



Pret a Dormir

Rare textiles combined with British craftsmanship to create one-off artworks

Ensembler will create unique pieces of artwork with the launch of Pret a Dormir a line which brings together antique fabrics and four new distinctive headboard designs.

The collection will showcase how the act of combining old, rich textiles with new distinctive frames, can create memorable, individual collectibles and ultimately, much cherished pieces for the home.

Sustainability is a driving force behind Ensembler's new line, and the frames - Brigid, Dagda, Eriu and Morrigan - will demonstrate how beauty can be achieved by designing more consciously in this day and age of waste – as well as how to enjoy the deep wealth of existing fabrics that are at our disposal.

Tara Craig, founder of Ensembler comments: "We are proud to introduce Pret a Dormir, which marks a further elevation to our bespoke work. The combination of unique, rare textiles to our traditionally crafted headboards, made with the intention to last several hundred years, is the perfect marriage - these are distinctive masterpieces that will be cherished for the home. At Ensembler, and now with Pret a Dormir, we encourage people to expand their creative boundaries by making a personal statement piece with their own rare or salvaged textiles."

Designed and manufactured to last a lifetime, the bespoke headboards are created from natural materials such as solid beech, organic British wool, hessian webbing, upholstery horsehair, and GOTS cotton lining. A signature numbered embossed brass plate on the back of each frame will recognise the item's authenticity, production journey and maker, signalling not only the quality of manufacturing, but providing a seal of longevity.

"It is key to understand that the textiles industry has become one of the biggest polluters in the world," Tara explains. "Synthetic dyes and chemical mordants find their way into the soil and water systems and while this cannot be helped in some areas, we have a duty to encourage people to expand their imaginations and embrace the enormous potential that lies within salvaged artefacts- this could be fabric taken from a dhurrie sourced on a colourful Rajasthani holiday, or from a pair of nostalgic family curtains.

With my extensive knowledge of antique textile dealers, an index built over twenty years, we can also help to find rare 18th century damasks or the applied textiles of 50s artists. In connecting people with cloths that tell a tale from a forgotten time, we create heirlooms for the future which are utterly unique. As crucial, this is a much more enticing way to design: the fabric becomes the piece to design around, and we act as a guide to ensure the frame silhouette displays this to the optimum of the artwork."





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DAGDA



Dagda upholstered in an Ensembler sourced John Piper textile which is in itself a rare art-piece, by one of the leading figures in Modernist art.

Fabric: Ensembler sourced John Piper 'Stones of Bath' for Arthur Sanderson & Sons c.1960

Detail: Plain border edge

Size: Super King, 120cm high

Price: £8,995

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BRIGID



Brigid is upholstered in a woven Kurdish twill woolen shawl c. 1980.

Fabric: Ensembler sourced woven Kurdish twill woolen shawl c. 1980

Detail: Leather pipe in Howe London vegetable-dyed leather

Size: Super King, 150cm high

Price: £4,905





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Eriu is upholstered in a 19th century damask that Ensemblier had hand-dyed in saffron yellow, beautifully finished with a marabout braid.

Fabric: Ensemblier sourced 19th century damask

Detail: Marabout silk braid

Size: Super King, 120cm high

Price: £7,415



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MORRIGAN



Morrigan is upholstered in an early 20th century Japanese chintz pattern.

Fabric: Ensembler sourced Japanese chintz

Size: Super King, 120cm high

Price: £3,855

Please note that the Pret a Dormir headboards are from £3,500 if upholstered in customer's own fabric.



ABOUT

Ensembler was founded by interior decorator Tara Craig in 2014 on the concept of providing elegant, upholstered designs using truly natural, sustainable materials while supporting traditional, highly skilled craftsmen and small UK workshops.

It is Ensembler's belief that every piece should tell a story from conception to installation. In order to achieve this, we are strong advocates in working in close collaboration with designers and clients in order to create unique pieces made to order, that not only fit the space perfectly, but leave a legacy of every element and process being traceable.

Ensembler also work with interior designers in royalty schemes to acknowledge the research undertaken to create original designs. It brings great pride to work in collaboration with others, such as Rita König, Joanna Plant and Kitesgrove, to name a few, in bringing their concepts to life.

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