

Patron Saints

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The Norfolk surroundings of the design duo St Jude's play a starring role in their printed textiles with a classic Fifties graphic style

The county of Norfolk has always been a good place to make for if you are an artist. It may not be the easiest part of the country to get to, but for photographers, writers and artists, the wide-open landscape has a powerful effect. That's certainly true of print-maker Angie Lewin who, after moving to north Norfolk eight years ago with her husband Simon, found her artwork taking a fresh direction, inspired by nature and the landscape. More recently, she has successfully translated her work into fabric designs, featuring abstract seed pods, curling plants and countryside vistas, sold under the St Jude's label. This husband and wife business has rapidly expanded, as they have opened a new gallery shop in the Norfolk market town of Aylsham.

'Being in Norfolk meant that I ended up with work which had a really consistent theme to it, very much inspired by nature,' says Angie, who also worked as a garden designer just before moving up from London.

'It seemed a natural progression to begin designing textiles because as a print-maker I understood the whole printing process a lot more than I would if I was a painter. And some of the themes I was looking at in my work applied well to these fabrics, which have quite a Fifties crafted feel.'

Angie, who trained at Central St Martin's and then Camberwell School of Art, originally worked as an illustrator for magazines, packaging and cookery books, while continuing her own print-making. Simon worked as a freelance graphic designer, although there was also a spell as a drummer and running his own record label. Website design has been a big part of his work, having designed an award-winning site for Intravel and many others. St Jude's offered the perfect opportunity to combine Angie's artistry and ideas with Simon's experience in design and marketing.

'It was a great opportunity to work together, with Angie working on the

opposite Simon and Angie Lewin in front of one of Angie's prints; cushions and curtains from the St Jude's label furnish their Norfolk home



Upfront Grand Master St Jude's

who Angie and Simon Lewin

lives North Norfolk

background After graduating in print-making from Central St Martin's and then Camberwell School of Art, Angie worked as an illustrator while making her own art prints. Simon worked as a graphic and web designer, and for a time ran his own record label. The couple launched their interior textile label, St Jude's, last autumn, and opened a shop in Norfolk in January famous for Reviving traditional British printed textiles that are inspired by nature with a graphic Fifties style