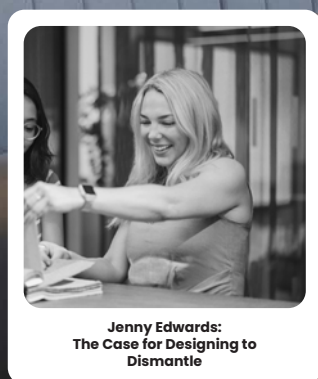


# space

BY STANSONS



Jenny Edwards:  
The Case for Designing to  
Dismantle

design week 19 – 21 may

an exclusive showroom event

an inspiration

aethos & orange tower



[stansons.co.uk](http://stansons.co.uk)

ISSUE 8

a note from

# guy stanley

creative director



Spring is kicking into life with that new buzz... and this issue captures **mother natures energy**.

**Workplace Design Show** kicked off the year. For me it there was a strong vibe around **reconnecting with people**. It's always a place for discovering and being inspired, but it was the face-to-face chats that really made it.

There are some stunning projects in this issue for you to thumb through with your morning matcha. Of course a fav was the **ceiling curtains at Orange Tower**. The high-level zoning and layering was so elegantly executed.

The big question we've been asked lots in the last weeks... **what is happening at Stansons during the Design Week in May?** With fond memories of the Denim Drop we have pulled together another exciting, invite only activation. Available from 19 - 21 May we will drop **The Designers**, a **collectable blind box series**.

Before we go, we wanted to give something back. After 3 years of podcasting, we've now launched **Show Notes**. The sharpest ideas, best quotes, and lessons you can action from every guest, straight to your inbox. Scan to subscribe.

Now over to you, what are you up to?



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Benussi Design

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# orange tower



*global tax services firm establishes  
its major office in mediacity*

Working alongside Benussi Design and Consensus Workspace, we supported the delivery of Ryan LLC's new UK office at MediaCity. An elegant environment designed to reflect both the scale of their global operation and the day-to-day needs of a growing team.

CLIENT : RYAN LLC  
DESIGNER : BENUSSI DESIGN  
CONTRACTOR : CONSENSUS WORKSPACE  
LOCATION : MANCHESTER





Located within the refurbished Orange Tower, the 32,000 sq ft workspace accommodates over 300 people and marks a significant step in Ryan's European expansion. The objective was clear, create a workplace that feels calm, considered and confident, a place that juggles performance with comfort.

Across the scheme, spatial flow and materiality play a key role in shaping how the office feels. Open areas encourage movement and connection, while softer, more enclosed settings provide moments for focus and pause. It's a workplace that adapts, supporting different modes of working without ever feeling forced.

Our contribution centred around the installation of Florence ceiling curtains in our Evening Detox fabric. Integrated seamlessly into the architecture, these ceiling curtains introduce a layer of high level zoning to create micro environments.

Importantly, the intervention is not about making a statement. Instead, it's about supporting the overall experience, softening the space, improving comfort, and contributing to a balanced atmosphere.

The result is a workplace that feels composed and intentional. One that supports performance without shouting about it by giving people the right environment to do their best work.

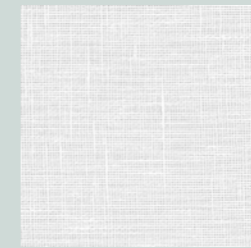
32,000 sq ft

Accommodate  
300 staff



Evening  
Detox  
fabric

Florence  
ceiling  
curtains





LESLIE  
IWERKS

THE IMAGINEERING STORY

CREATIVITY INC.

ED CATMULL

THE DAILY STOIC

Ryan Holiday

THE RIDE OF  
A LIFETIME

ROBERT  
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JUHANI  
PULLASSMA

THE  
EYES  
OF  
THE  
SKIN

KAY  
SARGENT

DESIGNING  
NEUROINCLUSIVE  
WORKPLACES

The Idea in You

martin amor + alex pellow

*good wives, good life*

VEX KING

*seasonal samples*

# *bringing* blue

THIS SPRINGTIME!

order samples online – [stansons.co.uk](http://stansons.co.uk)



# *the designers'*

A COLLECTABLE BLIND BOX SERIES  
AVAILABLE 19TH - 21ST MAY



*design  
week  
drop*

*in conversation with*



# *Jenny* EDWARDS

CREATIVE DIRECTOR AT OKTRA

how to build better for less:

**designing  
sustainable  
workplaces  
that last**

listen on space by stansons



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# aethos



*an office for creative people*

Aethos London Shoreditch is a hotel with 164 rooms that puts a thoughtfully curated Aethos members' club at the heart of it all, built around connection, creativity, and a spark of spontaneity. The Aethos members' community has been designed globally for 'more seekers', those curious minds and culture lovers looking for real connection and a 'club' that doesn't just stop at a nice bar and introduction drinks, but explores the city in a new way - offering curated cultural exchanges in areas you didn't expect.

