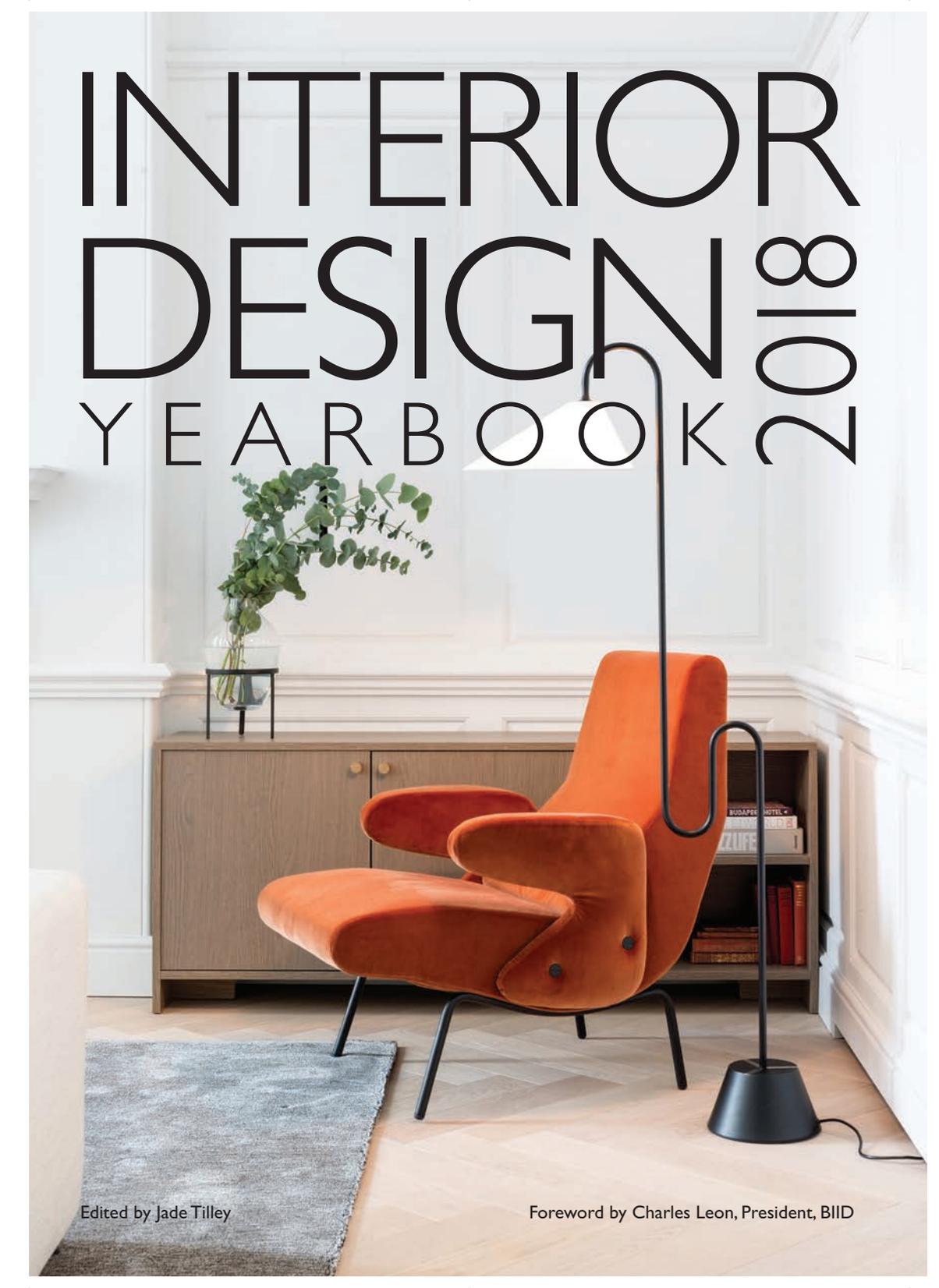


# INTERIOR DESIGN YEARBOOK 2018

A photograph of a modern interior space. In the center is a bright orange velvet armchair with a black metal frame. To the left is a wooden cabinet with a vase of greenery on top. To the right is a black floor lamp with a white shade. The background features white paneled walls and a light-colored wooden floor.

Edited by Jade Tilley

Foreword by Charles Leon, President, BIID



### NEW DIMENSION

This 'Dimensional' home in London is five-storeys and 7,000 sq ft with infusions of bright colour and artwork, combined with sophisticated furnishings to create a glamorous yet comfortable family home.



*This 'Dimensional' five-storey home, North London, was designed by Natalia Miyar and completed in November 2016. Photography by Simon Brown.*







## Office/Studio Design

By Natalia Miyar

Founder, Natalia Miyar Atelier

Natalia Miyar began her professional career as an architect working with notable architectural firms in Miami. During eight years of study and six years in practice she developed a true love of materiality, space and proportion, which led naturally into design of the interiors. Several years on, her eponymous interior atelier, launched in the Spring 2016, showing a capacity for original, exciting design with the professional skill of a leading practice. There are several factors at play within Natalia's designs; born in Mexico to Cuban American parents then relocating to Miami at the age of seven, travel and culture have always been central to her life. Her cultural identity is laden with inspirations that fuel a love of texture, colour and the contrasts of the visual world. Here, Natalia reflects on her design influences and how that has been brought into designing her own studio space for her and her team of 10.

