

Pearl Lowe

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'It's a SUNNY afternoon in an 18th-century town house on the river Thames in west London, and a fashion/interior designer Pearl Lowe and her model daughter Daisy are talking natter, fashion, handbags, heartache, parents, the perfect partner and breakfasts. They share the same graceful, feisty features, the same sunny laugh and, of course, they are darlings of the fashion world. Pearl, 45, is wearing a vintage dress from her successful eponymous label, and Daisy, 30, is trying that sexy androgynous 1940s look she does so well – the one that has won her many modelling contracts. As we launch a prepared bag of tea, it is clear they know absolutely everything about each other's lives, with Daisy talking me through the pages of her mum's new interiors book, *Faded Glamour*. The photos are from her home in Somerset, but if you came to my house, you'd see exactly the same sort of look [vintage hotel, isn't that it, I grew up with it, I love it, it does me feel comfortable], she says. Today is a good day because they are able to work together, having been asked by Rad-



above Pearl Lowe and her
daughter Daisy/Gallery of
Magnum in 2000



ford, the British handbag label, to front the new edit, a collection of eight party-sensory bags, including a 'Pearl' in sparkling leather, and a 'Daisy' with crocodile texture. They are incredibly classic and timeless with a lot of attention to detail,' Daisy says. 'I love it because it is this beautiful barrel shape, I when I saw Mum's velvet one I knew it's something I would be borrowing – which is a point of the collection. They are bags you go to sleep.' 'There's a lot of borrowing that goes on between us. Usually Daisy taking things from my wardrobe,' Pearl says. 'I don't drive my car, but I've just accepted that when my new pair of Vivienne Westwood boots go missing they will be somewhere in the world [Daisy's best. I walked into a party once and saw her friend wearing the Mia Minnie bag that I'd been searching for for months. In fact, it's nice that your daughter appreciates your style.]' Pearl was never a conventional mother, which makes their close bond all the more extraordinary. In her 20s and early 30s, Pearl



'I feel it was something I had to go through. I actually think it was all about becoming a woman, the woman I wanted to be'

Left Daisy with actor Matt Smith at the Oscars in 2011; with music producer Mark Ronson in 2008, modelling for Vivienne Westwood in London Fashion Week, 2010

the sake of her family, and she and her husband, the Supergrass drummer Danny (hey, moved to the country, Daisy, who started modelling at 15, lived for a year in her grandparents' – Eddie and Leila – in Somerset. And by 17, despite being predicted to go to A-level, she abandoned plans to study law and dropped out of school to model full-time, with shoots for Italian Vogue, French Connection among others.

In Somerset, Pearl's life fell into place because pregnant with her fourth of five, now 14 (the couple also have two Alys, 23 and Frankie, 20), and embarking on a new career, designing tees and vinyl dresses (which she sells online), and in security moving into interiors, design her own range of wallpapers and work on private commissions.

I have known Pearl for almost 20 years and I know the strength and resilience, to mention a couple of financial crises, she has taken to get to the place she's in is although she always seemed such a carefree politician, the country life suits her.

went from being queen of the indie music scene (she fronted a band called Powder) to being a key figure in the Primrose Hill set, best friends with Kate Moss – and developed an on/off heroin habit. She was just 19 when she had Daisy, whose father is the rock star Gavin Rossdale, and relied on her parents to help her bring up her young daughter.

But in 2006, their life was transformed when Pearl made the decision to get clean for

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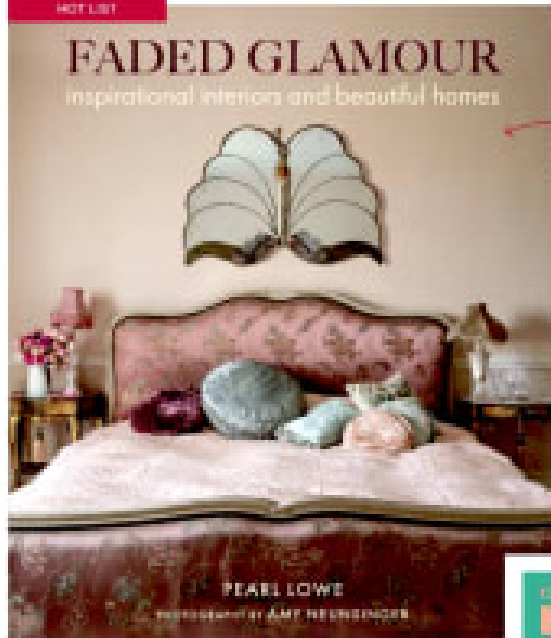
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HOT LIST



FADED GLAMOUR

inspirational interiors and beautiful homes

PEARL LOWE
introduction by AMY REYNOLDS

Home

Faded Glamour by Pearl Lowe
Published 9 October

Memories, and our eyes. The words, read, 'I still remember Pearl Lowe in her room for inspiration, so I'd been that celebratory the moment - a collection of colour and pattern including florals and hand-painted patterns, so beautiful in the way they fit. We get a peek into the similarly glamorous past of her fashionable street clothes. "I love" she says, "an object that captures the height of elegance but is now a bit faded. So far more affordable than ever being found here" <http://www.penguin.com>



LUNGS

A play by

MATT SMITH

From 14 Oct 2016

Theatre

Lungs
14 October-8 November | The Old Vic

Matt Smith and Jane Taylor create brilliant Macbeth-inspired musical love story that follows a young couple who want a child, but who, in a world of terrorism, political unrest and global anxiety, are worried out of their minds. They want a child for the right reasons but they just don't know what those right reasons are. Pregnancy, family, marriage and financial stress, so follow their story as they're propelled into an ever-turbulent world where the hope their relationship will survive. [The Old Vic, 020 7330 6700, www.theoldvic.com](http://www.theoldvic.com)

Exhibition

Costume at the National Theatre
From 3 October | National Gallery

The NT costume collection is the creative world of those who work, create, edit, repair, organise and maintain costumes for over 20 live productions a year, including Macbeth, Twelfth Night and The Merchant of Venice. The exhibition shows the stages of the process, from initial design and construction to the final fitting and repair. The show's designer from Paris, says it follows the chain from up close and to work some of the most exciting and interesting items from the costume collection. An essential insight into the collaborative work that goes into one of the most ordinary costumes. www.nationaltheatre.org.uk



Costume of Tom Hiddleston as King Lear from the production of King Lear at the National Theatre



W

When Pearl Lowe and her sister, Elizabeth, founded the interior design firm Pearl Lowe in 2010, they were looking for a way to combine their love of design with their love of fashion. They also wanted to create a brand that was both stylish and sustainable. The company has since grown into a multi-million pound business.

How's your company doing? Pearl Lowe is doing well. The company has grown significantly since its launch, and Pearl Lowe is now a multi-million pound business. The company has also expanded into new markets, including the US and Australia.

What's your biggest challenge? Pearl Lowe's biggest challenge is finding the right talent. The company is looking for people who are passionate about design and fashion, and who are also interested in sustainability.

How do you stay inspired? Pearl Lowe stays inspired by looking at new design trends and by collaborating with other designers. The company also draws inspiration from nature and from the work of other artists.

ROCK ROYALTY

Former singer Pearl Lowe has crafted a career designing vintage-inspired tea dresses. She tells us how working with model Tiggly Taylor fit all the right notes



Red-print
Jens, £225



Floral Marilyn,
£195



Alan, £225

How would you describe your style? Does your aesthetic run into your home, too?

