

artisan pages

AUGUST 2018

Next 125 at Eurocucina

Page 2

Showroom News

Page 4

Upcoming Trends

Page 6

Innovations 2018

Page 8

Colour Me Happy

Page 10

Eco Warriors

Page 12



ANDY BROWN: Director, Artisan Interiors

A Round-up of The Year (So Far)

Thanks to our army of talented **Kitchen Ninjas**, 2018 has seen us transform the homes of even more families in and around Cardiff - **'One German kitchen at a time!'** It's also been the year that we won our first award which recognised the hard work and commitment of our fantastic **Artisan team**.

With our Schüller Showroom busier than ever, we added to our team of experts with kitchen designer, **Andrea**, who fitted into our Artisan family seamlessly. Her kitchen designs are imaginative and creative, and her energetic personality is infectious!

At the beginning of 2018, we were delighted to be told that we'd been shortlisted for a Cardiff Life Award in the **'Homes and Interiors'** category. In March, Danny and I attended the glamorous award ceremony, along

with our **"better halves"**, and were over the moon when we were announced as the **winners!** Soon after, we were nominated by Schüller UK for a BKU Award and were, once again, proud to make it as a finalist for 'New Kitchen Retailer of the Year' - ***I think I could get used to champagne receptions and slap-up meals!***

In April, **Rebecca's** work ethic and dedication to the company was rewarded when we decided to promote her to...

...Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1:

the position of **Head Designer**. She's taken Andrea under her wing and helps keep the showroom running smoothly whilst designing fantastic, innovative kitchens for our amazing clients.

May was also a very big month for us this year... We opened our brand-new kitchen showroom on the first floor of our Cardiff HQ, showcasing premium kitchen brand, **Next 125**, together with **Miele** Appliances in an industrial style setting.

Later this year will see the next phase of our continued expansion with the introduction of three working Bora hob displays. This will make our showroom the only place in Wales where you can see **and** get 'hands-on' experience using these fantastic German brand hobs with integrated extraction. Exciting times ahead.

So that's the year so far. It's certainly been a busy 6 months or so and we're looking forward to seeing what the second half of the year brings. Of course, we'll keep you updated in the next edition of **'Artisan Pages.'**

Until next time...

All the Best, *Andy.*

SCHÜLLER NEWS



Next 125 at Eurocucina 2018

The premium German brand celebrate the launch of their **New Collection**



In April, the brand new Next 125 door ranges were revealed to the world when they exhibited at Euro-Cucina during the largest furniture trade fair in the world; Salone del Mobile in Milan, Italy.

Next 125 impressed the show-goers with its first-rate exhibition stand and, at the same time, the luxury German Kitchen company proved to be a smash hit amongst the international audience with its superior standard of design and product innovations. Clean lines and technical details were the dominant trends at this years' show, with focus on the kitchen. It highlighted ways that technology can make the functioning of this important room more efficient and attractive.

The elegant exhibition stand, complete with accent lighting, showcased six kitchens and demonstrated the Next 125 innovations for every aspect of the kitchen as a space to live in. It incorporated open and closed areas as well as interesting and exciting vistas to wow the crowds. Well attended at all times, the stand perfectly represented the brand values of Next 125 – "Design in harmony with nature and price."

The animals from the newest brand campaign were also in attendance and proved to be a magnet amongst visitors to the show. The animals lifted the atmosphere of the room and brought the Next 125 Brochure to life. It's an exhibition stand that stood out and will always be remembered.



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

We received the news in January that we'd been selected as a **Cardiff Life Awards** finalist in the Homes and Interiors category and to say we were excited is an understatement! We bought our tickets for their 'Uber Glam Event' and then put it to the back of our minds...well, apart from the relentless boasting we did on our social media platforms, of course!!

March 15th 2018 – Awards Night

The evening of the awards arrived. We donned our glad rags, arrived at City Hall, sipped champagne and, after some photos, found our table in the Assembly Room. As we settled down, songs were performed by Only Boys Aloud, including a rousing version of Calon Lân, and then we were treated to a lovely three-course meal.

The Welsh legend, **Nigel Owens**, gave a short inspirational talk and then began announcing the winners. It was a long wait until he read out The Homes and Interiors Finalists but, when he did, just seeing our logo on the big screen along with Nigel Owens saying our company name was enough for us to let out a **ma-hoo-sive** cheer!



SANDRA BROWN: Marketing Manager, Artisan Interi-

"And the winner is..."

"ARTISAN INTERIORS!"

As we leapt up (literally) and made our way to the stage, Nigel read out the comments from the judges...

"Artisan Interiors is particularly innovative. It's taken an intelligent approach to growth, driving sales through the roof."

