

# ELLE DECORATION

THE  
STYLE  
MAGAZINE  
FOR YOUR  
HOME  
JUNE 2021  
£5.20

## THE BIG REFRESH

BE INSPIRED  
BY HAPPY HOMES  
DECORATED  
WITH PASSION  
& POSITIVITY

10  
MUST-HAVE  
VINTAGE PIECES  
& HOW TO  
FIND THEM



ECO MADE EASY  
The best green  
buys & sustainable  
brands to know



# STYLE IT OUT

AFTER MONTHS INSIDE, OUTDOORS IS WHERE IT'S AT,  
FROM SEXY SHEDS TO THE ULTIMATE GARDEN ENTERTAINING



## KIT KEMP

*The interior designer and Firmdale Hotels founder on the surprise arrival that marked a new friendship*

I first encountered the sculptor Tony Cragg when he created a piece for the courtyard at Ham Yard Hotel. He'd agreed to do it because he said there were so few really contemporary sculptures in London – it's all admirals on horses. The piece is huge and circular and zigzaggy, like lots of people talking together in profile.

We got to know him a little better when my daughter went to study at the Kunstakademie in Düsseldorf, where he was a tutor. He invited us to walk around his sculpture park and see where everything was made. He's not just an artist, but a teacher too, a real renaissance man.

Soon after, this sculpture arrived in the post, which was such a surprise. How the hell they carried it, I have no idea – it's Corten

steel, like Antony Gormley's *Angel Of The North*, and weighs a ton. It reminds me of an explosion or a vortex. As it's so heavy, it's impossible to move and you can't touch it without gloves as you'll spoil the patina. So once it's in position, that's it! It's in my living room, stood beside a 1960s Brutalist lamp, so I see it every day.

It came without a note – no 'hello, here you are' – but I think it was a thank you for the time we'd spent with him and for the commission. So it was a successful sort of friendship and the lasting thing from it is this wonderful little sculpture. It makes me think of my daughter and the whole symbiosis of work and family. *Kit's new book, 'Design Secrets' (Hardie Grant, £25), is out 20 May*