"Completely. I'd say it was 'faded glamour' – a bit aged and a bit worn, once quite glamorous but probably isn't so much any more. That really sums up my style.

"I'm getting on a bit now, unfortunately. In my head I'm still 18, but when I look in the mirror it confirms that I'm really not."

Do you have any treasured possessions in your wardrobe?

"Probably the Alexander McQueen purple silk floor-length dress he gave me. I went to his birthday party one night wearing it – I'd borrowed it from the press office – and he said 'You look great in that. You should keep it.' I was like 'Oh my God!'

"It's 1980s style and got loads of covered purple silk buttons going all the way down, and it's got a train. It's the most beautiful dress you've ever seen.

"It's happy in my wardrobe; the girls haven't actually found that one yet – they haven't got their grubby paws on it.

"Then, who's now 18, has started borrowing my clothes. I found my Chanel top in her room the other day."

What's next in the pipeline for you?

"I want to do shoes and bags, but I don't know where I'd start. I really hate that I'm always thinking of something else to do as I really don't have the time, but I also have this thing where I can't find shoes and bags that I love, so I need to make them."

Where do you see yourself in ten years' time?

"Probably a grandma. I should hope – I'm really hoping I'll be a grandma and that I'll still be in Somerset and fitting between home and somewhere abroad."

Pearl wears **Polka Dot Jens**, £195 (above left), and Tiggly Taylor models **Alan** in **Madal Jens**, £225 (left). All dresses Pearl Lowe, and pearllowe.co.uk

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Created in honour of Woodchip @ Magazine's frequent collaborator, Pearl Lowe, on the launch of her new book of the same name, it's a vintage-inspired print evoking romance and drama.

Resistant and romantic with more than a hint of rock 'n' roll, it's basically Pearl in a print. Lush botanicals in rich reds,inky blues and the palest of pinks clash against a brooding black background for a dramatic, enigmatic finish.

The **Faded Glamour** is £40 per roll, while the **Victorian woman** starts from £20.



Created in honour of friendship @ Magnolia's frequent collaboration, Pearl Lowe, on the launch of her new book of the same name, it's a vintage-inspired print evoking opulence and drama. Incandescent and romantic with more than a hint of rock 'n' roll, it's basically Pearl in a print. Lady botanicals in rich reds,inky blues and the palest of pinks stand against a brooding black backdrop for a dramatic, unexpected finish.

The Faded Glamour is £40 per roll, while the Streamlined starts from £25.

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MAD ABOUT ...

BEAUTIFUL ROOMS: A SPLASH OF GREEN

17th OCTOBER 2014



pearl lowe's book Faded Glamour is out now, this is her bedroom - [tweet about here](#)

Green is all anyone is talking about at the moment; whether it's colour of the year, our impact on the planet or new paint ranges so I thought we would see that as excuse to look at some green inspiration today and perhaps if you are thinking of incorporating this colour into your space it might inspire you.

I write about the psychology behind the colour green here here so you can have a look at that too while striding round these beautiful rooms.

Another French bed below - and if you like them try The French Bed for similar - that link takes you to a particularly pretty one but there are lots more on the site. This belongs to Pearl Lowe, whose new book Faded Glamour is out this week and whose pages tear you can see here. She has teamed her green velvet Marais bed from Solo Home with soft pink wallpaper and vintage mirrored bedside tables. The cover of her book also features the French bed in her daughter Daisy's room.

Interior designer Pearl Lowe captures the 'gloriously decadent' homes of her famous friends for a new book - including Alice Temperley's Somerset house and her own 11-bedroom Georgian mansion

- Fashion designer Pearl Lowe, 49, Somerset has photographed the grandiose living rooms of her friends
- Her own Somerset home is featured with text and set of six and designer to do for
- Style icon Lowe is known for her love of vintage fashion and interiors and studied to interior design herself
- Her new book called *Petal's Somerset: Inspirational Interiors and Beautiful Homes* is published by DOD books



Artist of style, Pearl Lowe is known for her fashionable tastes and love of everything vintage.

Now the fashion designer, former singer and interior designer, 49, from Somerset has revealed her friends' grandiose homes in her new book *Petal's Somerset: Inspirational Interiors and Beautiful Homes*

It encompasses different facets of what she calls 'faired glamour' - 'gloriously decadent yet well-lived-in decorating style.'

Several high-profile Brits' country houses and glit-d-tens are featured, including the stylish interior of designer Sophie Raggett Partridge, who combines different kinds of marble and prints to create a very colourful living space in her west-end country house.

Alice Temperley's Somerset house also makes a rather striking appearance, with its pink bedrooms and sublime living rooms, decorated with touches of ornamentation and eclecticism.

Pearl also gives a glimpse of her own sense of faired glamour, sharing pictures of her own brick Somerset Georgian property of 11 rooms.

Pearl and her husband Barry Geoffry moved from London to the house three years ago. They now live there with their children Barry, Ella, Frank and daughter Daisy.

She explains in the book that thanks to the dwelling's space and light, she managed to use homage to its Georgian roots as well as her more 'playful' style. *PETAL'S* features eight photos from the book...

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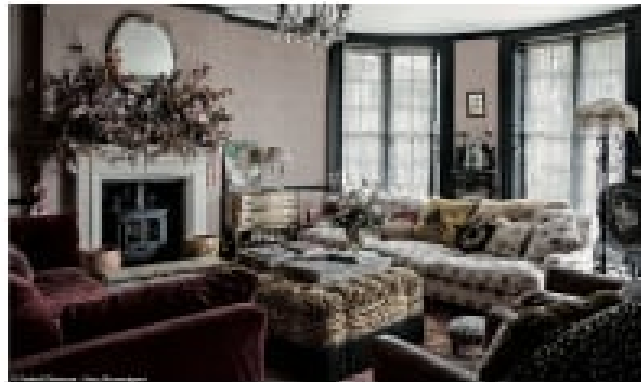
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MailOnline

Interior designer Pearl Lowe captures the 'gloriously decadent' homes of her famous friends for a new book - including Alice Temperley's Somerset house and her own 11-bedroom Georgian mansion

- Fashion designer Pearl Lowe, 55, Somerset has photographed the grandest living rooms of her friends
- Her own Somerset home is featured with rock and roll style and designs to die for
- Style icon Louise Linton is her love of vintage fashion and interior used as a guide in interior design herself
- Her new book called *Faded Glamour: Inspirational Interiors and Beautiful Homes* is published by CICO Books



An icon of style, Pearl Lowe is known for her fashionably rustic and love of over-piling vintage.

Now the fashion designer, former singer and interior designer, 55, from Somerset has revealed her friends' grandest homes in her new book *Faded Glamour: Inspirational Interiors and Beautiful Homes*.

All encompass different facets of what she calls faded glamour - 'gloriously decadent yet well-lived-in decorating style.'

Some of the profiles include country houses and grand estates are featured, including the stylish interior of designer Suzanne de Quary Pennington, who combines different kinds of textiles and prints to create a very colourful living space in her weekend country house.

Alice Temperley's Somerset house also makes a rather striking appearance, with its grand bedrooms and sublime living rooms, decorated with touches of romanticism and eclecticism.

