

**DESIGNER INSIGHT**

Textile designer Aleta Bartel-Orton's Battersea studio is home to hundreds of exquisite fabrics which have taken the interiors world by storm. Having studied fine art and textile design in Nova Scotia, Aleta moved here in 1999 to work with textile designers in the fashion and interiors industries. 'I managed a company based on Lavender Hill before taking it over. At that point I started designing again myself,' explains Aleta. 'All my fabrics are currently made in England, but I am planning a new soft furnishing range which will be made in India. Inevitably that will involve more travel.' In addition to her own designs, she stocks a range of block-printed fabrics by India-based designer Brigitte Singh. In the long term, Aleta has plans for a range of children's fabrics, but for the moment she's enjoying establishing her brand – and her life south of the river: 'My husband and I try to live as organically as possible. I love shopping at Fresh and Wild on Lavender Hill – I love their beauty products. And I eat out at The Lavender – the food is consistently good. It's great to have somewhere so close to the studio.'

Aleta Ltd, Unit 83 Battersea Business Centre, 99/109 Lavender Hill, SW11; 020 7228 9676; [www.aletaonline.com](http://www.aletaonline.com)

**FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE**

East Hill Gallery specialises in paintings from the 1930s to the 1960s by Soviet artists, notably plein-air landscape and genre scenes, and still-lives. This is an unusual stock-in-trade and well worth a visit. The gallery is open by appointment only. It exhibits at the twice-yearly Decorative Antiques and Textiles Fair in Battersea Park. For details, visit [www.decorativefair.com](http://www.decorativefair.com). East Hill Gallery, 49 East Hill, SW18; 020 8871 2535.



**INTERIORS**

Gráinne Dennison catches up with textile queen, Aleta Barton-Orton and raises a glass in SW19

**DOWN THE MARKET**

Northcote Road Antiques Market conceals behind its diminutive façade a charming repository packed full of antiques from 35 different dealers. Their changing stock includes everything from traditional blue-and-white china and antique cutlery to items of postwar and Scandinavian design, the last two of which areas are currently enjoying a definite vogue among interior designers. The market is open seven days a week (Sunday, 12–5pm).

155a Northcote Road, SW11; 020 7228 6850.



**HOUSE OF GLASS**

Mark West deals in fine glass from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries from his shop, a treasure trove of all things transparent, translucent, decorative and functional. He is also exhibiting at The Grosvenor House Art and Antiques Fair, Park Lane, W1, from 15-21 June. 39b High Street, SW19; 020 8946 2811



**ART ATTACK**

It is almost 20 years since barrister Caroline Wiseman decided to switch careers: she became an art dealer. Now Caroline specialises in modern art, including prints, by a distinguished cast of artists whose work encompasses figurative and abstract painting and sculpture. Make an appointment to view work by Bridget Riley, Craigie Aitchison, Gilbert and George and Elizabeth Blackadder, among others, displayed in Caroline's 18th-century town house. Readers visiting Caroline between 13-28 June will also be able to see an exhibition of paintings by Howard Hodgkin. Caroline Wiseman Modern Art, 26 Lansdowne Gardens, SW8. Call 020 7622 2500 for an appointment.