



e global catwalk



WHAT'S HOT FOR 2008

- Blue, especially electric blue
- All shades of green, from neon lime to murky mustard
- Purples
- Metallics and grey
- Stripes
- Mixing the very old with new
- Buying quality pieces to keep
- Feature walls

look is suddenly cutting-edge, with Royle saying it's very prominent in Paris.

Lucena-Orr says Dulux has anticipated the trend by putting olde-worldie sepias and murky greens with bright synthetic yellows, aquas and greens.

To achieve the "new aged" look in your own home, you might place a 200-year-old antique chest next to a clear-plastic Philippe Starck Louis Ghost chair. Hmm,

perhaps not like most people's houses after all, although spending up big on quality, lasting pieces is certainly popular.

"People are sick of same-old, same-old, mass-produced stuff so are searching for unusual quality pieces," says Riley-Gibson. "There is a big desire for artisan pieces. People always love and appreciate provenance of product."

and allow timid home decorators - most of us - to put a toe in the paint-colour water."

Jurjans-Heard also suggests duo walls, where two walls are painted

in the accent colour instead of one, and layering, where a canvas painted in a solid colour is put on a contrasting wall.

Colour aside, another big look for 2008 and beyond is the blending of vintage with modern, described by Royle as the "new aged trend".

While it might sound like a description of what you already find in most people's homes, the



Fiona Lyda, of Spence + Lyda, the Australasian agents for Italian design company Missoni, is another advocate for quality over fashion.

Lyda has just designed an apartment in the Lumiere complex in the city, using stripes on walls, light fittings and furniture.

Funky town

ALTHOUGH Royle has pinpointed stripes as another hot trend for 2008, Lyda says they have long been a Missoni design signature and she pays little attention to trends: "I can't see interiors as fashion items, like clothing, because we need to spend more time in them," she says.

"I don't want to see a world where we are turning things over for the sake of turning things over."

Lyda says the Missoni colour palette is fairly constant, allowing for items to be added, without casting off old things. "You just add to the richness," she says.

In keeping with the old-meets-new trend, and the continuing quest for quality, is a look best described as quirky or funky.

It includes furniture and objects d'art that are fun or tongue-in-cheek, like Philippe Starck's

Fashion parade: Electric blue, yellow and metallics were hot looks at the David Jones show (left) and are hot in homes, too; and (above) Moooi's VIP chairs (from www.spacefurniture.com) lead the way in the funky stakes

garden gnomes and Dutch company Moooi's idiosyncratic tables, chairs and accessories.

Designer Meryl Hare, of Hare+Klein, describes the look as "playful and slightly silly".

"It's taking the seriousness out of furniture," Hare says. "You can express yourself. Everything doesn't have to look as if you've bought the whole showroom."

Hare says she uses the quirky look when appropriate, but adds, "It's not always appropriate."

And there's the rub. Just as in fashion, you should dress to suit your shape, colouring, age and personality - in your home, you should style accordingly.

"Hopefully, we are in a fashion industry but not a slavishly fashion industry," says Hare. "I will often feel a colour is right, not that it's following a trend but that it's right for that position, the amount of light and so on - as opposed to 'Oh gosh, this is 2007, let's use purple!'"

'I don't care if people say feature walls are passé. So what?'