Pearl also gives a glimpse of her own corner of faded glamour, sharing pictures of her own South Somerset Georgian property of 11 rooms.

Pearl and her husband Davey Hooley moved from London to the house three years ago. They now live there with their children Betty, Ella, Frank and daughter Daisy.

She explains in the book that thanks to the dwelling's space and light, she managed to pay homage to its Georgian roots as well as her more 'playful' style. *Faded Glamour* features eight pictures from the book...

people like Louise Linn, Simon Miller and Kasper Lindergha wearing them. Davey and I have recently photographed her in one of my new dresses.

"I love Alice's Daisy's style and the ability with me she has my dress as I'd like to make her one. And obviously my daughter Daisy looks too edible in all of them."

You've used both Betty and Davey in your campaigns. What made you choose Tigrida to model the women's collection?

"I've known Tigrida for a long time. I always see Daisy and although she's not perfect and has the most beautiful body I feel like I had a few comments all people asking why I didn't use my daughter."

"I like to keep everything realistic so I thought, 'Come on! Come on! of your number one', and I like my Daisy better [daughter of singer Paul] and it really worked. It brought in a different demographic."

"I think Tigrida looks fantastic - she's quite, but she's womanly and rock 'n' roll."

How does she fit on the face of the brand?

"Even though I love girly things and I like

that look, because my dresses are quite because I chose women with a bit of an edge. Tigrida's got curves and she's got a bit of a girl's confidence, but she's also so lovely. And she's got a womanly body which is perfect for the Pearl Lowe brand."

Which do you prefer: Interiors or dresses?

"Probably the dresses because I get to wear them, which is exciting."

"I've got hundreds of vintage dresses from the 1920s going up to the '50s. Some of them are starting to fall apart because they're so old and some of the fabrics aren't standing the test of time."

Do you miss making music?

"Yes, I do. My husband has just built a studio and he keeps saying, 'Pearl, let's do a record, and he'll play something and he'll like.' This will really suit my body voice. Love it."

"You keep going. I love it. I've got an email."

'My daughter Betty's started borrowing my clothes. I found my Chanel top in her room the other day'



Red gone gone, £225

Pink Marjorie, £180

Alice, £275

or 'I've got this conference call - I'm just not here' I have it more than anything else, but I have to work going on."

"I've got an immense book that's just finished called *Just Glamour* and that's been amazing. And I've just finished something very exciting with Daisy in the new series of *Beauty*. And there I'm launching candles and about new magazines, which is called *Faded Glamour*."

Who else would you like to collaborate with?

"I have a lot of things that I've just been collaborating with Selva Stone, which is like a dress come out."

"Also, I've always wanted to do something with Gaby Duvet. I've always said that I'd like to collaborate with her."

After many home scenes, three years ago you moved to Somerset. Is this home still 'The One'?

"Yes, but it's actually been gone by now - my husband can't believe it. It's so weird that I haven't mentioned the words 'forever home'."

"I'm struggling to find a way to live but it's just on the edge of a town so my kids can walk to the station and go to London to school. It's kind of an old village with a house, so it's just lovely."

How would you describe your style? Does your aesthetic ever lose your focus, too?

"Completely. I'd say it was 'faded glamour' - it's changed and a lot more, more quite glamorous but probably not too much for me. That really suits my style."

"I'm getting on a bit now, unfortunately in my head I'm still 19. But when I look in the mirror it confirms that I'm really not."

Do you have any favourite garments in your wardrobe?

"Probably the Alexander McQueen purple silk dress that I bought for me. I want to have that because it's so nice and it's so nice. I've loved it since the year after - and I'll still say 'Yes, that's great in that 'Yes, should keep it.' I was like 'Oh my God!'"

"It's 1980s style and I've got a lot of people who have gone off the way they are, and it's not a trend. It's the most beautiful dress you've ever seen."

"It's happy in my wardrobe that she's gone. I've always loved that one - they have to get their quality from me."

"Yes, she's now 19. You know? I'm having my vision. I found my Chanel top in her room the other day."

What's next in the pipeline for you?

"I want to do shoes and boots, but I don't know where I start. I really like that I'm always thinking of something else to do so it really doesn't leave me, but I also have this thing where I can't find shoes and boots that I love, so I want to make them."

Where do you see yourself in ten years' time?

"Probably a grandma. I should hope - I'm really hoping I'll be a grandma and that I'll call for my business and I'll be having a home and everything about."

Pearl wears *Pinkie Out* dress, £175 (shown in left), and Tigrida Taylor models *Madalyn* in *Madalyn* dress, £225 (left). All dresses Pearl Lowe and photographs by...

Pearl Lowe reveals her vintage style secrets

We spoke to interior designer Pearl Lowe at the launch of her new book to find out how we can add some *Faded Glamour* into our own homes.



Interior designer **Pearl Lowe** is much celebrated for her signature style, combining carefully sourced decorative objects, vintage patterns, ornate fabrics and stunning antiques. Her new book, ***Faded Glamour***, explores some beautiful properties that encapsulate her design ethos, including her own stunning home in Frome, Somerset.

We caught up with her at the launch of the new book to find out about some of her own most treasured possessions, and how we can bring some Faded Glamour to our own feet.

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What does Faded Glamour mean to you?

From early on, I can remember reacting strongly to a house that has some age to it and a story to tell – they appeal to me in a massive way. I just love things that are imperfect and have a history. I love Parisian apartments when you walk in and there's paint peeling off the walls and old broken mirrors – that kind of thing. I'm just mad about things that were once so glamorous, but now it's just a bit worn and tired – a few people have referred to me in a similar way in my time!

The reason I created a look like this is because, at the moment, everyone's talking about sustainability. But I don't think people don't think about the fact that actually, this style is sustainable. You have to really think about your carbon footprint at this point, and this furniture was made years and years ago – it's being recycled and it's fantastic. You don't have to buy anything new.

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Is there a piece in your own home that has particularly memorable story for you?

I always talk about a lamp, because I bought it in Paris at Clamart market. It had a sort of metal frame to it and my husband said that I couldn't get it, because it was really heavy. (But of course, I went up to the lady and asked how much it was. She said €80, so obviously I said I'd take it. The problem is that we were going back on the Eurostar! We had to find a taxi that would fit us take it (with the window down and lamp sticking out) and then take it on the Eurostar. He had to carry it and didn't talk to me the whole way. But it's still in our front room and it is so beautiful. Whenever I look at it, it just reminds me of that trip.

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An icon of style, Pearl Lowe is known for her fashionable taste and love of everything vintage.

Now the fashion designer, former singer and interior designer, 48, from Somerset has revealed her friends' grandiose homes in her new book *Faded Glamour: Inspirational Interiors and Beautiful Homes*.

All encompass different facets of what she calls faded glamour - 'gloriously decadent yet well-lived-in characterful style.'

Several high-profile Brits' country houses and city 4-beds are featured, including the stylish interior of designer (and long-time partner) Park High, who combines different kinds of metals and prints to create a very colourful living space in her weekend country house.

Alice Temperley's Somerset house also makes a rather striking appearance, with its pink bathrooms and sublime living rooms, decorated with touches of romanticism and escapism.

Pearl also gives a glimpse of her own sense of faded glamour, sharing pictures of her own lavish Somerset Georgian property at Truro.

Pearl and her husband Barry O'Leary moved from London to the house three years ago. They now live there with their children Beth, 11, Frank and daughter Daisy.

