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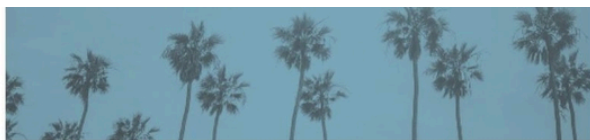
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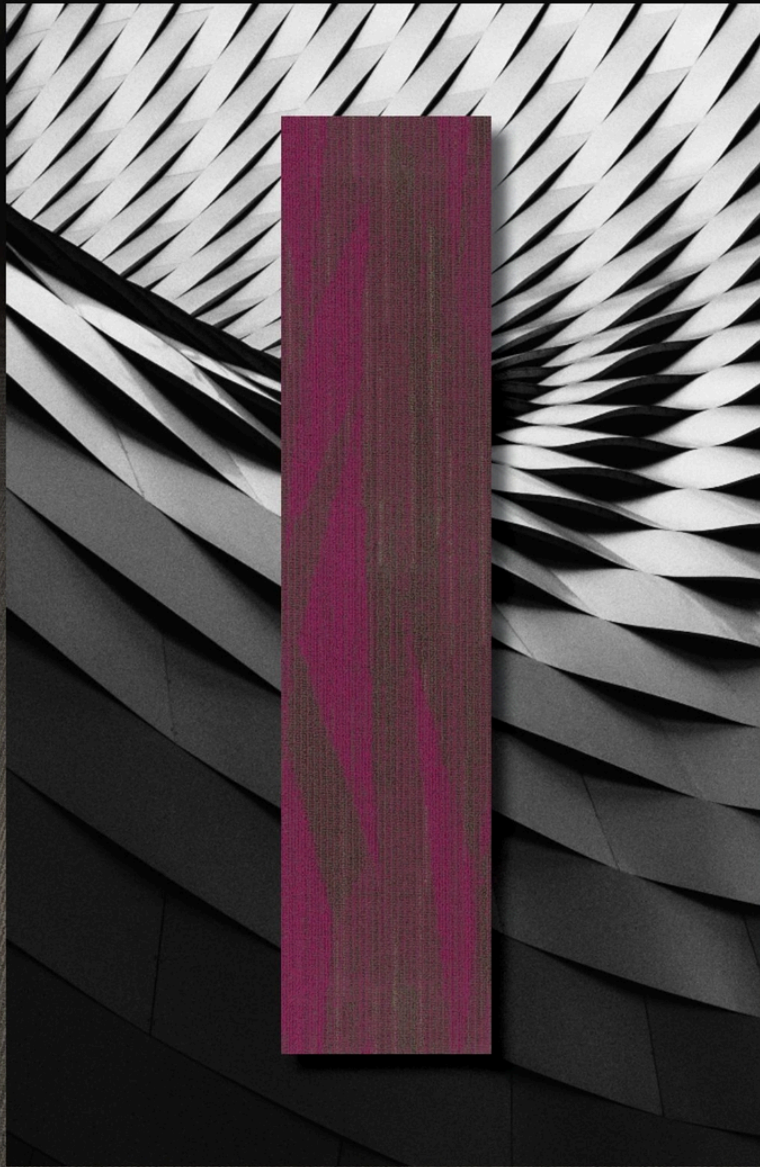


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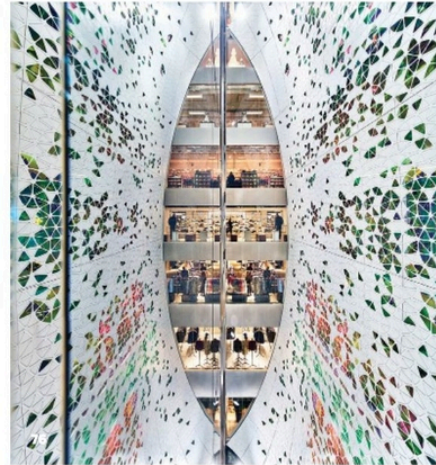
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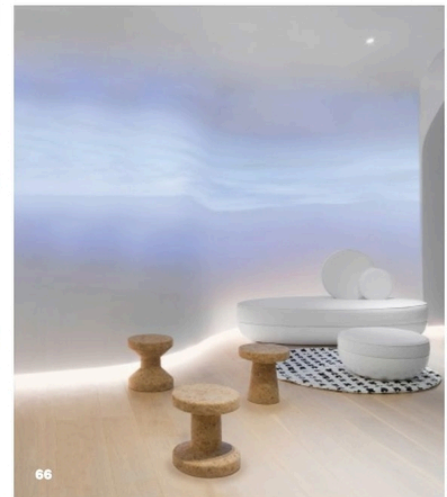
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EDITORIAL

