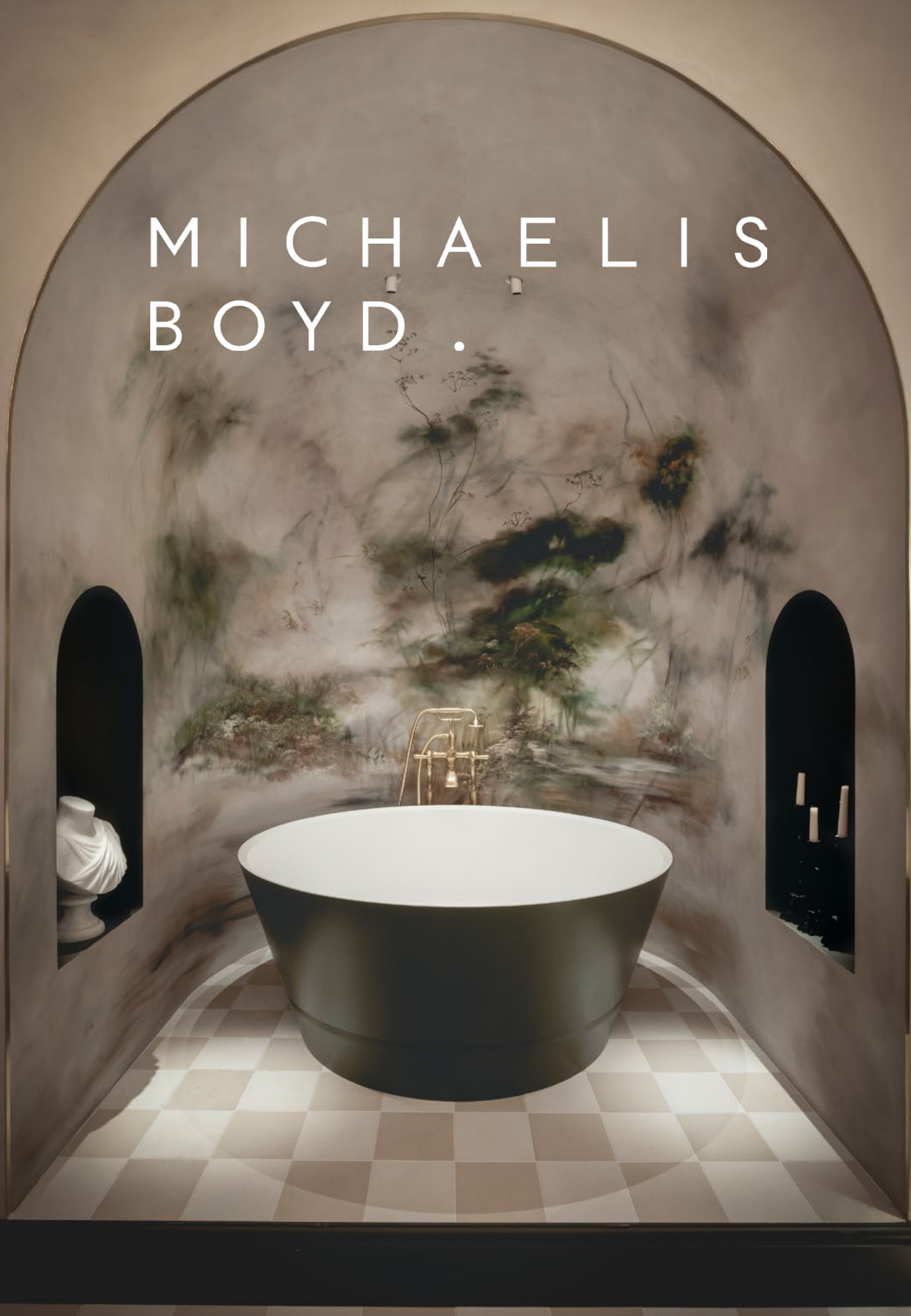


MICHAELIS  
BOYD.





# WELCOME TO OUR SANCTUARY

The primary bathroom  
for House of Rohl

Michaelis Boyd has earned a reputation for its award-winning architecture and interior design. With experience across the hospitality and residential sectors, our sophisticated, design-led approach has an emphasis on environmentally conscious materials and building techniques. We firmly believe that biophilic design is the future and incorporate sustainable design solutions wherever possible.

Our work compliments and embraces the natural world around us. We let it inform and challenge our designs. Alex Michaelis and Tim Boyd founded the studio in 1996. Today, they are joined by partners Christina Gregoriou and Rina Kukaj to lead our growing global portfolio.

Earlier this year we published our employee statistics of which 73% are female and 60% are females in leadership roles. We felt the wonderful opportunity to design a bathroom at WOW!house for House of Rohl was an exemplary, and international platform to present our female talent and leadership to the architecture and design community.



# READY TO WOW!

Christina Gregoriou – Partner at Michaelis Boyd  
explains her whimsical journey to serenity

PICTURE Depasquale + Maffini  
WORDS Andrew Wakem

Michaelis Boyd and House of Rohl are proud to unveil the Primary Bathroom for the highly anticipated and third iteration of WOW!house at the Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour. The collaboration between luxury sanitaryware manufacturers House of Rohl, and our globally renowned architecture and interior design studio, has been one of innovation and friendship.