She explains in the book that thanks to the dwelling's space and light, she managed to pay homage to its Georgian roots as well as her more 'playful' style. *Faded Glamour* features eight pictures from the book...

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An icon of style, Pearl Lowe is known for her fashionista taste and love of everything vintage. Now the fashion designer, former singer and interior designer, 48, from Somerset has revealed her friends' grandiose homes in her new book Packed Glamour: Inspirational Interiors and Beautiful Homes. All encompass different facets of what she calls faded glamour a 'gloriously decadent yet well-lived-in decorating style.'

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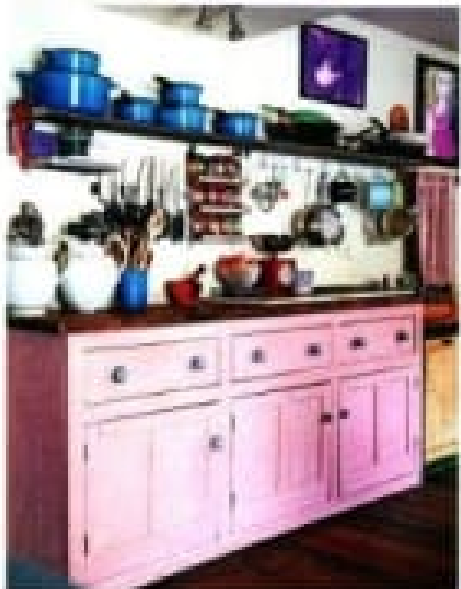
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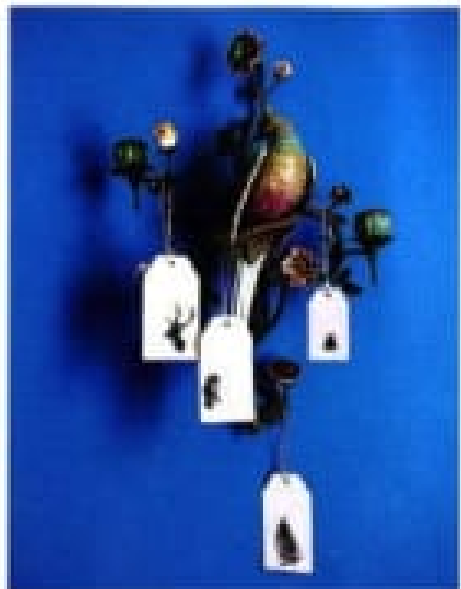
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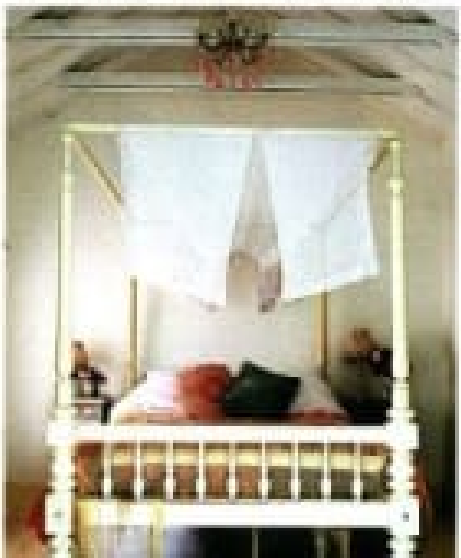
INTERIORS



ABOVE "I love my home, and my husband, Davey, loves to work." The family kitchen features cabinets painted in pearl luster. **BELOW** "Some people mistake beauty to my home, long as windows, so I have an extra wall as beds as examples. I allow the message that they give"



ABOVE Dried eucalyptus and amaranth, set against a vibrant wall, can also be hung with hand-printed labels. **BELOW** "I love the look of bamboo out of doors. Just bring out tables and chairs and covered legs of them quite over the ground and create with comfort"



some of these in between. "Don't be my obsession with paint and paper. The walls in my house are the only thing that I love. They won't stay still for long, so I'll be there when they do."

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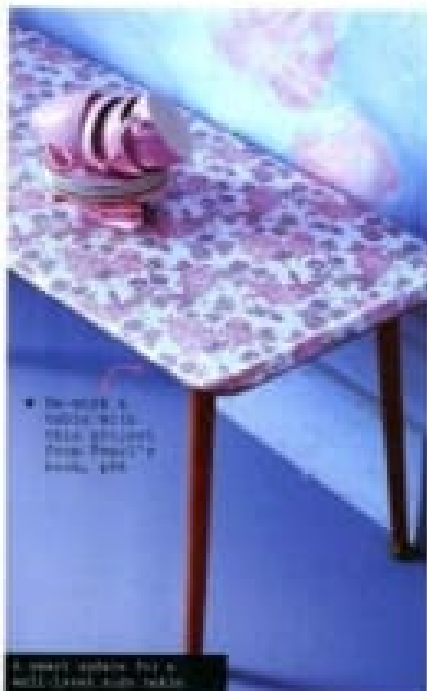
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CLOTH SPOTLIGHT



Don't miss out on her first design book



A great option for a budget-friendly table

“B e keen to make things beautiful, go with your instinct and passion and you will create your own unique and stylish home, and have a lot of fun in the process,” explains Pearl at the front of her new book, *Design Craft*. It features 50 projects that capture all the glitz and romance of vintage and every page is filled with beautiful photography, practical ideas for your home and insights into Pearl's Somerset life with Supergrass drummer and musician husband Dermot Dwyer and their three children.

It's a far cry from her previous life in London, with 4 cat friends like Kate Moss and Belle from as part of her near daily and eight other nights of glamorous events going on and in Pearl's own autobiography, *101 Things*, she shares her life as part of the central social group in London during the 1990s and her descent into addiction. Now when she has time fully recovered, living in Somerset has allowed her to unwind and she's now focused on her life, with family, friends and collaborating a major part.

With a well-curated clothing collection for Primark under her belt, Pearl is well known for her quirky, vintage-inspired style. Don't miss Pearl's

first attention to the home and reveals her style secrets and favourite projects within the pages of her new book. Be caught up with Pearl to chat about her life in the country and what home means to her.

How's it like being your own boss?
It's amazing, because it's been years of thought. It actually was it in part a revelation. My favourite project is the office in a warehouse – it's where your creative beauty becomes your workplace. Office can be so cluttered and so quite minimal, so I like the fact that it's lovely and you can hide everything in there. It's a wonder to anything that takes anything a minute.

What was the biggest lesson you learned?
I always have to do things on a budget because once I've bought them I don't have the money to do them up! So I learned to put together a book to show people that you don't necessarily have to get permission to do your house – you can do it yourself!

Has your taste changed at all?
I don't like things anymore. We sold it last month – we're renovating a big old timber house, so we've just moved from that gorgeous house.



“I LOVE THINGS THAT HAVE HISTORY, OBJECTS THAT TELL A STORY”

Book the Somerset House at 101 Things



Pearl Lowe

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JULY 2014 2015 The Real Estate Magazine **Life Homes** 41

Dream HOMES to buy

Bedrooms 1
£3.3M
 This is a rare opportunity to buy a grand Victorian house in the heart of London. The property is a masterpiece of architecture and offers a unique blend of history and modern living. It features a grand entrance, a large hall, a library, a study, a dining room, a kitchen, a breakfast room, a living room, a conservatory, a terrace, a garden, and a garage. The property is in excellent condition and offers a unique blend of history and modern living. It features a grand entrance, a large hall, a library, a study, a dining room, a kitchen, a breakfast room, a living room, a conservatory, a terrace, a garden, and a garage.

