

## **PRESS RELEASE FOR DEBRA BEAN**



In the last year, artist-turned-designer, Debra Bean has created an exciting niche within the wallpaper, fabric design and bespoke furniture market.

Her wallpapers have already appeared in some of the world's most exclusive homes and retail stores; Selfridges, Harvey Nichols and Paul Smith to name a few. Her designs are also being archived by London's Victoria & Albert Museum.

A year ago Debra Bean was busy rescuing the remains of her artwork from a massive house fire in Primrose Hill. This traumatic experience provided the inspiration for a series of powerful designs that are now being sought after in London, Milan, Denmark and New York. Her signature design is based on the shadow of a charred chandelier rescued from her burnt house. "It is a powerful reminder that beauty can be found in the destroyed parts of life". The Freudian Bird sketches exhibited at her degree show last year were also inspired by sitting in the Freud garden after her escape from the fire. Her other bold designs include 'the handbag' which is based on a discarded designer handbag made into desirable limited edition sculptures cast in coloured resins.

Debra has applied these designs to Limited Edition runs of wallpapers, cushions, upholstery fabrics, window blinds, bespoke furniture and commissioned sculptures. For the *New Designers One Year On* she is launching a range of "new classics" – applying fabrics to Le Corbusier Sofa, subverting old icons with her edgy and original new designs.

Debra creates her unique designs by using a combination of digital and screen-printing techniques and is currently negotiating with fabric and wallpaper makers who are licensing some her designs for international distribution.

Debra Bean graduated in 2005 from Central Saint Martins School of Art in sculpture where she was awarded scholarships from the Edward James Foundation, a bursary to study printing in Venice, a research residency at COFA in Sydney and a 'student of the year' bursary from Digetex. Before graduating from St Martins in 2005 Debra read Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Manchester University. The combination of economic culture and artistic awareness has built Debbie's own unique philosophy of design aesthetics.

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**Couturious studio** was set up in November 2005 by Debra Bean and is based in Hampstead studios once habited by famous Bauhaus artists in the 1930's.

**Images and Limited edition sculptures** are available by commission through [www.couturious.co.uk](http://www.couturious.co.uk) Or 07900212499