

Cruise liner commission inspires jeweller Sarah Stafford to make a splash in the world of interiors

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It's not quite furniture you can wear, but exploring the scalability of her bespoke fine jewellery has brought renowned craft jeweller Sarah Stafford into the realm of architectural and interior design.

Sarah's stunning new range of bespoke-designed, laser or water-jet cut metal panels can be used as intriguing decorative wall panels, room partitions, and even table tops – as her superbly conceived and impeccably finished *Circulus* Table being shown for the first time at the prestigious Decorex interiors show in London this week proves. The beautiful but complex panel designs have evolved directly from the stunning jewellery pieces for which Sarah is best known.

Sarah is one of the stars of the Future Heritage exhibition at Decorex, where a number of her eye-catching wall panels are also on display. They're far more than simply scaled-up versions of her instantly recognisable and painstakingly handcrafted jewellery designs though. Moving up to an architectural scale has brought new opportunities to explore the interplay of light and shadow as the pieces interact with their surroundings, as well as the chance to become more experimental with colours and finishes.

Although the intimacy of precious jewellery remains her first love, Sarah has relished the opportunity to branch out into this new, more expansive area of design. Her *Circulus* range has evolved from a first toe-in-the-water commission for 22 large scale-wall pieces to adorn the interior of the new P&O flagship *Britannia*.

"The *Britannia* commission was thrilling, as it came entirely out of the blue when I was just beginning to think about the possibilities of moving into architectural design," says Sarah. "When the pieces were installed, the response was so overwhelmingly positive that I couldn't wait to explore further.

"As a result I have developed amazing relationships with a variety of industrial metalworking and finishing companies who seem as excited as I am about the opportunities and challenges of creating beautiful works for decorative purposes."

Since that first commission, Sarah has produced bespoke designs for a number of projects small and large, as well as developing her *Circulus* range as a showcase for the new work.

"I love the creative freedom that comes with larger-scale design projects, but also the special intimacy of creating one-offs for art-lovers who want a bespoke design and finish to suit a specific location, whether that's indoors or outside," says Sarah. "And of course it's even more rewarding when a customer wears my jewellery too."

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From Goldsmith of 16 years to designer of precision laser-cut wall panels; Sarah has transferred her metalworking skills from miniature to large-scale. She combines state-of-the-art computer modelling technology with industrial metalworking processes to create exquisite geometric structures in steel and aluminium that retain her unmistakable sense of style. Her unique wall mounted works are suitable for interior and indoor use, made with precision and finished to perfection with durable and rich, powder-coated surfaces. Her *Circulus* pieces are bespoke and range from 50cm to 150cm in diameter, but larger-scale projects are welcome too.

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