Bedrooms 2
£1.5M
 This is a rare opportunity to buy a grand Victorian house in the heart of London. The property is a masterpiece of architecture and offers a unique blend of history and modern living. It features a grand entrance, a large hall, a library, a study, a dining room, a kitchen, a breakfast room, a living room, a conservatory, a terrace, a garden, and a garage. The property is in excellent condition and offers a unique blend of history and modern living. It features a grand entrance, a large hall, a library, a study, a dining room, a kitchen, a breakfast room, a living room, a conservatory, a terrace, a garden, and a garage.

INTERIORS

Get the look
 By Pearl Lowe
Art Deco luxe

The Art Deco aesthetic is making a comeback, and it's not just in fashion. In the world of interior design, the 1920s and 1930s are being rediscovered. The style is characterized by bold, geometric shapes, rich colors, and a sense of luxury. It's a look that's both timeless and modern, and it's perfect for those who want to create a sophisticated and stylish home.

How to...
TRANSFORM YOUR SPARE ROOM

From £100
 Transform your spare room into a stylish and functional space. Start by choosing a color palette and then selecting furniture and decor that fits the style. You can also consider adding a desk, a chair, and a lamp to create a workspace. The key is to mix and match different pieces to create a unique and personalized look.

From £200
 Upgrade your spare room with a new bed, wardrobe, and chest of drawers. Choose a bed with a headboard and footboard, and a wardrobe with a full-length mirror. A chest of drawers will provide extra storage and a place to keep your accessories. The result will be a more organized and comfortable space.

From £500
 Create a complete look for your spare room. This includes a bed, wardrobe, chest of drawers, desk, chair, and lamp. You can also consider adding a rug, a plant, and a piece of art. The result will be a fully furnished and ready-to-use space.

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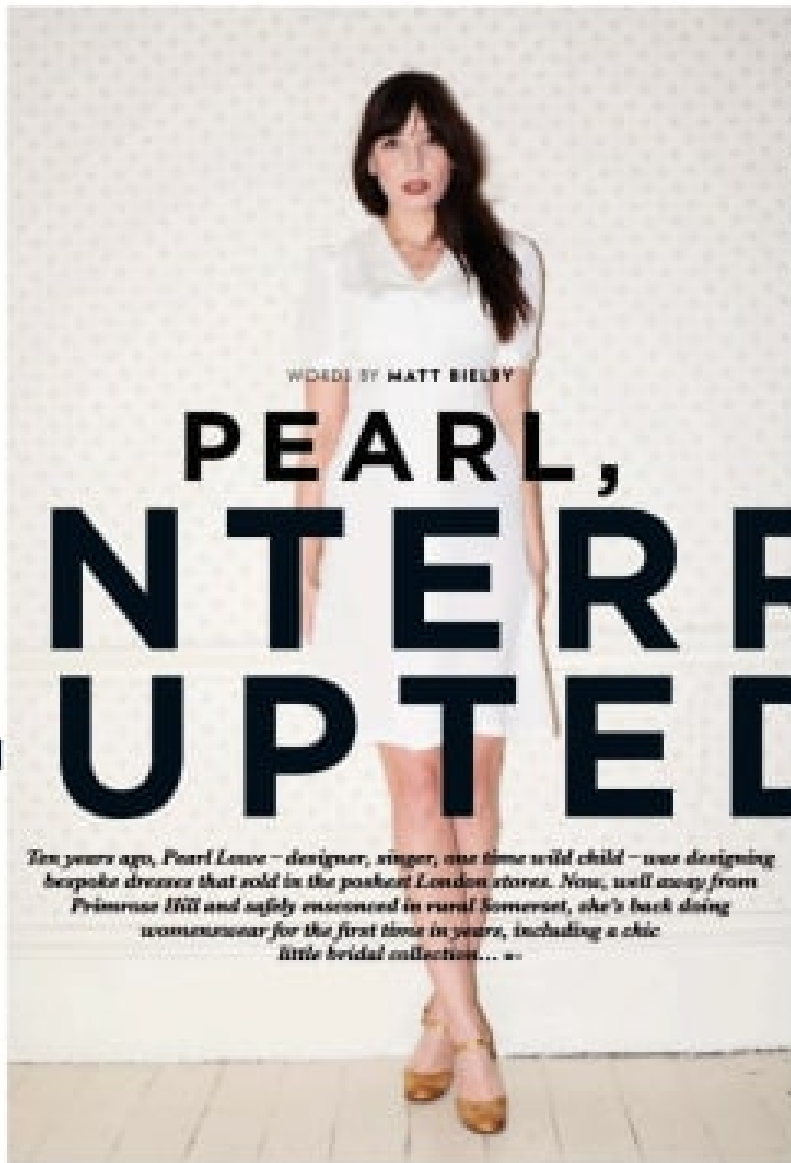
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WORDS BY MATT BIELBY

PEARL, INTER- -UPTED

Ten years ago, Pearl Lowe – designer, singer, one-time wild child – was designing bespoke dresses that sold in the poshest London stores. Now, well away from Primrose Hill and safely ensconced in rural Somerset, she's back doing womenswear for the first time in years, including a chic little bridal collection... »

When Pearl Lowe was young, her mum ran a designer boutique in Ladbroke Grove Gardens, from age twelve, or thereabouts, Pearl would work there as a Saturday girl. “One day I asked her if I could design a range of jumpers we could sell and, amazingly, mum said yes,” she says. “I can still remember them hanging up in the shop, and the girls I did.”

And did mum buy them and wear them? “Well, Lolita!” she was always a bit of a rebel, the young Pearl, and a night trader, she’d run up her clothes, random things, even styles even lighter they’d be for the occasion – and a year later she says she’d see girls wearing the same thing, but by then she’d have moved on.

“But take fashion seriously as a career? No, I never saw myself doing that.” The parents. “That’s back then.”

Instead she got into music and all that came with it, starting with indie bands. Primal and Ledger in the ‘90s, but she credits the world was. Her husband, Danny Goffin of Supergrass, often asks her to contribute to his records, but she puts him off. “I was never known for my amazing voice anyway,” Pearl says, “and the way with a good lyricist, either. The more a performance, someone who comes after me – and that’s kinda’ not on the cards at the moment. And anyway, I just don’t have the time.”

She doesn’t have the time because she’s suddenly very busy again, her children’s best, Piers and Pearl, going great guns at places like Harrold, and her more recent womenswear collection was opening a handful of bespoke dresses, of which more in a moment. None of them are black – as was the guest she went to her new wedding at Bakington House in 2008 – but she’ll happily do any a more vibrant for her in red, midnight blue, whatever you like. As she says, “It’s all about wearing what you want.”

Pearl’s London years are well documented, not least by herself in her compelling 2007 autobiography, *All The Girls Living On The Boat That I Got Off Of*. She was a key part of a North London set that included Kim Mee, Belle From, Jade Lacey and other models revolved around her, and she revolved around them, as life was doubling fast at times but hardly healthy. In the mid-2000s she’s perhaps best remembered for the fact that her eldest daughter – the model Daisy Lowe, cousin son of the house of The – turned out to be

the biological daughter of her friend, the Bath singer Gavin Rossdale, and not of the presumed father at all.