DESIGNER: ASTET STUDIO  
CLIENT: AETHOS  
LOCATION: LONDON  
PHOTOGRAPHY: PION STUDIO +  
MILO HUTCHINGS



*a project  
we admire but  
didn't work on!*



Unlike traditional members' clubs, Aethos is less velvet rope, more open invitation - a space for those who want more from where they stay, and who they meet along the way. From carefully selected art tours, city farm field trips, intimate dinners with top chefs to wellness classes, Aethos' cultural programming embodies four pillars; The Table, The Mix, Wellness Rituals, and Off Grid, all designed to reflect the energy of Shoreditch, not escape it.

Aethos London Shoreditch, designed by Barcelona-based Astet Studio, is a masterclass in refined, narrative-led design. Drawing inspiration from Shoreditch's industrial and artisanal heritage, the interiors balance raw, textured materials - like terracotta, brushed metals, and layered wood - with warm, tactile finishes. The design preserves the original architectural features, such as a terracotta wall, while introducing bespoke lighting and handcrafted elements created in collaboration with local artisans.

Natural light floods the space, accentuating an urban palette softened by warm accents - creating an atmosphere that feels both grounded and inviting. This layered, immersive approach offers guests a slower, more mindful luxury that speaks to the neighbourhood's creative spirit and evolving cultural identity.





164 rooms



refined  
*narrative led*  
design



astet  
studio



# WORKSPACE DESIGN SHOW

*what stood out?*

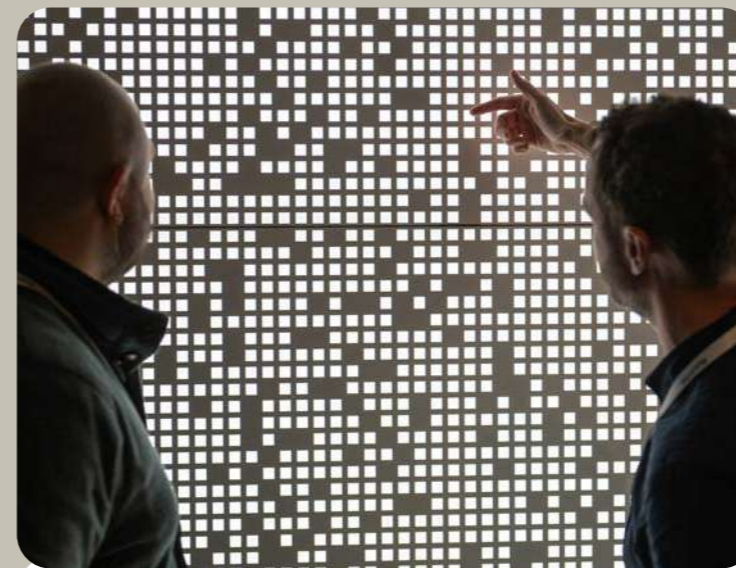
a collaboration with  
**workspace**  
design show  
london



Circular thinking, actually applied. Designed to be dismantled, reused and leave almost no trace.



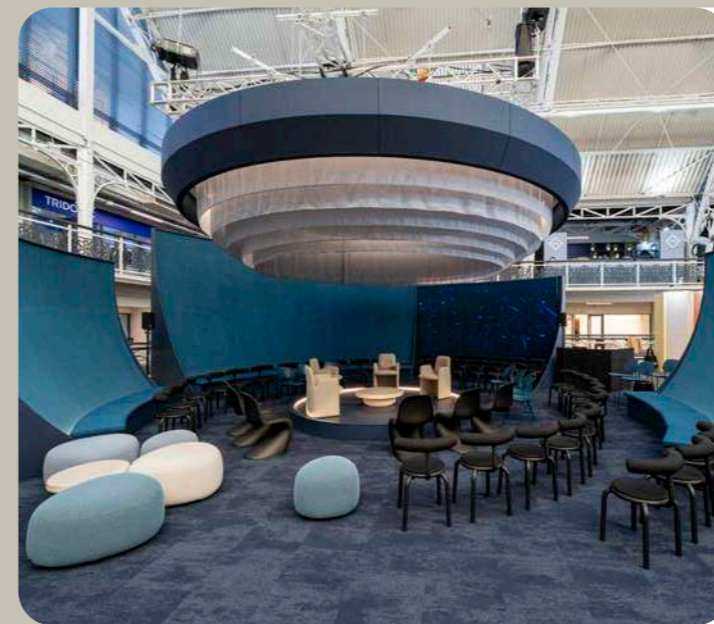
Natural materials, high performance. Chalky whites, warm oat, soft taupe and pale clay.



