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The Straits Collection

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In a society where homogeneity is the order of life, conforming to society norm quite frankly leads to the elimination of individuality. At ipse ipsa ipsum, we celebrate living a life less ordinary because we believe you should live life on your own terms.

Combining a high level of craftsmanship with unique materials, we offer an array of customisable functions to enliven your living space in a myriad of ways. As creators, curators and purveyors, we live to inspire you to see the ordinary in a new light.

The Straits Collection

A Conversation On Cultural Heritage & Artistry

The Straits Collection pays tribute to Singapore's bicentennial year by celebrating the city's modernisation. The collection is a collaboration between Saurabh Mangla, Founder and creative Head of Ipse Ipsa Ipsum and Jeremy Sun, Design Director of Orcadesign. Looking for Singaporean originality, they delved into the rich multicultural heritage of Singapore and explored the city's modernity to develop an aesthetic that is uniquely Singaporean. The result is a metamorphosed furniture design inspired by Singapore's heritage which aspires to disrupt the uniformity of urban life.

"As modern life become increasingly homogenous, new authenticity is what I am looking for," says Mr. Saurabh Mangla, Founder and Creative Head, Ipse Ipsa Ipsum.

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"Ipse Ipsa Ipsum accords equal value to the designer, craftsman and consumer. The designer, we collaborate with is freed from designing for factory production with their designs handcrafted by artisans using unique materials. We provide the craftsmen not only a permanent source of income but also the dignity of preserving their centuries-old craftsmanship. As a result, the customer is able to make bespoke furniture choices in designing their own home at reasonable price points."



Saurabh Mangla

FOUNDER
IPSE IPSA IPSUM

Saurabh Mangla is the Founder of Ipse Ipsa Ipsum, a brand of luxurious yet accessible handcrafted furniture and accessories for the global market. At the core of his design philosophy is his belief in combining forward-facing aesthetics from around the world with traditional craftsmanship.

With the art of the craftsmen rapidly disappearing, the customer being forced-fed with mass-produced furniture and the designer succumbing to designing for mass production, Saurabh feels that all is not right with the world.

Ipse Ipsa Ipsum is an effort to correct this imbalance in the eco-system. Saurabh strongly believes in empowering the designer, craftsman, and consumer within the Ipse Ipsa Ipsum community, presenting a new thinking and bold narrative to the world to help it make a more equitable place.

Passionate about creatively combining materials or crafting techniques, he hopes to make unique handcrafted blends more accessible. In 2017, Ipse Ipsa Ipsum's collection won Best in Living Room Award and in 2018, it won the Best Concept Living Award in International Furniture Fair, Singapore.



Jeremy Sun

Jeremy Sun, Design Director of Orcadesign, a President's Design Award-winning consultancy, continues his discovery of Singapore's rich heritage with his latest Ipse Ipsa Ipsum collaboration.

Prefaced by the celebrated "Peranakan Moderne" collection; Jeremy Sun is honoured to have this renewed journey with Saurabh Mangla for "The Straits Collection"; as they seek inspiration from an important past whilst designing for an urban future.

Through the Collection's unique aesthetics, choice of material and artisan craftsmanship, he hopes to share his fascination with the beauty of Singapore's interwoven cultures. As well as the elegant workmanship of Ipse Ipsa Ipsum's talented craftsmen.

Whilst in pursuit of his aspirations, Jeremy is also often found travelling to different cities around the world and immersing himself in local urban living.

"It has always been my interest to weave meaningful connections of our past to our future. Our timeless values of honouring relationships, hospitality to each other, and a respect for nature connecting with a practical modern way of life."

- Jeremy Sun



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Each piece in the Straits collection has been designed and handcrafted for the practicalities of contemporary living while retaining a heritage feature that harks back to the past. The well-proportioned symmetry and graceful curvature of the Flower Lamp Stand, for example, was inspired by the Chinese idiom, 'Beautiful flowers set by a perfect moon', expressing the feeling of perfect bliss and family reunion. The warm diffused light of the lamp beautifully imitates the ambient glow of the moon. An additional functional design feature is the lamp stand's multipurpose outer rail conveniently serves as a sturdy holder for umbrellas and such.

