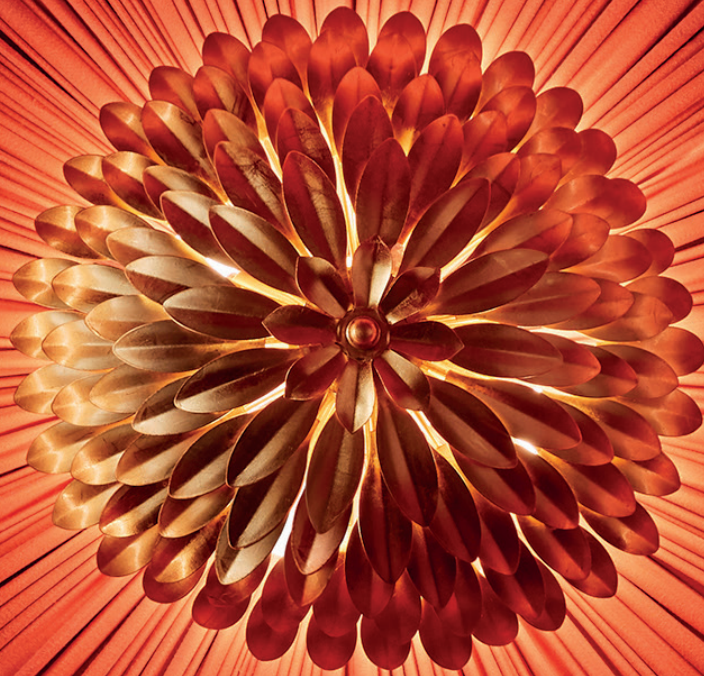


# SPACE

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL DESIGN

Nov/Dec 2024



PEOPLE

|

PLACES

|

PROJECTS

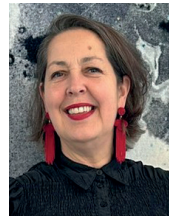
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PRODUCTS

# KATE MITCHELL

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR, NEWH UK CHAPTER

Growing up in Glasgow with creative parents, a degree in textile design at Glasgow School of Art was a natural path for Kate Mitchell. Today, she balances two prominent roles: as the Commercial Lead for the innovative textile design studio, Timorous Beasties, and as the Scholarship Chair for the NEWH UK Chapter. As the focus turns to the 2025 Student Awards, SPACE magazine caught up with Kate to discuss her dual career, which fuses design, business, and education



**H**ow and when did you first become aware of the NEWH? My original introduction to NEWH was back in 2001 when Pam McMahon moved from the US and set up the UK Chapter. It was so long ago that I honestly can't remember what part I played, or even if the board members had such defined roles back then – apart from the directors. I just remember that it felt good to be in a room sharing ideas with inspiring and enthusiastic women from our industry. What I do remember was being part of a networking organisation that felt different. It was established by women to foster and grow connections within the hospitality industry, but on top of that there was an end goal and focus, to support and educate. I joined the board again last year and really wanted to be part of the scholarship team. I found attending the annual Fundraiser event so inspiring and emotional – in a happy way of course! To see these talented students have their work recognised and applauded by industry professionals was very special.

The Chapter is run by a passionate and committed team who are always on hand to introduce and support new members.

**What is the core message you wish to convey as NEWH Scholarship Chair?**

As part of the scholarship team, our message is that the hospitality industry itself is at the core and is what drives the purpose of the NEWH. That purpose is to educate, support and nurture talented students with a passion to be part of the hospitality industry. Potential NEWH members can be involved in this rewarding process at the same time as making friends, making connections and most importantly, making a difference.

**With the 2024 awards over, when will you start to focus on next year's scholarship?**

We officially announce the scholarship programme and will reach out to universities early Spring 2025 – but focus for the next year's scholarship is constant. Through our hospitality network, the scholarship team and the NEWH board are continually speaking with key figures in the industry to find judges, student mentors and sponsors to support future scholarship events.

**Having seen first-hand, how much time and effort goes into running NEWH, how do you fit it all in?**

Working full time means that time I focus on NEWH commitments in the evenings or at weekends. However, the NEWH UK Chapter is made up of the most amazing bunch of busy people who are hugely supportive to each other so there's always a helping hand whenever you reach out.

**Could you tell us a little about your professional role as Commercial Lead at Timorous Beasties?**

I've worked in the hospitality design industry for over 30 years and have been with Timorous Beasties for the last 13 years. Sometimes it's a bit like a more grown-up extension of art school as Timorous Beasties' founders and I all studied together at Glasgow School of Art and have known each other longer than we haven't! My role involves seeking out new business opportunities and collaborations, supporting our global brand partners and working closely with our UK branded showrooms. Following a successful opening of a new Edinburgh showroom, we are excited to have relocated our London showroom to the heart of Clerkenwell on Britton Street. It's a wonderful space and gives us an opportunity to showcase all our fabric and wallpaper collections alongside our



Images taken at NEWH UK Chapter, 2024 Fund Raiser



Sofia Calestru (Middlesex University), Song Kee Lee (Northumbria University) and Pamela Sanchez Rodriguez (Kingston School of Art)

commercial and hospitality product offer. We look forward to holding design focussed events and talks, print workshops and of course an immersive space to meet and discuss projects with our clients.