Michaelis Boyd designed the bathroom, with emphasis on one central and theatrical piece in particular. The focal point of any bathroom: the bath itself. She chose House of Rohl's 'Victoria + Albert' opulent 'Taizu' bathtub in olive green in a matte finish. A one-of-a-kind piece for WOW!house. Christina explained "The Taizu bath tub was the perfect 'protagonist' in both style and scale".

## THE PERFECT PROTAGONIST

Taizu is a collaboration with renowned Hong Kong based designer, Steve Leung, who was inspired by the fine porcelain designs of the Song Dynasty, which the team felt was a natural fit within the 'transitional' and curvaceous design. Christina added "once the bath's location was decided, the remaining design and layout unfolded".

Encompassing the bathtub, within an up-lit dome, is an ethereal mural by French artist - Claire Basler - who we commissioned in respect of her outstanding attention to detail and ability to encapsulate serenity, with a sense of movement within her work.

## ENCAPSULATE SERENITY WITH A SENSE OF MOVEMENT

Claire's extraordinary career spans over four decades, where it began when she left school at the of age 15 to work in a private atelier. It was in 1978 she joined the renowned Beaux Arts in Paris, but she felt the art was too political, whereas hers was far softer, and poetic. A battle she faced throughout her early career.

Although her work had a signature style and personality, it took over two decades to master her style, where she felt free to express her love for painting using a small colour palette of trusted oil paints.

Claire is inspired by nature, stemming from her childhood family trips to the rural countryside and mountains. She also shared her love for flowers with her family. Her acumination of skills and experience painting delicate flowers to breath-taking murals has secured her global recognition.





victoria + albert

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VICTORIA + ALBERT  
Taizu Bath Tub in custom Olive Green

PERRIN & ROWE  
Traditonal Freestanding Bath Mixer  
with Hand Shower

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Mural  
CLAIRE BASLER



Clayworks Natural Wall Covering

Each of our projects are influenced by their surrounding natural environments, local culture and craftspeople. Christina threw further light on Michaelis Boyd's design ethos and our studio's belief that luxurious design should tread lightly on our planet.

## LUXURIOUS DESIGN SHOULD TREAD LIGHTLY ON OUR PLANET

Building upon our studio's ethos and prior collaborations - influenced Christina's decision to render the central bathrooms' walls and ceiling with Clayworks - a clay plaster made of unique blends of unfired clays, mixed with minerals and pigments to provide healthy, breathable wall finishes.

Clayworks manufactures plaster in Cornwall from abundant raw materials, which are amongst the lowest carbon and healthy wall finishes available on the market.



A bespoke daybed was designed by Goldfinger - a studio of design and sustainability pioneers. Goldfinger designs and crafts timeless furniture and homeware from sustainable materials for homes and businesses. They are an award-winning social enterprise leading the industry in its embrace of circular design processes and approach to modern British craftsmanship. Through the Goldfinger Academy, its social impact arm, they deliver hands-on training to young people to inspire careers in craft.

We also commissioned them to design and build the side table, and the vanity unit topped with a 'Rainforest Green' Marble from Diespeker & Co. The unit includes two sunken Victoria + Albert 'Laceno 56' basins and two Perrin & Rowe Georgian Wall Mounted Basin Mixers, which protrude from the marble splashback.

## DESIGN AND SUSTAINABILITY PIONEERS

Above the bespoke daybed which was upholstered by Lawson Wood in a linen fabric named 'Douce Nightscape' from LF Trading, is the show-stopping Diamond Olive Chandelier from Cox London.

The vanity unit is wrapped in a ruffled skirt, made of 'Old Hollywood, Flame', a linen-blend material by de Le Cuona. Above the vanity unit are two 'Countess' mirrors from Julian Chichester, flanked by two 'Float' wall sconces by Articolo, sourced by The Specified who are based in the Design Centre Chelsea Harbour.







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**Diamond Olive Chandelier**  
COX LONDON

Cox London is a unique London atelier who seek to curate remarkable beauty by unleashing the nature within every piece they create. Their studio has built a reputation for forging elemental and remarkable pieces of lighting, furniture and artworks inspired by the flow and structure of natural design and order, using artisan and craft skills; both ancient and modern.



Mosaic Factory **Floor tiles**

The bathroom was strategically designed to include transitional areas of separation with areas to bathe, wash and rest. To achieve this, the team created a chequerboard effect by using three different sized encaustic and zellige tiles, from Mosaic Factory. Creating a visual and whimsical transition for the occupier to navigate throughout the space. Christina explained “the smaller the tile, the more intimate and private the space becomes”. Our interiors team refer to as the ‘Alice in Wonderland effect’.

## THE ALICE IN WONDERLAND EFFECT

Mosaic Factory was founded in 2002 between Paris and Tangier where they began producing handmade cement tiles which have a long and proud history in the Mediterranean basin. Over the past two decades their portfolio has grown exponentially, offering architects and designers customisable granito, zellige and terrazzo tiles handcrafted in their state-of-the-art facilities in Tangier.



