

1 Superheroes of the salvage world, Simon Young and Jenny Vaughan spend much of their time rescuing unwanted objects and furniture in order to save them from the rubbish bin. As a result of scouting around fleamarkets, the team has unearthed and revitalised old glass, signage, garden tools and

lamps. These cushions (from £50), made from vintage 1950s headscarves, and these pressed glasses (£5.50 each) can all be ordered from Re-Found's catalogue. Ring 01434 634567.

2 After studying printmaking and textile design, Judy Ross took off to India, where she discovered the ancient art of chain-stitch embroidery. Using this intricate technique she has developed her own recognisable geometric designs in searing acid colours. This 'Swim' rug (\$100 per sqft) and 'Trellis' cushion (\$180) feature in her latest range. Ring 001 212 842 1705.

3 Gesso (the Italian word for chalk) has been used in framing since the 15th century. Mixed with glue and water, it is heated to a fluid and applied to the wood, providing a solid surface ready for gilding. Taking its company name from the gloopy substance, Gesso specialises in reproduction 18th- and 19th-century frames in Dutch gold, silver leaf and 23ct gold. Prices from £65. Ring 020 8870 8730.

4 The Volga Linen Company is renowned for its fantastic range of ready-made curtains, table linen and cushions, all of which are made from 100% linen. Its latest offering, this drawn-thread cross-stitch bedding (pillow cases from £20), has the crisp feel of antique French bedding. Ring 01728 635020 for a catalogue.

> 5 Designer Konstantin Greie is flavour of the year with Italian contemporary-furniture companies. Hailing from Germany, Grcic has built a name for himself with a series of pieces that are rigorously modern. His latest design for Magis is a neat three-legged stacking chair crafted from sheets of steel. For more details on the prototype, ring 00 39 04 2286 2600.