**Is there a crossover between your roles?**

Having been in the industry for a long time and worked in both design and project management roles, I have established relationships with many people over the years. This experience allows me to offer support and advice, share information and help to connect people. It's very special to be able to share this with the NEWH student members and scholarship winners.

**NEWH, THE WORLD'S BIGGEST ORGANISATION FOR NETWORKING IN THE INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY DESIGN INDUSTRY, HAS CHAPTERS AROUND THE WORLD. TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT US, AND TO JOIN YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER, LOOK US UP ON SOCIAL MEDIA OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE.**






**newh.org**

**What would you say to encourage someone to join NEWH?**

I would say what are you waiting for? The NEWH UK Chapter is so inclusive and welcoming, and members have the opportunity to meet and connect with other friends in the industry while supporting education in hospitality. The Chapter is run by a passionate and committed team who are always on hand to introduce and support new members. If there's anyone a bit hesitant about joining and attending an event on your own, there are smaller creative workshops or hotel tours you can attend if a larger event is too overwhelming... so something for everyone!

**And on a rare day off...?**

I'm a beachcomber so give me a super low tide on a beach in the village of Plockton where there are stunning white coral beaches. At low tide the shore reveals a magical array of sea life... pink and purple sea urchins, vibrant orange and blue starfish and throngs of pink coral. To top this visual feast, there's plenty of scallops to take home for supper which can be garnished with chanterelles foraged on the way home from the beach. Living in London it might be a little ambitious for a day off, but I can dream...

# NEWH

The Hospitality Industry Network

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**N**EWWH is an international not-for-profit organisation with 29 chapters across the United States, Canada, and Europe. Bringing together professionals from all facets of the hospitality industry, NEWH provides opportunities for education, professional development, and networking. To date, it has awarded more than seven million USD in scholarships that provide promising interior design and architecture students opportunities to pursue careers in the hospitality industry.



**LIZZIE BROWN**

**BSC INTERIOR DESIGN  
HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY**

As a recent graduate from High Point University in North Carolina, USA, Lizzie is incredibly excited to start her career in the hospitality design industry. With an interest in sport and a 'try to leave a positive impact anywhere that she goes' ethos, Lizzie started her college journey studying exercise science with the ambition to become a physical therapist, before soon realising that her true calling lay in a more creative field. "I love how interior design blends together the importance of how the body works with function and beauty," she says. "I recently came across a letter from freshman year of high school to myself and it said that I hoped I would become an architect, and I am so blessed and excited that that dream is becoming a reality."



**HOPE KELLETT**

**BA INTERIOR DESIGN  
NORTHUMBRIA UNIVERSITY**

Hope's choice to pursue interior design wasn't really a conscious decision, but rather an intuitive one. "Honestly, I made this choice with my mum one night while watching Grand Designs. As we looked at the different jobs and people involved, interior design stood out to me. I knew I wanted to be in the creative industry, and now that I'm on this path, I'm certain it's the right one for me." Having graduated from Northumbria University earlier this year, Hope is now ready to turn her passion into practice.



**EMMA BAILEY**

**BA INTERIOR DESIGN  
MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY**

What prompted Emma to choose interior design as a career direction was, "The fact that you can stimulate an emotion or a feeling just by visually being exposed to an interior or a surrounding – that a space can affect your mood, comfortability, productivity and mind was always fascinating to me," she tells SPACE. After graduating with First Class honours from Middlesex University, Emma remains fascinated by the relationship between aesthetics and psychology in design and looks forward to exploring it further in her next endeavour.



**SHANNON BAUER**

**BA INTERIOR DESIGN GRADUATE  
DESIGN INSTITUTE OF SAN DIEGO**

Shannon has always had a deep passion for interior design, furniture, fabrics, and architecture. From a young age, she was captivated by home remodelling TV shows and enjoyed redesigning her room each year. When she discovered that bachelor's degrees in interior design weren't available in Utah, she felt uninspired by other career paths. After taking nine years off from school and relocating to California, Shannon finally pursued her dream and earned a degree in interior design, having recently graduated in 2024. Shannon currently works as Interior Design Assistant at Payte Miller Interiors.



**JESSICA PEREIRA**

**BA INTERIOR DESIGN  
MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY**

Jessica has always been fascinated by how interiors influence people's emotions and well-being, as well as how they interact with their surroundings. Studying interior design at Middlesex University gave her the opportunity to explore how she could make a meaningful impact in the design world, while her work experience at Jestico + Whiles offered her valuable insight into the industry. Earlier this year, Jessica graduated with First Class Honours, ready to contribute her knowledge and passion to the field.