



## Creative Eye

### VANESSA CURRY

*Tips on collecting art from the founder of fineartsource.co.uk*

- **Don't just buy art to impress.** It's important to choose work that inspires emotion in you or has some personal resonance, as an image can soon lose its appeal once you walk past it every day.
- **Art shouldn't fight with your furnishings.** Ideally you'd choose your art at the same time as decorating your house to create a cohesive mood.
- **Annual graduation shows can be a dealers' bunfight.** Instead, buy from well-regarded galleries, auction houses, art fairs and open studios.
- **If you have a limited budget, look at prints and print making.** You can buy major names such as Peter Blake for less than £1,000.
- **Another moderately priced area to explore is editions of Picasso ceramics.** You can really see his craft and they work well in a domestic space.
- **Your first purchases are really important** as they form the basis of your collection and you might end up exploring certain themes.
- **Photography is another interesting area, but be conscious of conservation.** If you don't frame photos with UV-filter glass, you'll end up with a blank piece of paper in 25 years' time.
- **Take unframed art to a proper framer, as it needs to be totally airtight,** otherwise little mites that love art so much they eat it will get in.
- **Don't buy online – you just don't know what you're going to get.**
- **Buying abroad can be disastrous.** Everything looks good in the sun, but back in the UK, in cooler light, the colours can look seriously brash.



### TIME TRAVELLER

This compact timepiece may be billed as a travel clock, but we reckon it **deserves year-round use.** Go on, leave your iPhone in the hall and wake up to a bit of proper ringing in the bedroom. **£180** (williamandson.com)

### CORNER TRICK

Content By Conran's Angle shelves are a **super-flexible storage option.** Use them in awkward corners, or group together to create a stylish room divider. Choose from sleek white or natural oak. From **£295** (contentbyconran.com)



### Livingetc loves



### Ace Ventura

Designed by Jean-Marie Massaud, the French architect known for his sensual aesthetic, the **Ventura Lounge chair's** curvy figure turned heads when it was unveiled at the Milan Furniture Fair. It touches down in the UK in September and its striking silhouette makes it a statement piece worth the wait. From **£600** (poliformuk.com)