Spaces that respond to people. Play with colour, texture and lighting, watching the spaces respond in real time.



The Inaugural Workspace Design Awards celebrated the future of workplace design.



## Immersive and theatrical!

The stage that blurred the boundary between physical and digital realms. Cosmic tones faded into layered gradients, creating depth.



## People at the centre.

A reminder that even in a technology-driven era, human connection remains the grounding force.

## Process becomes the experience.

Bio-circular acoustic panels were being produced live.





what it really means to work

“in the trenches”

of the construction industry!

# georgia jackson

Estimator at Cast Interiors

We sat down with Georgia Jackson, Estimator at Cast Interiors, to explore what really happens behind the scenes of construction projects and what it means to work “in the trenches” of the industry.

Georgia shares her journey from growing up on construction sites in Sydney working alongside her dad, to carving out her own path in the industry and unexpectedly finding her place in estimating. What started as a role she once saw as purely numbers-driven quickly became something far more dynamic, creative, and collaborative.

#### So, to start, how did you get into estimating?

Okay. So I started off in construction when I was 17 or 18, working for my father, who owns a residential building company back home in Sydney. It was quite a nurturing way to get onto a construction site. Being a female in the industry can be quite daunting, but my dad took me under his wing. I helped shape plasterboard in bathrooms and kitchens, worked on renovations, built decks and pergolas, and sometimes just grabbed tools or helped out wherever needed. It was a very hands-on approach. I became a bit tomboyish, but I wouldn't have had that same foundation without him.

#### What was that experience like growing up around construction?

In my family, we always joke there is no one who believes more in a female than a dad who needs help. I'm one of three girls, and although my dad may have wanted a son, he adapted and supported us fully. At one point, all of us were working in construction, which was probably the proudest moment of his life. He's still very proud today.

London was a choice I made. With my mum being Italian, Europe was always something we were drawn to.

#### At what point did estimating become your focus?

After working with my dad, I started my cadetship in Sydney with a commercial company. I learned a lot about construction and estimating. Initially, I thought I'd become a project manager, but I didn't enjoy managing trades onsite.

The MD suggested I try estimating. At first, I thought it would be boring, just numbers and spreadsheets, but I ended up loving it. I enjoy the variety and quick turnaround of projects. What I might price in 4 to 6 weeks takes months to deliver onsite.

**How would you describe the role of an estimator to someone outside the industry?**

Estimating is more collaborative than people think. It involves working with pre-construction teams, design managers, and supply chains. There's creativity in understanding how something will be built before it exists.

You're constantly visualising, coordinating, and aligning cost with time and design intent.

**What are the biggest challenges that come with that?**

You always worry about what you might have missed. That's part of the role. The goal is to minimise risk and learn from mistakes. You never make the same mistake twice.

Communication is key, especially with clients. Understanding budgets, expectations, and functionality helps balance cost and design.

**How important is it for clients to be clear about budgets from the start?**

Clients need to be transparent. If we know the budget early, we can design within it and deliver better value. Estimating and design should always go hand in hand.

Designers think visually, while estimators think in cost. Both perspectives are important.

**What role do suppliers play in that process?**

Suppliers can help by being transparent with pricing and providing clear cost breakdowns. Understanding how materials are priced helps estimators align costs properly.

**Looking ahead, how do you see the industry evolving?**

Looking ahead, AI will support the industry but won't replace human thinking. It may help with data, benchmarking, and efficiency, but human judgement is still essential.

**And in terms of sustainability?**

Sustainability will be a major shift. Certifications and frameworks will become more common, and there will be more focus on energy use and environmental impact.

**Are you seeing changes already in how materials are used?**

Reuse of materials is becoming more common. Glass partitions, flooring, and other materials can be repurposed, reducing waste and carbon impact.

**How is the industry starting to approach waste differently?**

The industry is starting to rethink waste. Instead of sending everything to landfill, materials are being reused or repurposed.

