

As an author, historian and curator, Lesley Jackson has devoted her career to 20th century design and her love of her subject is reflected in her personal acquisitions. Taking us on a tour of her collection, she reveals the stories behind the mid-century furniture in her own home.

# Curator's Eye

## Living with Danish Design



Previous: CH25 chair designed by Hans Wegner for Carl Hansen, 1950.

Photographs courtesy of Skandium and The Modern Warehouse.

Below: 2213 three-seat sofa designed by Berge Mogensen for Fredericia, 1962.

Right: CH25 chair designed by Hans Wegner for Carl Hansen, c.1950. Photographs courtesy of Skandium and The Modern Warehouse



Once a curator, always a curator. Even though I've worked freelance for many years, my background as a museum curator continues to shape my life, not just professionally, but also in the domestic sphere. The impulse to collect is as strong as ever and my passion for post-war design – triggered by my first two books, *The New Look: Design in the Fifties* and *'Contemporary' Architecture and Interiors of the 1950s* – remains undimmed. It's just that now it is my house that is my gallery.

Furniture provides the backbone of a home. When my partner and I moved into our present

abode back in 1997, a roomy hilltop farmhouse near Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire, we found our existing furniture looked rather lost. It was the perfect excuse for a collecting spree and, as luck would have it, we chanced upon a cache of beautiful Danish furniture at the Danish Homestore, a shop we discovered during a pilgrimage to see Peter Moro's Nottingham Playhouse, an iconic early 1960s modernist theatre on the outskirts of the city. The Danes have a habit of changing their furniture every few years making for a healthy second-hand market.

The gems in our collection are undoubtedly the

