

Jonathan Paul - Restructuring interior space for living design



Jonathan Paul of One Way Kitchens is a UK kitchen industry, award-winning designer. Over the years he has seen his position within the kitchen market change and develop out of all recognition. He was recently asked what the significant differences have meant to him and his company One Way Kitchens, in Southport. His answer provides an insight into how we live today. "Convenience and casual living are of prime importance to the clients I design for. Lifestyles are changing therefore people's needs are altering, this means I must think and design differently. It is no longer enough to just have a practical kitchen. Now my clients want a kitchen to be a central factor in the happiness of the home, they want a room that is multi-functional and given the opportunity to remodel their kitchen, what they most want is more space, a space where they can cook, where they can eat at a breakfast bar or formally dine at a table. The same space must be a family living/lounge/recreational area for multi-media and audio-visual enjoyment. That means most of my clients will be much more comfortable in one great space, a living environment, a place where the whole family can gather to spend quality time together, where they can socialise and entertain friends'.

'It's life changing'



Jonathan talks about the psychology of his designs:

"As human beings, we do not always like to be corralled into closed areas, for the most part we like to congregate and socialise so its important to me that I focus upon creating a functional, social headquarters. A place that is exciting to cook, live and entertain in. The result is what I refer to as 'a restructuring of interior space for living design'.

With modern day life converging in the room formally known as the kitchen, design has never been more important. The scope this provides gives me an opportunity as a designer to solve the

problem of limited space in a client's existing kitchen and to create a true living space, whether this is from a large room or multiple rooms. I always begin by focussing upon the restructuring of the whole space by merging a number of rooms into a single large living space, this often means removing walls also repositioning internal and external doors and windows".

It is obvious to the outsider that Jonathan is a long way from a traditional kitchen designer. He has developed many of the skills and work processes practised by builders, interior designers and architects.

Jonathan explains his approach:

"Interior design can be emotional, in other words there is more than one answer, when looking at the entire living space for instance; How to dress the walls? Which window treatment is best? Which accessories to use? Architects are better at engineering and some builders are good at various aspects of architectural

work. Both understand the structural elements and the limitations that I have for repositioning doors and windows and the need to see the significance of how this will affect the outside of the house".

Jonathan Paul quite clearly derives a great deal of satisfaction from what he does. His passion for design has simmered and developed from childhood. Then, working alongside his father he gradually enveloped himself in the kitchen industry. He explains further:

"No other business has such a dramatic effect on people's daily lives. My clients initially come to buy kitchen units and appliances. They trust me to remove walls and alter the structure of their home. They are relying on me to create a place that will change their life for the better – it's a terrific motivator. It drives me to strive to make every project better than the last".

To find out more about Jonathan Paul and One Way Kitchens visit their new website at www.onewaykitchens.co.uk

Balanced living



Award winning designer
Jonathan Paul designs exclusively
for One Way Kitchens

one way kitchens®  design

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