



Students from Birmingham City University (BCU) have transformed parts of the campus to suggest which interiors will be the focal point of living rooms this year. Focusing on key trends for autumn/winter 2014, the exhibition features a range of concepts complete with textile, ceramic, lighting, wall and floorcovering solutions.

The Trends presentation is open to the public until 21st March, in the atrium at BCU's Parkside Building. The exhibition follows on from Interiors UK, where students' design concepts and public talks caught the attention of industry leaders.

Caroline Calverdoon-Oliver, MD at project partner Global Color Research, says: "After five years of working with BCU on the trends showcase, we never cease to be surprised at the fresh ideas that each year brings. The standard of output grows each year, with new ideas, fresh approaches and innovative interpretations of our trends."

## Vale to open in Farnham

Vale Furnishers will be expanding into the Surrey market town of Farnham next month. The 20,000ft<sup>2</sup> store will be located in the former Mac&Mac Interiors showroom in East Street, after the contemporary furnishings company went into administration at the end of 2013.

Vale Furnishers has operated in Ash Vale since it was founded in 1960, and continues to be an acclaimed independent furnisher retailer. Today, the business is run by Mark Chandler, the third generation of the Chandler family.

The new site will allow Vale to expand key ranges from popular brands like G Plan Vintage, Voyage Maison, alongside the Vale Furnishers' Casual Collection.

## More for Manchester

Lafco Upholstery and Westridge Furniture are among the latest to confirm attendance at this year's Manchester Furniture Show, which will take place between 13-16th July at Manchester Central.

For Lafco, it marks a return to the main exhibition event, with a 200m<sup>2</sup> stand in the main hall. For Westridge Furniture, this will be its first ever appearance at Manchester. "We have an exciting launch to make this summer, and Manchester offered us exactly the right timing and platform to do so," says Westridge MD, Paul Jolly. According to the show's organisers, this year's edition is set to host its most prestigious brand line-up to date, with the Central Hall heading for an early sell out.

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