We were completely overwhelmed but somehow Andy was able to piece a few words together and made a short speech whilst we were on stage collecting the award. We were then led away for some photographs and later we cracked open our bottle of champagne!



SHOWROOM NEWS

Artisan Open The Doors to Showroom No2





The Story of Our 2nd Showroom

In 2016, when we first took over the Penarth Road retail unit, we saw the potential to create a second showroom in the large up-stairs space but first, we needed to establish our 'Schüller by Artisan' Showroom.

Within 18 months, we were in a position to begin work on the second showroom and we had a clear vision of how a high-end kitchen showroom would look. After many discussions about which kitchen ranges and appliances to include, the design was finalised, and the work started. It was slow progress to begin with as the groundwork was only carried out when Gareth had the opportunity but in April, after steady progress, we realised that the room wasn't that far off completion. We knew that if we wanted to get it finished, we needed a deadline to work to.

We set a date for the grand opening – **Saturday 19th May**. The small matter of a Royal Wedding on the same day didn't put us off and we used the event in our marketing campaign 'high-end kitchens and appliances are being joined in holy matrimony in a brand-new Cardiff Showroom.'

At one point, in the week leading up to the deadline, five different trades were in the same space finishing the worktops, air conditioning, electrics, plumbing and decoration but one final push would

see the Next 125 and Miele Design Studio finally ready to open its doors.

We'd invited **Masterchef finalist, Dan Howell**, to cook on the opening day and he made canapés throughout the day whilst we provided a glass of bubbly to accompany them.

We had a great day and it was lovely that some of our previous customers came to support us. The opening day didn't bring in the tens of people that we saw when our 'Schüller by Artisan' showroom opened in 2016 but, considering we were competing with scorching temperatures, a Royal wedding and the FA Cup Final...we didn't do too badly!

Our premium brand German Kitchen Showroom is now open for business and is the only one of its kind in South Wales. The award-winning designs of **Next 125** ooze luxury and we're proud to have the only **Miele Design Studio** in Cardiff too - high-end kitchens and high-end appliances are a match made in Heaven!

The two fully functioning kitchens showcase seven different kitchen ranges and eleven appliances.

One display boasts an impressive moulded Corian worktop with built-in table lighting and wireless phone-charger. The ceramic kitchen island has a feature butcher's block, commissioned by us and handmade locally using 775 individual oak blocks.

We offer **appointment-only** complimentary design consultations giving **showroom exclusivity** to potential customers. This allows one-to-one time with a designer and the freedom to explore the kitchen ranges, uninterrupted.

We've had very positive feedback on the look and feel of the new showroom and the whole team are **extremely proud of it**.





REBECCA KLEIN: Head Designer, Artisan Interiors

UPCOMING 2019 TRENDS THAT WILL BE HERE TO STAY

BOLD COLOURS

The trend for feature walls has come to an end in favour of making the kitchen the main focal point. Colours set the tone of the design and space which can make even the most ordinary objects interesting. This goes for kitchens as well. Instead of keeping the kitchen light and bringing in pops of colour with decoration, the idea is that the kitchen is the centre of attention whilst accessories complement the piece.

For the 2018 - 2019 season, there's an array of colour choices which range from deep yellows, forest greens, intense blues, burnt orange and terracotta reds.

The dark bold colours are not only restricted to the cabinets – they are also flowing on to the worktops and, as a rule of thumb, the darker the colour, the bigger the statement. The prominent countertops complement most colours and give the kitchen another element of depth and character.



INDUSTRIAL

Although this trend has been around for a while, the fresh approach is to strip it back, make it bolder and combine various movements to create a brand-new look. This look is a love child between a few different trends. It combines the bold, dramatic worktops with the warm wooden textures, adding a rustic charm to the contemporary composition.

The blend of strong dark materials and earnest timber marries natural products into one solid structure. The rich warmer tones meet the cooler materials of silver and steel. The kitchens are often shades of grey and concrete effect, giving depth to the look. The kitchen will feel much more open than it has done traditionally, with the aid of open metal shelving and black metal grip ledges.

'An ongoing shift towards individuality in today's kitchen design means the latest fronts, finishes and solutions have become instrumental in creating definition and individuality', say Schüller. 'With heavy metal, even storage is coming out of the cupboard and when features unite with function, you create a kitchen with purpose.'



DISPLAY SHELVING

Previously the style of kitchens came across as closed, hiding away all your kitchenware, spices, pans, oils and vinegars. The new approach is to display these seemingly ordinary items, giving your kitchen character and showing off your quirks and utensils. Shelving can open up the room and gives you a world of endless display possibilities, as well as having a vertical indoor garden.