Found within the more intimate areas of the bathroom are the Koyohen Border tiles in 'Vintage Green' from Raven, that were chosen for their sleek design and flecks of amber to compliment the warm tones of the timber and marble used within the bathroom. The team strategically placed the tiles vertically to extenuate the curvature of the shower area, powder room and drying area.

Based in London, Raven are Europe's Japanese tile specialist; curating tiles from Japan's finest Ceramicists. Their team work with a broad spectrum of Japanese manufacturers, ranging from small businesses to international corporations.

The architectural lighting throughout was delicately designed by context-specific lighting design and manufacturers – PSLab, who have showcased elements of the bathroom with drama and flair. The studio was founded in 2004 and headquartered in Beirut with studios in the UK, Germany, Benelux, France, Italy, the US and the UAE. PSLab has developed considerable expertise in its localised design and production facilities.

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## House of Rohl

PERRIN & ROWE

Georgian 12" Shower Rose  
Georgian Concealed Thermostatic  
Shower Mixer with Lever Handle





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**Ombre Series Artwork**  
CLAYMOON

Claymoon is a series of hand-formed clay artworks by Adam Weismann and Studio that speak of the rhythms of nature, the beauty of imperfection and the processes of deep time.



# CREATING THE WOW!HOUSE OF ROHL

Nigel Palmer on House of Rohl's brands and why they chose Michaelis Boyd to design the primary bathroom for WOW!house 2024

WORDS Nigel Palmer

House of Rohl is one of the founding partners of the WOW!house, and this is the third year we have presented a bathroom at this remarkable event. With Perrin & Rowe, Riobel, Shaws and Victoria + Albert in our family of brands, we have a strong interest in encouraging new ideas in bathroom design; inspiring designers to make imaginative use of our products.

The biggest challenge? Establishing a partnership with a design practice that will deliver the originality and panache that WOW!house demands.

## ORIGINALITY AND PANACHE THAT WOW!HOUSE DEMANDS

Michaelis Boyd were the perfect Design Partners. Their unique restructuring of space; tailoring the room to the fittings, as much as the fittings to the room. Their concept promised something unexplored and uplifting, yet rooted in tradition. Michaelis Boyd's global portfolio of luxury residential and hospitality projects - which include the likes of Soho Farmhouse and the Groucho Club - secured confidence that their team, led by Partner Christina Gregoriou, would deliver a world-class design with exceptional attention to detail.

Their diverse studio and passion for using local craftsman and products aligned to the 'Diversity & Sustainable' theme at this year's WOW!house. Michaelis Boyd's efforts to source and support local suppliers align to Perrin & Rowe's two UK sites, reflecting their diverse communities that are helped by local apprenticeships.

Centring the bathroom around Victoria + Albert's Taizu bath tub made Michaelis Boyd's design especially charming to the House of Rohl team. Not only for how they uniquely positioned and described the bath as the 'perfect protagonist', but for their love and passion to use suppliers with a story.

Victoria + Albert's South African factory provides skilled manufacturing jobs in an area where there are few. Like many responsible organisations, House of Rohl has a long-term programme to enhance the sustainability of its processes, but there has always been a focus on making products that last, avoiding the need for wasteful replacement.

## AVOIDING THE NEED FOR WASTEFUL REPLACEMENT

Like the finest jewellery, Perrin & Rowe faucets have an exacting sense of proportion.

We believe the best way to make the best is to bring together the foremost in innovation with time-tested techniques. Crafted in England, Perrin & Rowe designs juxtapose reinterpretations of the past with novel styles of the present. Made in Britain, and made to last, with quality and integrity.

Michaelis Boyd were drawn to Perrin & Rowe's 'Georgian' Bath Collection that was influenced by the 18<sup>th</sup> Century English design that echoed ancient Greek and Roman architecture. Christina added she 'adored how the collection reflected and complimented their transitional design'.





VICTORIA + ALBERT  
Laceno 56 Basin

PERRIN & ROWE  
Georgian Three-Hole Wall  
Mounted Basin Mixer

A hallmark of the style is purity of form and restraint versus ornamentation. The shapes and subtlety of classic columns and arches repeat in the lines and curves of the Collection. Stylistic touches like ring details around the base, neck, and spout display understated elegance. The Collection is a perfect example of English refinement reinterpreted for today's varied décors.

## ENGLISH REFINEMENT REINTERPRETED

To showcase House of Rohl's brands, Michaelis Boyd selected 'Rainforest Marble' as a statement backdrop from Diespeker & Co.

Diespeker & Co, based in London, have continuously pushed boundaries and are responsible for significant innovations within their industry. In the 1920s they devised the method of creating reinforced precast terrazzo that became a popular and versatile commercial material.





I hope you've enjoyed Michaelis Boyd's primary bathroom for House of Rohl. It has been an unforgettable journey following Christina and her team deliver a truly remarkable bathroom which reflects our studios world-class projects and passion for sustainable design.

If you would like to learn more about Michaelis Boyd, the WOW!house design process and the collaboration with House of Rohl, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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