Drawing inspiration from Peranakan heritage homes, the collection's Straits Chairs are a reinterpretation of the ornately carved traditional Peranakan chairs for modern times. The polished marble inlays on backrest of the Peranakan chairs are a central feature of Ipse Ipsa Ipsum's contemporary version, coupled with plush and luxurious leather seats. As an additional benefit, the marble backrests maintain a cool temperature, ideal for warm, tropical regions.

The Straits Side Table exemplify the integration of technology into heritage-inspired design. It incorporates helpful Omni-charging technology through a wireless charging station built into the table. The integration of furniture and technology is designed for the space-conscious urban home.



Moon Flower Lampstand

32 X 32 X 150 CM
OD1201

To express the feeling of perfect bliss and family reunion, the Chinese have an apt idiom known as: “花好月圓” translated as “Beautiful flowers set by a perfect moon”. This wonderful phrase is the inspiration behind this lamp stand's well-proportioned symmetry and graceful circular curvature.

A choice addition to the entrance of your home. Its warm diffused glow and unassuming shape allows for the lamp's presence to retreat to the background, beautifully imitating the ambient glow of the moon; providing pleasing illumination to your entire walkway.

Also, the lamp stand's multi-purpose outer rail conveniently serves as a sturdy holder for your umbrellas, scarves, canes and other barang-barang.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand-stenciled & etched Peranakan motif.
Brass plating
“Sword”- making, bending of steel.



Moonrise Table Lamp

29 x 29 x 54 CM
OD1001

The Chinese idiom, “日出而作, 日入而息” (translated as “Work when the sun rises, and rest when the sun sets”) expresses the importance of having a productive day of work.

The idiom depicts a regular rhythm of life; the appearance of the moon in the early evening signalled a time of rest and reflection as a day drew to a close. Likewise, the Moonrise Table Lamp finds its place in your home as a gentle guide to peaceful recreation.

Best placed in a room where you find rest in. Its diffused light eases you into a quiet meditative mood.

When lit, motifs on the back of the lamp cascade delicate patterns on the walls, creating a refined ambience — a fine accompaniment to a sofa or bed-side corner.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand-stenciled & etched Peranakan motif.
Brass plating





Clover Ceiling Lamp

32 X 32 X 99 CM
OD1801

A versatile lighting piece which can be fixed elegantly on its own or in a cluster. Its eye-catching unique clover contour grants character and elegance to the space where its fixed to.

The frosted glass used for this lamp helps distribute light evenly across your chosen spots, casting its light gracefully.

It warmly lights up a dinner table filled with friends and family or provides a quiet reading area or bedside with just the right amount of gentle illumination.

Notable Techniques Used:

Brass plating
"Sword"- making, bending of steel.



Straits Chairs

53 X 45 X 90 CM
OD901 / OD902 / OD903

Peranakan heritage homes often have ornately carved chairs with polished marble inlays on its backrest. The artisans who made them appreciated the natural beauty of the marble's unique patterns by framing the marble inlays honestly within the wooden chair.

The Straits Chairs are a reinterpretation of that previous tradition for a modern time. The stately marble inlays on the backrest of each chair bring respect for nature's beauty back into focus.

Coupled with its plush and luxurious leather seats, this is an excellent addition to your dining area where guests are entertained.

As an additional benefit, the marble backrests maintain a cool temperature; ideal for warm and tropical regions.

Notable Techniques Used:

Brass plating
Marble hand-cutting
Leather Stitching



Straits Sofa Table

41.5 X 41.5 X 51 CM
OD601

The Straits Sofa Table aspires to integrate helpful Omni-charging technology with today's furniture by installing a wireless charging station seamlessly into the table.

The integration of furniture and technology is designed for the space-conscious urban home. Moving the presence of appliances and wires to the background, allows you to principally enjoy the style and function of this luxurious piece of furniture instead.

Notable Techniques Used:

Wireless technology integration
Brass plating.



