





Adri Van Zyl, of Atelier Interiors, who created the architectural concept for Work Shop New Town (WSNT) with Source's Julian McGowan, sat down with African Design Magazine and shared the idea behind this new retail concept in Johannesburg.



aunched in the former Market Square, WSNT joins a cultural and architectural history that has made Newtown a Johannesburg landmark. Drawing on multiple inspirations from the past, the retail project, which will house over 100 local fashion, design and lifestyle brands, pays respect to the site's heritage with cutting-edge design that will provide a marketplace for generations to come.

"Working within a heritage space, you're given the rare opportunity to take something old and familiar and create something exciting, new and relevant. But the trick is to add to the story and not just re-tell it," says van Zyl. "The Potato Sheds, built in 1911, and the surrounding neighbourhood, are steeped in significance and our goal was to celebrate that within this listed, magnificent structure," explains McGowan. "We wanted to confront visitors with a sophisticated homage to past glories and this ground-breaking environment is divided into designated areas, shops and booths that pay tribute to the goldmines, markets, livestock stalls, cultural icons and office workers that made Newtown the gateway to the city over 100 years ago."