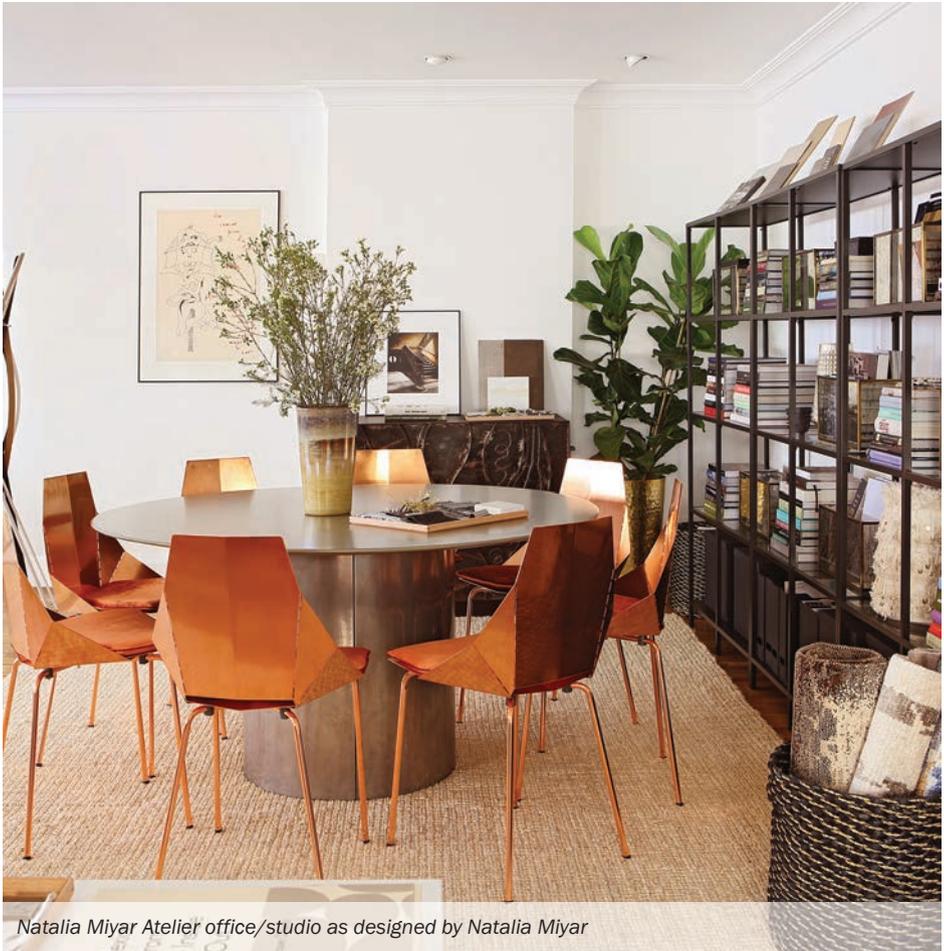
The ultimate office/studio, to me, looks just like my office in Chelsea! We have created a space, which has a living area inspired by the design of my apartment. There's the all-important meeting room, which doubles as a dining room and our work area.

On the whole it is a relaxed and well-lit space with lots of windows to let in plenty of daylight and a great view of the river. I find a combination of functionality and comfort is key; we spend so much time in the office we need a balance between the two. On Fridays we gather in the living room and have a glass of wine, chat about the week and prepare for the next.

I also have pieces from my personal art collection in my



*Natalia Miyar Atelier office/studio as designed by Natalia Miyar*



*Natalia Miyar Atelier office/studio as designed by Natalia Miyar*

office as it helps to make the space feel like home. As the focus of our practice is residential work, I think it is important for clients to feel like they are in a home-like environment when they come to see us. The reason I find it such a pleasure and so easy to design our own work environment is that I see it as an extension of my home. I also know my design habits so I have a place for casual meetings with my team, which I feel leads to creative conversations, as I want people to

be expressive and let their creativity shine through. We do formal presentations with our clients so of course our meeting room is smart and well equipped. I find it is really easy to work everywhere and anywhere, which works well for all the travelling we do as designers. I spend a lot of time in Miami where we have some ongoing projects and I even manage to work poolside - when necessary! Today, once you are equipped with an iPhone and Skype you can work anywhere. We are a team of 10 at Natalia

Miyar Atelier and everyone is an all-round designer but are diverse in their style and approach, so the studio has to house individual styles but come together in a harmonious way that reflects our balanced and shared work ethic. Most of our work is done graphically or on the computer and we also have a design library, large pin-boards where we scheme and design our mood boards. I love to pin up textiles and surfaces as my process is so material-led, we like to see inspiration all the time so the pin-boards are central

## NATALIA MIYAR

within the office. Of course good light is key and a blank canvas from which to create!

I think that my studio today is very personal and individual and I've ensured that it can be anchored in the process that we are creating homes, at work. When I came up with the idea that we were bringing 'home' to the studio it was a change from how I had worked before because I'd always worked in 'office' spaces.

The way I've designed my own space, the office can encourage conversation and ideas, especially when in the living room as people can speak freely. A living room setting certainly encourages free thoughts and the creative juices just begin to flow, more than when

sitting around a boardroom table. The challenge for designers will always be bridging the gap between technology and the tactile nature of our work. So the next trend for design offices/studios will continue to be creative solutions for merging the two.

[nataliamiyar.com](http://nataliamiyar.com)

**“I love to pin up textiles and surfaces as my process is so material-led. We like to see inspiration all the time so the pin-boards are central within the office.”**



*Natalia Miyar Atelier office/studio as designed by Natalia Miyar*