

the last detail

Kaley Gardiner, founder of The Last Detail, gives us a unique insight into her life and inspirations.

1. Where do you get inspiration for your designs?

I predominantly take my inspiration from various interior design magazines. I also look to the American and Italian markets for ideas doing a lot of research through the internet.

2. What has been your favourite commission?

My favourite commission was for a customer who had an opera-themed wedding where everything – including the dress code – was black and white. The fact that she was willing to break the norm and had such confidence in her ideas at a time when black was quite a daring colour for a wedding, made it an exciting project to work on. Despite the limited availability of black favours and decorations, we prided ourselves on being able to supply her with the necessary items ranging from black feathers to rose petals.

3. What gives you a buzz when designing a new creation?

I enjoy being at the forefront of new trends and being able to put items on the market before other suppliers.

4. What has been your most challenging commission?

This has got to be a customer who had left everything to the last minute and needed all her decorations and favours supplying in 48 hours! Despite the tight timings we managed to deliver everything on time and save the day!

5. Where is your favourite place for sourcing materials?

It has to be Italy for the amazing quality of items.

6. What was in the last parcel you received?

Favour boxes and organza ribbon!

7. Where is your favourite place in the world?

Blanket Bay, New Zealand where I stayed in a luxury lodge for my honeymoon.

7. What is your favourite night out?

I love going out for a really good meal accompanied by some excellent wine.

8. What is your favourite food?

Seafood.

9. Who would you like to have dinner with and why?

Although this person is dead, I would choose Samuel Walton, the founder of Walmart and the forefather of discount retailing. I think he would have been fascinating to meet.

10. Where do you like to go shopping for clothes?

I love shopping in small boutiques such as Nolia in Oakwood, Leeds. However, I equally enjoy high street shops from Top Shop to Harvey Nichols.

11. What fashion designer inspires you and why?

Ben de Lisi for his elegant and classical designs.

12. What fashion accessory is your must have and why?

It would have to be a bag – as an accessory a bag works well with all kinds of different looks from formal to informal.

13. What fashion accessory would you love to have if money were no object?

Diamond jewellery

14. How do you relax?

In the bath, with glass of red wine