Clover Tray

OD2101 50 X 39 X 5 CM (Large) / OD2201 30 X 25 X 5 CM (Small)

The Clover Tray is inspired by and honours the cultural significance of Asian hospitality.

As beverages or items are served on the tray, the auspicious clover symbolises the bestowment of blessings on the person being served. The transparent design keeps the harmony of the visual space which it is brought into, remaining unobtrusive and humble just as Asian hospitality is.

Available in two sizes both large and small, it is also stackable for the convenient storage of multiple trays. The smaller tray is an apt piece to lay your cufflinks, jewelry, and everyday barang barang on.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand cut acrylic
"Sword"- Making, bending of steel.



Clover Accessories

Clover Trinket Plate

30 X 7.5 X 2 CM
OD1401

Clover Bookmark

13 X 3 X 0.03 CM
OD1501

With the need to carry a few important items out daily, such as keys, pouches, a wallet or a purse. The Clover Trinket Plate is a convenient and functional addition to everyday urban living.

The bookmark divider included is a feature that pairs well with a reading table or work desk.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand-formed brass sheet
Sand casting

Clover Wall Hooks, Clover Bar & Brass Glass

Wall Hook

60 X 10.5 X 5.5 CM
OD1901

Bar (Towel/Tissue Bar)

11.5 X 6 X 20 CM
OD2001

Clover Brass Glasses

8.5 X 4.5 X 10.5 CM
OD1301

This set of handcrafted clover accessories was made to accentuate the sophistication of a living space by attending to the fine finishing touches of your home.

The accessories pay special attention to creating a luxurious experience for your home by keeping to the visual theme of the collection through its clover motifs, as well as its thoughtful versatile practical uses for hanging coats, jackets, towels, and other items.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand bending
Marble hand cutting
Stencil etching

Sand casting
Hand formed brass sheet



Straits Vanity Mirror

48 X 2 X 164 CM
OD1101

The half-length Straits Vanity Mirror features a free-standing design which allows for easy installation and movement around the home. Not just practical, its beautiful heritage-inspired arched frame and dignified silhouette also serves as a noteworthy decor piece

Its conveniently situated portable side mirror, acrylic tray, and towel rail presents quiet help in preparing you for a day or night out with ample space to place jewelry, cosmetics, accessories and daily accoutrements.

Notable Techniques Used:

"Sword"- Making, bending of steel.
Hand cut mirror



Straits Dining Table

180 X 90 X 76 CM
OD301

The Chinese idiom, “天圆地方” translated as “The sky is round and the ground is flat” is the inspiration behind this table's design.

One of the majorly celebrated activities of Singapore is to makan (eat). The central lifestyle of sharing hearty food and beverages with others is the guiding inspiration of the Straits Dining Table.

Starting from its centre is a lazy susan which aptly holds small condiment bottles or used for serving tea, coffee, and other utensils. The table then elegantly expands onto a marble top with a gradual curvature on its sides, allowing for more people to sit around the dining area. Its triangular table legs are unobtrusive and minimal for easy insertion of chairs, yet maintaining the stability which a long table requires.

A feature centrepiece of our collection for your home to share memorable meals with loved ones.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand cut marble
"Sword"-Making, bending of steel.



Straits Coffee Table

118 X 84 X 42 CM
OD501

A prime centrepiece to a posh living room. The use of solid marble paired with the robust use of brass gives the Straits Coffee Table a glamorous and weighty presence.

Its unique table leg design is inspired by the arches found in Peranakan architecture; a homage to heritage architectural styles.

Designed for space-conscious homes, the table also includes an easy to browse storage space where you may place your choice of magazines, newspapers or dry goods in.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand cut marble
"Sword"-Making, bending of steel.
Stencil etching



Straits Console

150 X 45 X 53 CM
OD1701

The Straits Console was primarily designed as a TV Console. Its spacious open-back and double shelving provide ample space to neatly arrange wires for a TV and accompanying appliances; while keeping a clean and calm aesthetic.