The story came out in 2008, around when Pearl’s life started changing radically. She and Danny moved out of London the following year, first to Hampstead. “It was great and healthy, as I’d had a rough time in London” – and later to the West Country.

“We couldn’t find a house to buy in Hampstead,” she says, “but anyway, we didn’t fit in. Everyone else worked in the City, but then

my best friend suggested we look at Wiltshire, and the house we liked actually said ‘Wines’, and was beautiful really. We drove there and it was so far, I really told Danny to turn around and go back, but when we got there the house was great, and the school was good, and we fell in love with it all. The situation was when the husband said, ‘Before you decide, why not check out Bakington House?’, and that sold us. We’ve been there for nearly ten years now, and I’ve been asked for it. Now I’m doing you contentment!” And with that she smiles. “I never had a problem with that.”



“I didn’t want to do music anymore – it made me miserable and anxious, all those days with a load of boys on a smelly bus”

Back in 2001, Pearl was doing up a house in London for Alan Tait Co of Creative Brands, champion of Oasis and The Libertines. But she couldn’t find any curtains she liked, so made up some last year – and, when all her friends saw them, they wanted

have curtains too. “It felt really good,” she says. “I didn’t want to be made anymore – it made me miserable and anxious, all those days with a load of boys on a smelly bus – and I needed something else beyond being busy with the children. I did feel got my career back.”

The love curtain thing had taken off the crazy – beyond anything I’d dreamed,” Pearl says – and so they ran an interior design party that continues, in the background, to this day. “But I work on people’s houses again,” she says, “and often age 50s. My clients are well known, and the people to think they did it themselves!”

A creative fashion follow-up “Oh had a baby,” Pearl says, “and found I had nothing to wear, so I started making my own clothes again.” Before the house it was being asked to make more, and was selling bespoke lace dresses in places like Liberty.

By now was more to have been a collaboration with Topshop, but she came out of those change meetings and sudden meeting that seems to typify Pearl’s life and career. “It was doing a travel review in *Elle* for the first magazine,” she says, “and, out of the blue, got a call

THE BRIDE: PEARL LOWE

from an old agent who instead asked me to create a line for Peacock, the retail fashion store. I'd never heard of them, but they had 600 shops, and it would be a three-year contract, four collections a year. It sounded incredible, so I signed my name. I'd do Peacock for two years!

Pearl's work for Peacock was quite a hit – she did a black dress that was a huge high street smash in 2003, for instance – so I was quite the shock when the company went into administration in 2002. “It was really depressing,” Pearl says, “but I’d just got a book deal, so there wasn’t too much time to dwell on it.”

Pearl (and) Phage Coll was published in 2003, and was well-received. In 2004, she says, she “didn’t do much,” trying to figure out a way back into fashion. She’d done £1,000 dresses for Liberty, but the rest of Pearl’s stuff had all been £65 or so, and it seemed hard to go back to high end gear again.

The solution was to merge sketches, into making childrenswear. “I’d started to make quilts dressing up on the floor for my youngest daughter,” she says, “and it all spun out of that.” One day she discovered there was a brand which took over the children’s department at Harrod, and she went to meet her major buying manager. “Then,” Pearl says, “in October last year I did my first line of adult dresses in five years. The dress just seemed right. I wanted to have them made in Harrod, so they couldn’t be too cheap, but they wouldn’t be ridiculously costly either, more somewhere in the middle.”

Indeed, the most expensive dresses she now sells are around £200. “And I’m loving it,” she says. “It’s a bit of a control freak, as I believe that we’re doing everything locally. With the London houses that make the children’s line, I occasionally find things ending up in the shops at Harrod before I’ve even seen the finished service – which I hate. The new manufacturer line is much smaller in comparison and we’re growing it slowly. There’ll be a collaboration with a big name at Christmas, yes, but we’re mostly just selling online at the moment.”

The initial womenswear line was just four dresses in different styles. “They’re not and carpet gowns,” Pearl says, “and they’re not corseted. Instead, they’re for women with bodies, and look so good on older ladies as on teenagers. We make them as up to size 20, and can go bigger – we just did a size 22 for a customer.”

Pearl has a huge collection, from a massive selection of vintage dresses. She picked up all over the world, and she especially draws on finds of the

1950s and ’60s, as the inspiration comes from there. A little from the ‘70s too – but the patterns, not the prints. And she sketches quickly.

After a decade’s worth of womenswear explored at Christmas, which has inspired her this year to experiment with different materials of Pearl’s frocks are mid-length, materials unobtrusive.

“If there’s one thing I know it’s that if I put a dress on and love it,” Pearl says, “then everyone else will too. The more of us can wear designer very more because you have to be a size four, and the cost is ridiculous. Just the other day,

Deey was saying to me, ‘Mum, when did everything at Harrod and John suddenly go to be £2,500?’ And it’s disgusting in a way – that’s the price of a probably would be old car. Really, it’s become vulgar to spend that much on one dress.”

People have been complaining about how expensive wedding dresses have become for many years, of course, and Pearl’s initial three-piece bridal line – yes, I said you’d get to have eventually – is more than affordable, with nothing over £400, unless you splurge on the fancier fabrics.

“The Audrey is a pretty short button-down short dress, and quite dressy,” Pearl says. “I have short skirt dresses, and it comes with short sleeves so many brides like to cover their arms. It costs £1,200 and is all in £300. You can wear it with a jacket, or with something under it, it’s very versatile.”

Cherry – the dress on our cover – is a very lace number, but surprisingly flattering too. “You’ll normally have it with a little dip down under it,” Pearl says. “You’d

only wear it as Daisy if you’re very hot – and Daisy’s age!” That comes in at £200, so for 20 quid more you could pick up a Marilyn, topped in at the waist and Alice to the knee in a 1940s style.

“It’s too honest,” Pearl says, “I don’t really know where the bridal line is going, but I do know that I’m loving it – and that there’s a market, because those styles are so versatile for so many people.”

So you’ll stick with it, yes? “When I can say it when I was a singer I got done all the time, and it doesn’t help that I’m a really sensitive person. And the moment I ever had two nine-to-five jobs was working for Peacock, which got to me in the end. I’m just not geared up for that sort of thing.”

So what you’re saying is, you’ll keep doing wedding gowns as long as people like them, and you don’t get bored?

“I think not. I’ve learned that I need to be able to go in lots of different directions to feel fulfilled,” Pearl says. “And this is one direction, right now, that I’m really enjoying.” @pearllowe.co.uk



‘If there’s one thing I know it’s that if I put a dress on and love it, then everyone else will too.’

BEYOND

Pearl Lowe

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"I made some really rash decisions when we bought this house," admits Pearl Lowe, laughing, "but moving here wasn't one of them."

However made of a nightmare in space for her first, it seems to be in the right place.

It takes more than a decade since Pearl – pop star and model turned writer and designer – swapped the garden and scumbags of her previous "Princess Hill" for a life of stylish suburbia in Somerset. But while her heart immediately settled on a country life with her musician husband Danny Goffey, the of Supergroup band and their children, it took at least six moves before they found a house that was right for them... Kind of. "It was a bit of a mess when we first moved in. It had a room and even with all the kids at home [and older daughter, model Daisy Lowe, visiting most weekends] that's too many. But it's the house that just wouldn't go away," Pearl explains. "A friend



first thought me here six weeks ago, saying, "It's got your name all over it." She was right and she never wanted to sell, but we couldn't afford the price she wanted. We kept in touch and, after three years, she finally said she would accept an offer. Danny and I just looked at each other and said, "How can we not?"

