



between heaven and earth

Haldane Martin's new showroom is the place to participate in a little design worship



We think it's fitting that acclaimed furniture designer Haldane Martin – known for designing with his heart and mind – should choose an old church as his headquarters. 'I've always been devoted to design, and there's something of a devotional aspect to being here,' he explains. The space serves as Haldane's design studio and meeting place, as the company's administrative, assembly and distribution centre, and as a showroom for, among others, his Riempe Table and Chairs and the Zulu Mama Café Chair, which express a sophisticated local narrative and their designer's eco-conscious and socially responsible approach.

In its various incarnations the building has been used as a car workshop and the HQ of a film production company. Once it was in his possession, Haldane gutted the interior, retaining certain industrial aspects. A floor-to-ceiling partition made entirely of recycled glass separates the working areas from the rest of the space. 'I like that visitors can see things happening,' he says. The space is also in keeping with Haldane's green design philosophy: a gas geyser was installed for energy efficiency and the white interior allows for minimal dependence on artificial lighting. 'The business is close to public transport and some staff cycle to work. You could say that recycling a building is more ecofriendly than building one from scratch.' We say hallelujah! □

Open Monday to Friday. 12 Aberdeen Street, Woodstock, 021-448-0999, haldanemartin.co.za

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT Haldane Martin in his new space; the showroom displays Tub Chairs, a Round Glass Table and a Coffee Table, all from the Weightless range, with Fiela Feather Lights, a New Slant Shelving System and a Simplicity Pouff; this glass partition was the only architectural element introduced.