

ELLE DECORATION

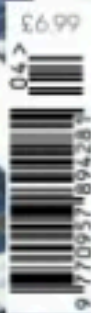
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SURREAL WORLD

Why the weird & wonderful
is influencing interiors

Expressive fabric,
wallpaper & paints
for creative homes

HOW TO BE BOLD





The inspiration

Challenging conventions and defying logic, Surrealism aims to unlock the mysteries of the unconscious. Steeped in symbolism – think Salvador Dalí's melting clocks or Max Ernst's birds – it has a dream-like quality that often occupies unrecognisable spaces. That is less true of the work of René Magritte, the Belgian artist who was interested more in the strangeness of the familiar. 'I don't paint visions,' he is quoted as saying, 'To the best of my capability, by painterly means, I describe objects – and the mutual relationship of objects – in such a way that none of our habitual concepts or feelings is necessarily linked with them.' Perhaps his best known work is *The Treachery of Images* (with the famous line, *ceci n'est pas une pipe*), but the domestic otherness of *Personal Values* (below), painted in 1952, possesses qualities reflected in interiors right now: playfully subversive and influenced by the boom in AI-created imagery – very much today's playground for surrealist design.



The palette

1 'Abiqui' tile in 'DCAS 07', £90 per sq m, Domus (domusgroup.com) 2 'Viento' fabric in 'Ink', £56 per m, Clarke & Clarke (sandersondesigngroup.com) 3 'Malzo' fabric in 'Hemp', £85 per m, Designers Guild (designersguild.com) 4 'Allurium' wallcovering in 'Denim', £85 per roll, Graham & Brown (grahambrown.com) 5 'Corti' fabric in 'Ciel', £102 per m, Manuel Canovas (manuelcanovas.com) 6 'Odessa' fabric in 'Thermoe', £192 per m, Sater by Studio Ashby for Yarn Collective (yarncollective.co.uk) 7 'Elenite' surface in 'Buckland Brown', £325 per sq m, Low Carbon Industrial (lowcarbonindustrial.com) 8 '551 Travina' surface, £454 per sq m, Caesartone (caesartone.co.uk) 9 'Wool Tweed Glencoe' carpet, £62.98 per sq m, Alternative Flooring (alternativeflooring.com) 10 'Nuance' tile in 'DALIA 21', from £71.61 per sq m, Domus (domusgroup.com) 11 'Bronzo' engineered oak flooring, £104 per sq m, Harwoods (harwoods.com) 12 'Vital' fabric in 'Tramonto', £214 per m, Rubelli (rubelli.com) 13 Textured linen in 'Sweet Chestnut', £178 per m, Rose Uniacke (roseuniacke.com) 14 'Harper' handle in 'Antique Brass', £60, Constan (constan.com) 15 'Soft Pumpkin' paint, £30 for 0.94 litres, Benjamin Moore (benjaminmoorepaint.co.uk) 16 'Mottled' tile in 'Mustard Brown', £1,256 per m, Balineum (balineum.co.uk) 17 'Bandra' fabric in 'Cognac' by Dieter Vander Velpen, £130 per m, Zinc (zinctextile.com) ➤