It was February when they moved in and, despite the house's size and age (it was built in 1832 and features a huge curved frontage as well as the usual Georgian spacious rooms and high ceilings), Pearl was convinced they could do a couple of paint-and-paper jobs and there it was for a family party eight weeks later. "I was so excited," she admits. But there were no walls to take down. "The only major change was to convert the main dining room into a kitchen and I'd already walked into it with, and through the cabinets the day we exchanged contracts." She had signed on the stage in a kitchen – for the doggy plumbing. "There was basically no change at the time of the

house," she says, shaking her head in disbelief. "There was a lot of stuff that was there and built-in all over the front garden."

It seems incredible to prove you from the period drama that is a renovation project. While Danny was working with his new band Van Goffey and Pearl was creating designs for her eponymous lifestyle brand and children's fashion range, they were also living in a building in the middle of winter and wondering if the heating would ever work again. "I was in a bit of a state, so it's no wonder I made some bad decisions," she says. "I'd already signed the paper to Daisy's name. The same day, Danny looked at the really expensive green wallpaper I'd put up in the living room and said, "There's this. It's a nice one," he said. "You've made a look like a light conservatory." He was right. I had to get it all with a new pattern from Lark Green."

Pearl's insights early morning the material with some wallpaper choice, though. There's that gorgeous new kitchen with its three-piece island topped with seamless Aquilapane marble. "Danny basically banned me from buying any usual jumble of reclaimed cupboards, with doors that stick and handles that fall off whenever you try to open a cupboard," she says with a laugh. "There were the original frameless of the wallpaper she's used throughout, with small with tiger print and greeny lamps, some art work and shaggy sheepskin, slippers and slippers. It's there for a vintage look that Pearl is a vintage, like in a new, more elegant look. "I just want to live every room," she says. "Basically, I want to be inspired by my own house." For more on Pearl's kitchen and interior design ideas, visit pearlhouse.co.uk

KITCHEN DETAIL

"I just love looking at this lightbox installation by Neil Thorne. One Group," says Pearl. "It's in the kitchen, so you can enjoy it every day." **Get the look:** For alternative versions of One Group's, sometimes it's a bit of a search at Lussance Allen Gallery. The Group's installation is by Pearl Lowe. pearlhouse.co.uk

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HOME PROFILE

THEY: CAROL HAYES Fashion and interior designer Pearl Lowe, her husband, musician Danny Goffey, and their children: Alice, 20, Frankie, 16, and Betty, 11. **Plus:** Angie the Cowdog.
THEY: HITCHHIKING An 11-bedroom Georgian house located just outside Frome in Somerset. On the ground floor there's an entrance hall and more hallway, living room/study, dining room, family room, dining room, kitchen, playroom, pantry and utility room. The first floor has six bedrooms and four bathrooms. There are a further five bedrooms on the second floor.



FAMILY ROOM

"My house is filled out from the antique markets in Frome and Chipping Nasset," says Pearl. "I'm passionate about a piece. Before it will work in the mix," says. It's the ornate prints that add an urban twist to her edgy, English country-house style. **Get the look:** Try to be the next room in a 19th-century house of Harleyway. The leopard-print chair is a flea-market find covered in fabric Pearl brought back from Hong Kong. The green velvet sofa is from DFS. The vintage mirror is from Les Coulter's in Chipping Nasset.

STYLING: CAROL HAYES





HOMES/ETC



BETTY'S BEDROOM

Betty chose every element of the black trapezium room - including the black and white striped wallpaper. "I suggested yellow but she was determined. She wants to be a designer one day," says Pearl. Get the look: The 4-Piece & Bath Suite from Stone Collection for a contemporary look is by TheLoraine-Jenny Co. The bed from a frame specialist. The butterfly sofa is by Pearl Lowe Ltd.

DAISY'S BEDROOM



HOMES/ETC



DAISY'S BATHROOM

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OH, what a CIRCUS!

After a decade in the country, it's no longer about juggling parties and the it-girl lifestyle for Pearl Lowe. Instead, she's working on a whole new performance, as Deborah Brett discovers
 Photographs: EMILY THORNTON

Lowe's wide collection is the Preenably cross performance of yesterday



PROFILE

Pearl Lowe in her beautiful Georgian country house

Carted up in an old French dining chair, beckett in a '40s ice dress and sitting on a bowl of grapes is how the 40-year-old designer Pearl Lowe is when I first meet her. Her transition from Princess Hill party girl to country-style dweller has been well documented, but I wasn't expecting quite so much domesticity.

There's already a buffet of fresh salads and soups on the counter opposite the Aga. She hasn't gone the full Nigella and baked them herself - they've been shipped over from neighbouring Pelington House to feed the 20 or so people who have descended on her beautiful Georgian house. But she's rather relaxed for someone whose hobby is being overtaxed with photographers, stylists, assistants and a gaggle of her 16-year-old daughter Betty's friends, who have all agreed to be circus performers for the day.

Lowe, however, seems at home in the chair, placing Betty and the other girls, who have a head bob at their disposal and are in a heated discussion about who will

Pearl Lowe

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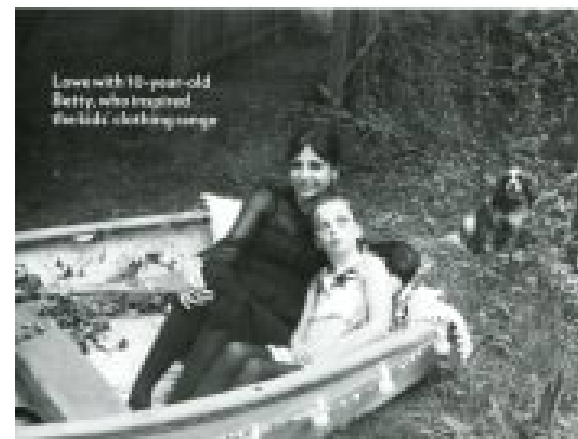
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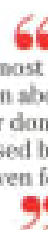
Performers for the day prepare alongside Betty O'Connell as the record label's friends head dressing up



Lowe with 10-year-old Betty, who inspired the label's clothing range

old, Alfie, is a DJ in Bristol, he's studying music and asked me to make him a butterfly outfit for Beethoven. He's been making some of my vintage stuff and returning it, which is really annoying. 'Can you just ask me?' he exclaims. Although it seems her second child still hasn't learned, having recently appropriated her favourite leopard-print coat. 'One of his friends posted a picture of him DJ-ing in it on Instagram, and I just messaged him going, 'You'd better bring that coat back!'

“It's the most excited I've ever been about anything I've ever done. I'm really surprised because it's not even for myself”



It's hard to believe that it's more than a decade since she upped and left the infamous Princess Hill party set, which included Kate Moss, Jade Len, Sadie Frost, Liza Gallagher and Patsy Kensit. 'We were going out every night in London. It was hard not to - 'If you come tonight, we will give you a Gucci handbag,' or, 'If you come tonight we'll pay you a grand.' It's so tempting, you have to be so strong to say, 'No, I'm staying in.' And then, when I moved to the country, I didn't go out at all.'