However, its versatility also allows it to serve as a bookcase in the front of your bed, become a station for your music record player, or even a shoe cabinet with a bench top you can sit on while donning your footwear.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand cut marble
"Sword"-Making, bending of steel.
Leather Cladding



Straits Half Drawer

120 X 43 X 87.5 CM
OD801

The adaptable Straits Half Drawer is a remarkable addition to many parts of your home. Its customisable colour scheme bolsters your chosen aesthetic for a room.

As a half drawer, it stands elegantly above ground for the shelves to be high enough for you to comfortably retrieve items without bending down too far.

Inspired by the iconic use of auspicious symbols in Asian heritage; its marble ring inserts and lower rail feature the clover motif; a reminder of the well-wishes and blessings which surround you.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand cut marble
"Sword"-Making, bending of steel.
Leather Cladding



Straits Desk

89.5 X 64 X 78.5 CM
OD401

With its top-shelf black shagreen leather enjoined to a sturdy reverse-etched natural marble table top, the Straits Desk is beautiful just as it is built to last.

Its unique arched brass table legs, which are not set at its edge but closer to the centre confers greater weight capacity to its frame as well as conveniently allowing space for a smaller cupboard to be fit beside it.

A versatile, beautiful and practical addition to an urban home.

Notable Techniques Used:

Hand cut marble
"Sword"-Making, bending of steel.
Leather Cladding



Straits Sideboard

119 X 42 X 73 CM
OD201

Designed with ample storage space, and compact for urban homes; the sideboard fits in many locations where you might need a depository.

One of its remarkable features is Indian bone inlay, which is one of the great traditions of Indian artisan craftsmanship.

The sustainable practice starts by reclaiming the bones of an animal which has passed away from a natural cause. Afterwards, the bones are thoroughly washed before it is carefully hand-cut and laid piece by piece on furniture by a skilled artisan.

This precise craft gives the Straits Sideboard its exquisite pattern, where no two embellishments are the same.

With its luxurious suede-lined drawers, elegantly curved edges, and clover-shaped marble ring inserts, every one of the sideboards testifies to our craftsmen's dedication to beautiful furniture for your home.

Notable Techniques Used:

Bone Inlay
Hand cut marble



Straits Bedside Table

40 X 40 X 45 CM
OD101

Made for the space-conscious urban home, the Straits Bedside Table is a practical addition which can hold all the items you place down before going to bed. It is also multipurpose: fitting the corner of a desk, or a vase holder for a set of seasonal flowers near a TV console or a small cabinet near the entrance of your home to store your daily fittings.

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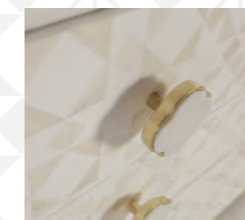
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This precise craft gives the Straits Sideboard its exquisite pattern, where no two embellishments are the same.

With its luxurious suede-lined drawers, elegantly curved edges, and clover-shaped marble ring inserts, every one of these Bedside Tables testifies to our craftsmen's dedication to beautiful furniture for your home.

Notable Techniques Used:

Bone Inlay
Hand cut marble





Straits Trolley

52 X 41 X 87 CM
OD701

The versatile and luxurious Straits Trolley is designed to help you provide social entertainment in the coziness of home.

It can be a mini-bar with its generous shelving and height for the storage of bottles and glasses. Or it could serve as a tea trolley which easily navigates urban homes due to its space-saving design.

Notable Techniques Used:

Leather Cladding
Hand cut marble
Woodworking



Straits Reflection Desk Mirror

23 x 17 x 32 CM

This desk vanity mirror is the hero product of the Peranakan Moderne collection and is handcrafted with coloured bone inlay pieces to create a Peranakan inspired motif on the back. The flower-shaped frame is also crafted with a stainless steel and brass metal.

Straits Reflection Floor Mirror

46 x 46 x 160 CM

This full-length floor mirror is handcrafted with coloured bone inlay pieces to create a Peranakan inspired motif on the back. The flower-shaped frame is also crafted with a stainless steel and brass metal.



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