**What would you say is key to overcoming challenges in your role?**

Challenges will always exist, especially when dealing with new scopes or unfamiliar suppliers. But communication and collaboration solve most issues.

Asking for help is not a weakness. It's a strength.

**And how does experience shape the role over time?**

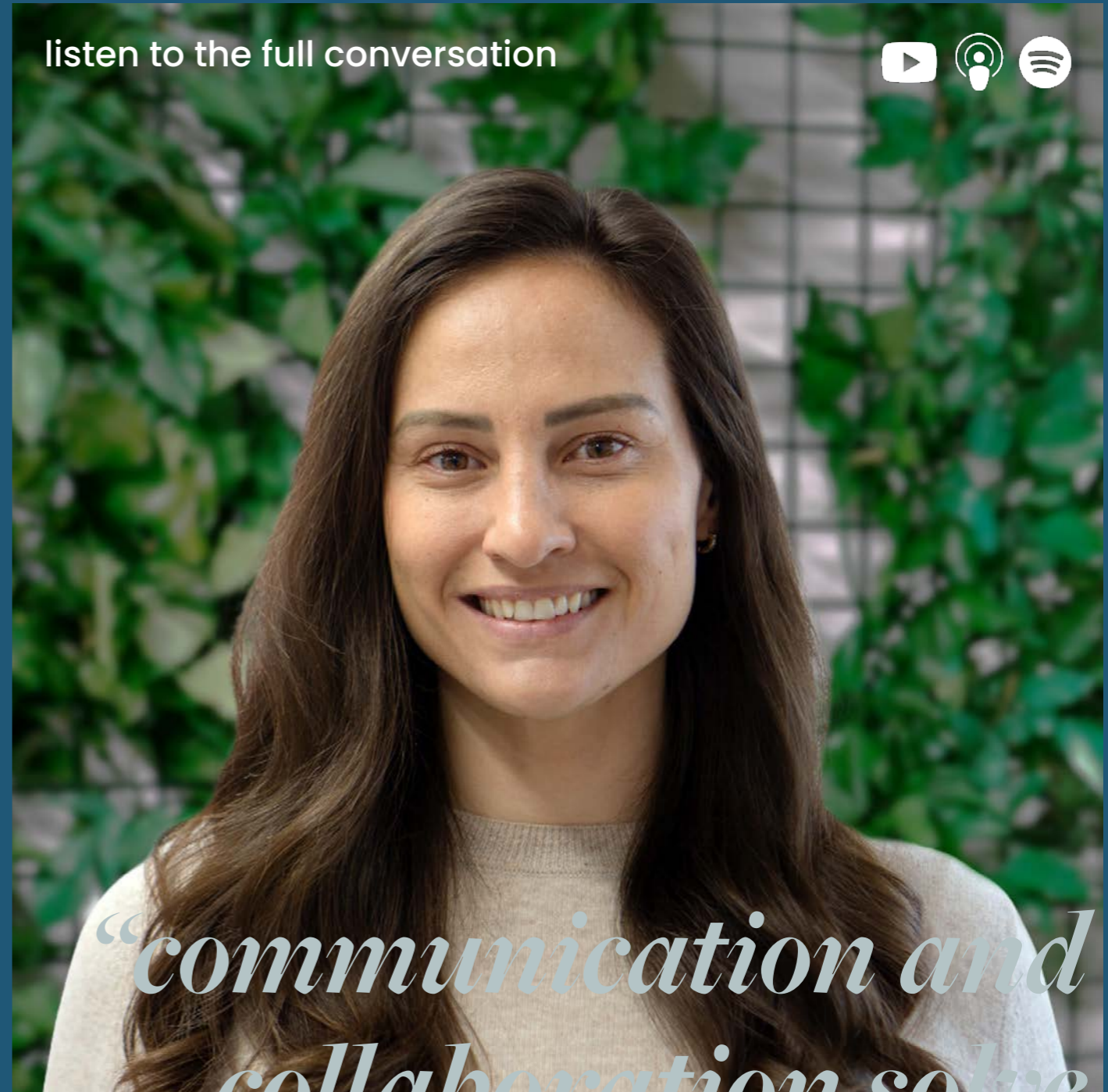
Learning from mistakes and applying those lessons is key. Experience builds over time.

**Final question, how do you stay focused?**

When focusing, I listen to music, often house or instrumental, to stay in the zone. It helps maintain focus without distraction.



listen to the full conversation



*“communication and collaboration solve most issues. asking for help is not a weakness. it's a strength”*



STANSONS\_

19th - 21st May