The move was an extreme but necessary measure, designed to help Lowe finally quit her addiction to both cocaine and heroin. 'It took ages to look at that time finally because for me it was very damaging, but now I'm able to see that it was a really fun, crazy time,' admits Lowe, adding sincerely, 'I can reflect on my more mature years, let's say, with no jealousy.'

HER MEMOIR ALL THAT GLITTERS, PUBLISHED IN 2007, CONVEYED JUST HOW CENTRAL DRUGS WERE TO HER GANG. A few read the book when he was 13. 'The only kid was a year ago. He said as it was just on the shelf, he thought he'd read it. I cried when he said, 'I really know what you've been through

and I'm not going to make the same mistakes. I'm so proud of everything you've done.'

Her eldest daughter, Daisy, 21, appears to inhabit a not-too-dissimilar world from her mother's former in-crowd, frequenting Glastonbury with her friends Patsy O'Connell and Alex Chung. 'I'm a walking encyclopedia on what you shouldn't do. I can sit down with my children, and I can guide them from my experiences. Alfie and Daisy really do listen to me.'

Model Daisy was the only one of her four children not to make the country move, opting instead to stay with her maternal grandparents in Luton and finish her schooling at South Hants High School. And this autumn she's being up her catwalk clothes and cropped them for dancing shoes on BBC One's *Society Come Dancing*.

'Daisy said, 'Sorry, Mum, but from now on your Saturday-night viewing is me.' We were so excited,' beams Lowe. 'I never really watched the show but Betty was obsessed with Abbey Clancy when she was out, so she is over the moon, she couldn't be prouder of her sister.' Lowe admits that Daisy is a natural. 'She always wanted to go to ballet, I'm really pleased people will get to know her. She is so sweet, so intelligent and she's very strong-willed.'

THE YOUNGEST, BETTY, HAS ALSO DIPPED HER TIDE INTO THE FASHION POND. After she appeared in a shoot for cool culture magazine *i-D*, stylist Katie Grand tasked Lowe asking if Betty would model in a Marc Jacobs ad.

The designer is known for his irreverent campaigns - Victoria Beckham's legs poking out of a giant shopping bag, for instance - and the images of Betty dressed in a long, python-print skirt and gold mask garnered typical coverage in the tabloids. 'It wasn't provocative in any way,' says Lowe of the demure photographs. 'She'd never been to New York, she'd never even been to America, so for her it was a dream come true. We went up the Empire State, we went in a carriage round Central Park, we saw the Statue Of Liberty.'

Since then, Betty has been photographed for the cover of *Figure* magazine. 'We flew to Milan last week. We have these little adventures together. It's not really what she expects to do - she wants to be a manager,' admits Lowe. 'She was a bit angry with me about the editorial for *Be* &



get which creates from past moments and negotiating how much glitter they can wear on their walls, eyes and anywhere else. There's her husband, multi-genre drummer Danny Gokey, and musician occupying an upstairs in the next room, while her study has been transformed into a makeshift dressing room with racks of her own children's range, Patsy Pearl Lowe.

'I found this amazing vintage fabric at a vintage fair, tucked it in a hutch and made some curtains for Betty's room. Next I made a cape and headband, and that's how Patsy Pearl Lowe started,' explains Lowe when talking me through her circa-theatrical collection, which contains butterfly-winged headbands, capsize crowns of glitter, fairy wands, top hats and velvet capes. Daisy starts dressing up, this is not. Think 1930s empire waist and lion tailers in the most appropriate style. 'It's the most excited I've ever been about anything I've ever done,' explains Lowe. 'It's so weird, I'm really surprised because it's not even for myself.'

THE CLOTHES ARE NOT YOUR NORMAL EVERYDAY WEAR, but this life at Pearl Lowe's is anything but pedestrian. 'I'm very childlike,' Lowe confesses, 'and my kids love dressing up. Pretty much, my 10-year-

TOP and LEFT: Lookbooks, glitter, top hats and velvet ropes make up the Patsy Pearl Lowe collection; ABOVE: Lowe and eldest daughter Daisy

Pearl Lowe

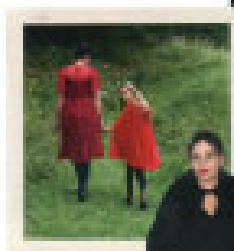
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PROFILE



Betty has already modelled for Marc Jacobs and Vogue Bambini

FROM TOP: Lowe with youngest daughter Betty; with husband Danny in 2014

that. She was like, "If I was my own agent, I wouldn't have accepted that."

LOWE READILY ADMITS MONEY AND FINANCE ARE NOT HER FORTÉ.

"Danny and I are so shit with money, it's been our thing in life. We've not had money to put petrol in the car sometimes, it's been that bad. So now any money I earn goes straight into my business. I've had an outside investment, which I'm really proud of." Geoffry, meanwhile, has his new haul. "Vagabond. He's got all his mates and they're off to India soon to do a festival. He's loving it. He doesn't feel he has to be successful. He knows what success feels like; this is something to feel his soul."

And what's feeling her soul? "Creativity," says Lowe quite simply. "It makes me really emotional because there was a time when I would sob at night and not be satisfied from my life because I was so deeply unhappy. I used to ask myself, 'Why? Why can't I be

happy? I've got beautiful kids, I love my husband, I've got a wonderful home - why?' And I think it's because

I wasn't being creative - that's how you can overcome addiction. I didn't realise until about a year ago that I wasn't waking up with a black cloud hanging over me."

Now there's no shortage of creativity in Lowe's life, having just finished styling Jamie Oliver's new show and book, expanding her range of candles to incorporate fragrances, and juggling filming commitments as the vintage expert on Channel 4's *Four Rooms*.

But it's the joy of creating Petrie Pearl Lowe that really brings a sparkle to her eye. Lowe has added an extra eye to the range for Betty, as she's getting bigger; and, after making Daisy a butterfly outfit for *Glastonbury* this year, she's now thinking of doing a few key pieces for Isaac, too. It looks like life is anything but sulfate in Somerset. ■ *Petrie Pearl Lowe is available at Wards, Selfridges and online at PetrieLowe.co.uk*

Christmas with The Loves

Where do you like to celebrate? "Last year, we jumped ship to Miami, but we didn't like it so much. We needed the cold. Thankfully, this year it's back home."

Who's invited? "We have everyone round. My family and Danny's family, Danny's brother and all his lot. It's pretty snazzy."

Who cooks? "Danny. He is an amazing cook. He does the turkey and I do the veg."

What kind of tree do you have? "I love decorating. I'm obsessed. I decorate the tree on 1st December. I've been known to buy two because the first one's dropped before Christmas and I've had to get another one."

Do you have a colour theme? Is it black and gothic, or bright and sparkly? "In honour of Betty's first Christmas, we bought a white tree with pink decorations. So we have a lot of lights. I try to limit it to two colours but Betty wants everything on."

Any special traditions? "Sadly, Betty made Danny admit there was no Father Christmas. Some of her friends had been telling her he wasn't real and she didn't want to be the last to find out. So, for the first time in 26 years, we won't be putting out mince pies, snow feet, carrots and cherry for Santa."

Are you an organised present-buyer or a last-minute-clash person? "There's always a last-minute dash - I never feel I have bought enough presents."

Pearl Lowe

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