

WORDS AMELIA THORPE

THE WORLD AT YOUR FEET

With a wealth of new flooring options available, it is hard to know where to start. We asked five interior designers to pick their favourites, each focusing on a different room

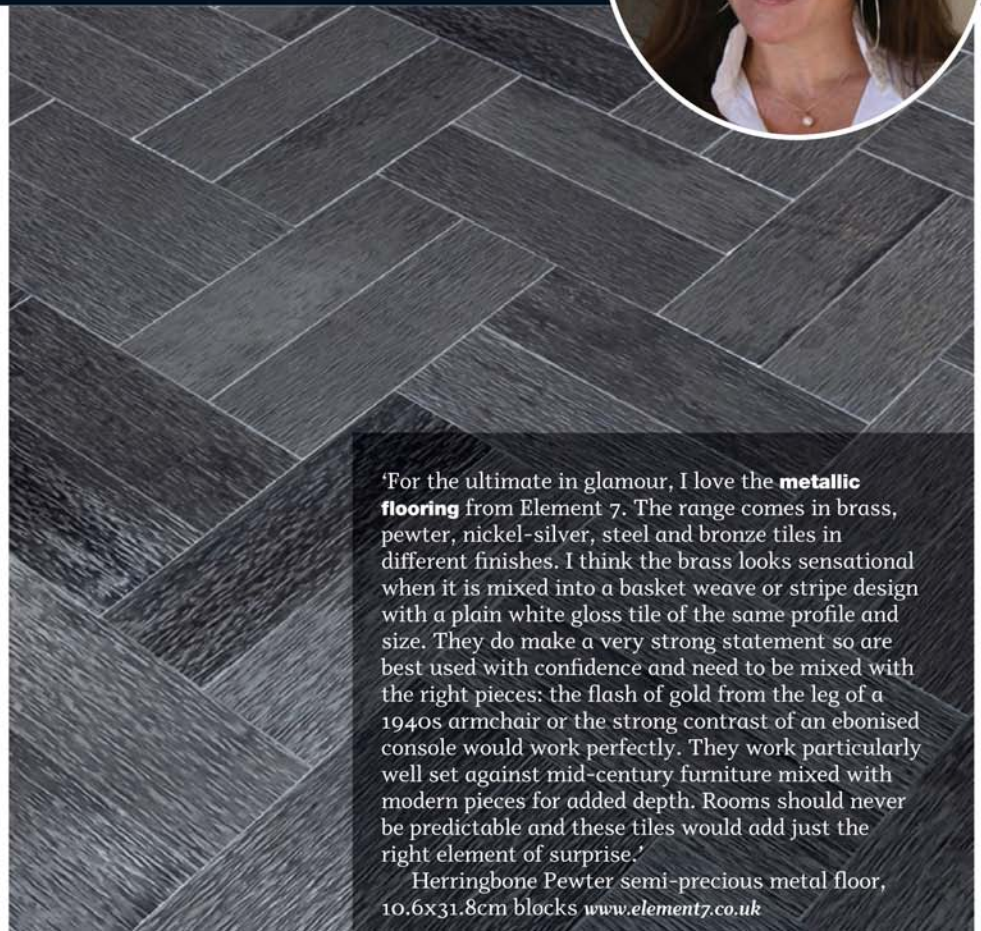


LIVING ROOM

Abbie de Bunsen, Abbie de Bunsen Design www.abbiedebunsen.com

'Bohemian Works makes the most beautiful **wooden and parquet flooring** in oak. The floors have a unique antique appearance and they can also be lime washed to create a beautiful chalky finish. The floors look as if they have been down forever. I love mixing their traditional Versailles parquet with a few simple, modern pieces of furniture. Modern furniture sometimes looks so much more interesting when set against an architecturally perfect backdrop.'

Organic Evo design in oak. www.bohemianworks.com



'For the ultimate in glamour, I love the **metallic flooring** from Element 7. The range comes in brass, pewter, nickel-silver, steel and bronze tiles in different finishes. I think the brass looks sensational when it is mixed into a basket weave or stripe design with a plain white gloss tile of the same profile and size. They do make a very strong statement so are best used with confidence and need to be mixed with the right pieces: the flash of gold from the leg of a 1940s armchair or the strong contrast of an ebonised console would work perfectly. They work particularly well set against mid-century furniture mixed with modern pieces for added depth. Rooms should never be predictable and these tiles would add just the right element of surprise.'

Herringbone Pewter semi-precious metal floor, 10.6x31.8cm blocks www.element7.co.uk