The trend stems from urban city living where storage is key and creating maximum room in a limited space is a necessity. Open shelving creates more of a living room feel and is becoming increasingly popular on island units.

The usual hidden storage is still cleverly incorporated into this scheme. Larders and drawers come into play to hide plastic goods thus allowing you to display the finest utensils, glasses and pans.



TWO TONED - METAL & WOOD



Another statement trend is mixing two very opposite materials, such as timber and metal, often with the addition of natural materials, like clay. Also, we're seeing a lot more variations of wood grains and shades being combined in the same space.

This trend can also be combined with the bold colour movement, as the two striking trends complement each other beautifully.

Gold and shiny metals combined with natural tones balance each other out - the warm feel of the wood with the warmer toned metals create a composed scheme. Wood is making a comeback and the previous trends of the wood being painted over or distressed has gone.

The approach of natural earthy colours in a contemporary setting with polished copper or gold

gives the overall feel of a warm, inviting setting with style and substance. Dark woods such as walnut or dark oak veneers add texture and can create statement cabinetry and bespoke shelving.



SINGLE LINE

2018 INNOVATIONS
FROM NEXT 125

Next 125's single line front look enables an elegant appearance thanks to reduced lines. The result is a front image that can be seen as a further development of an even clearer design style, more consistent lines and a more objective reduction. This option is limited to just one horizontal grip ledge profile below the worktop that is used for opening the first drawer or pull-out. The drawers/pull-outs below them are opened by means of the mechanical drawer/ pull-out opening system TIP-ON. The result is a reduced front appearance with aesthetic appeal. At the same time, nothing stands in the way of using worktops in the thickness of 1.2 cm to 4 cm

Fine lines and exciting industrial-style structures give the frame rack its consciously minimalist radiance. In addition, the universal application potential: whether wall mounted, floorstanding, integrated into the island or suspended from the ceiling shelf solution. The sophisticated frame rack system made of aluminium always shows itself in its functional, and at the same time, attractive form. Perfectly designed for individual kitchen planning, the frame rack is available in Stainless steel effect and Onyx Black profiles.



FRAME
RACK
OPEN
SHELF

How do you create a stylish connection between kitchen, dining room and living room? Next 125's answer is the multifunctional sideboard. Thanks to their clean design, they appear to almost float, and at the same time, the constructive sub-structure underlines the cubic architecture. Clear, pure and aesthetically pleasing, featuring many loving details, such as the lowered display area, a push-in shelf and open shelf base unit with pull-outs. Next 125 sideboards are also available with a fully closed front and are offered in 3 heights and 4 widths. A choice of satin lacquer, matt velvet lacquer, laminate, Fenix and veneer finishes are available.



SIDEBOARD



LED PENDANT LIGHT

Wonderful illumination but practically invisible. Like a line in the landscape – the light floats above the dining table or cooking area so delicately, and yet is a perfect illuminator. Equipped with a 4-channel remote control, the light colour temperature can be controlled with precision and is available in two versions: stainless steel coloured and onyx black. Thanks to its continuous height adjustment technology, the light can be used anywhere and the LED equipment is energy-saving with an efficiency A+ rating.

What can be better than using fresh herbs to cook with? Next 125 have developed a solution just for this: The panel garden with integrated lighting helps herbs to remain fresh for longer – this makes particular sense in darker parts of the kitchen. The lighting is controlled by a timer that leaves the light on for 14 hours and then switches it off for 10 hours. Thus, you always have fresh herbs to hand and do not need to visit the market as often. The panel garden is also available without illumination, in the event that the herbs receive sufficient daylight.



PANEL GARDEN



MOLDED FLEX BOX

A new idea for Next 125 drawers and pull-outs are Flex-Boxes made from moulded non-woven material. The soft material has a pleasant feel and softens the noises made by cutlery, kitchen utensils or china. There are 7 moulded non-woven inserts that can be combined in any way to form an interior: cutlery insert, cooking utensil insert, knife block insert, small box, large box, lid for large box, plate rack and additional anti-slip mats. The Flex-Boxes in oak can be combined with the Flex-Boxes made from moulded non-woven material as both types are coordinated in size. The Flex-Boxes made from moulded material can be cleaned by vacuuming them, wiping them with a damp cloth or, if heavily soiled, by washing them in the dishwasher on an Eco 45°C cycle.



ANDREA CHAPMAN: Designer, Artisan Interiors

COLOUR ME HAPPY

When choosing a colour palette for your kitchen, the possibilities are endless.

The colours you choose are almost as important as the layout of your kitchen. You may know how you want to use your new kitchen but, knowing which colours to choose and which ones work well together is a different story. Thoughtfully selected, your kitchen colour scheme can transform a simple design into something quite special. Here are some ideas of on-trend colour arrangements to help you create a design that'll add a creative touch and sophistication to your kitchen.

Pastel Passion

Pastel colours emerged in the 50's and 60's and were coupled with bold black and striking contrasting colours to make a powerful design statement. In

today's interiors, pastels are back in a big way! If you're thinking of adding some touches of colour to your kitchen, pastels are the subtle way of doing so and are versatile as they can be used effectively in both a modern slab door or a shaker door.

If you're looking to create a light and airy atmosphere in your kitchen, a pastel palette is a perfect place to start. When using pastels, try to mix a fair amount of whitespace or light grey to keep things fresh and light. The arrangement of pastel pinks, greens, and neutrals accompanied with marble textures and black or gold accessories creates a fun, bright, inviting space. Adding black or gold accessories with lighting and bar stools will also create a touch of luxury to your pastel palette.



Cool Copper

Adding copper into your kitchen colour scheme immediately adds an exciting vibe. Copper is versatile as it can give both an industrial or luxurious look to your kitchen, depending how you use it. Think about adding different colours and textures to complement the copper such as brick, marble or dark matt colours. For example, a dark teal-blue matt door with white marble worktops and copper lighting works well together to give an elegant feel to your kitchen. There are simple ways that you can incorporate copper into your colour schemes such as pendant lighting, bar stools, handles and utensils. With copper, the different finishes give a different look, choose from shiny and smooth for a contemporary feel to beaten copper to give an edgy look. In recent years, copper has made its way to door fronts too. Schüller's door range 'Targa' gives a rustic and industrial feel without it being too overpowering. Combined with dark colours it gives you a modern, contemporary feel to your kitchen.



Green with Envy

Typically, green is not one of the most popular kitchen colour choices, which is a shame as it can appear very elegant and also has a very calming presence with the right shade. With the growing trend to bring the outdoor space in, using green is perfect as it's associated with nature and earthiness, giving it a subtle energy. It also has similar qualities to blue in that it creates a serene ambience. You should consider the light source in your kitchen and which direction your room faces. Depending on the lighting in your kitchen, you may find green works better combined with lighter colours. White, cream or natural wood tones for your worktop, décor and flooring will give a lighter living space and work great with green tones. Choosing the right shade of green is important, it may be a sage or olive-green shade or, if you're more daring and prefer something bolder, a forest green will give an exciting colour scheme. You can combine a bolder green with other cooler colours including various grey tones to create a calm colour palette. If you don't want to go too bold and have enough colour in your kitchen, I like to add accents of colour with open shelving and panels. Adding splashes of colour with accessories and bar stools works well too.

SAVING THE PLANET, ONE KITCHEN AT A TIME

We've all seen the news lately - oceans full of plastic, polluted skies, soaring fuel prices, rain forests being destroyed and climate change...the list just keeps growing and we all have a responsibility to make changes.

Re-cycling, using re-usable water bottles and cutting down on plastic bags are well known ways to help with these environmental problems but, what if you could choose a kitchen company that met all your design expectations and left you feeling satisfied that you'd done your bit for the planet?

Well, Schüller have done the hard work for you so you can sit back safe in the knowledge that your inner eco-warrior will be at peace (and you'll also be the proud owner of a quality German kitchen!) It's a win-win situation.

What makes Schuller Unique?

Certification with the PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) logo is symbolic of Schüller's commitment to the environment and careful use of wood as an indispensable raw material. The concept of the PEFC initiative works towards preserving the ecological balance of the forest and also guarantees a controlled working chain that's monitored independently, totally transparently and always sustainably.



DANNY BORGE: Director, Artisan Interiors

Waste Wood Heating System

As the saying goes, 'Where wood is chopped, splinters must fall.' This inevitably happens when producing kitchens, waste wood is left in abundance. Schüller felt the obvious solution to this problem was to turn the waste into energy. Schüller burns its waste wood in a thermally clean manner, generating the heat energy for the entire company. Schüller are certified to ISO 5001 energy management standard which shows their level of commitment to sustainability and responsible use of energy.



Cleaner Air to Breathe

The kitchens are delivered from Germany by truck to the UK, France, Spain and many other countries in Europe. This means that they're travelling thousands of miles a week and, with that amount of road travel comes an environmental responsibility. To address this issue, Schüller has been investing in fuel saving, eco-friendly trucks and currently have a fleet of 55. This ensures Schüller contributes to keeping the air cleaner today and in the future.

So, with responsibly sourced materials, water-based lacquers, virtually no waste material, re-cyclable packaging and low emission trucks, Schüller take their commitment to preserving the world we live in very seriously.



NOW AVAILABLE AT ARTISAN CARDIFF

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