Talents on the Rise

When asked to name talented interior design firms, there are a handful of established firms that we all know and love. We can agree that these firms have and will continue to accomplish amazing things—but this month, we look to the emerging talents of our industry that generally get a little less attention and time in the limelight. Here at *Contract*, we strongly believe that following the work of smaller, emerging firms will show us where the industry is headed in years to come. For this issue, we visit 20 different interior design and architecture studios, located in corners all over the world, to learn about the aspirations, motivations, founding principles, and ideas of this new frontier of designers. Many of these firms, as well as their founders and principals, are quite young—and while a few are perhaps more established than others, we feel that they have been under the radar, or else have begun to hit their stride, especially when it comes to commercial interiors. Their projects are nothing short of inspiring, and we look forward to keeping up with their work in the coming years.

Our cover project, RYU Sushi & Livia Matcha Bar in Westmount, Quebec, was completed by Montreal-based firm Ménard Dworkind. The firm, founded in 2017 through the union of Atelier Mainor and David Dworkind Architecture, is quickly making a name for itself

in commercial design, thanks to a mastery in unifying intricate craftsmanship, materiality, and detail with functionality. If you like what you see on the cover, the 19 other rising talents are sure to leave you impressed and inspired. There's no one prevailing style, other than an underlying belief that these spaces are designed for people first. And there is a real range of approaches: Take 71Collective, for example. They are a Brooklyn-based trio of designers that joined forces together just this past winter, and already they've completed projects in New York City and Washington, D.C. You'll have to check out their design of The Turk's Inn in Brooklyn—a transporting, 60-seat restaurant that is a replica of an original and legendary, over-the-top Wisconsin supper club from the 1940s. Thomas Robinson and his firm at LEVER Architecture have not only reached a point where they are transitioning to larger-scale and institutional work, they have been leaders in researching and using engineered-wood products such as Cross-Laminated Timber and Mass Plywood Panels. In short, we think there is something for everyone in this issue.

And, as always, we are excited to also introduce you to plenty of new products. We have over 100 of the newest and most innovative products in workplace and education solutions, as well as textiles and acoustics, in addition to a preview of products we think you'll like and will be at showing soon at Healthcare Design Expo and BDNY.

We hope that these projects and products will inspire you for the next space you're working on.

Sincerely,

Paul Makovsky
Editor in Chief





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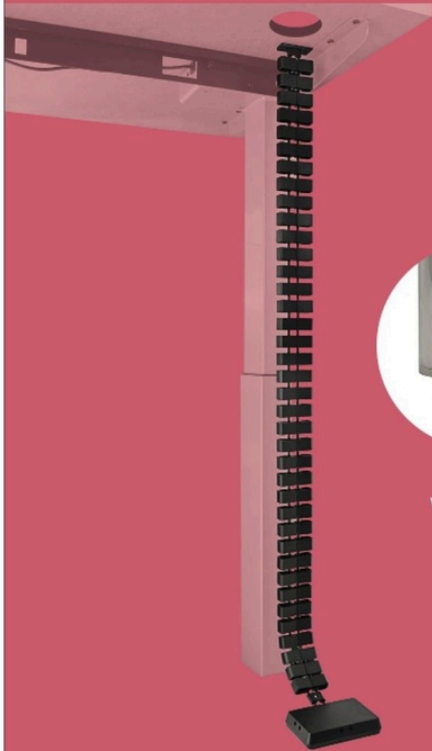
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Contract Magazine Inducts Two Industry Experts to Editorial Advisory Board



Contract magazine has welcomed two new members to its Editorial Advisory Board: Tara Roscoe, an associate principal at Woods Bagot in New York, and Ken Wilson, a design principal at Perkins and Will in Washington, D.C. Contract's Editorial Advisory Board is made up of 43 industry experts and designers from across the country. Spanning workplace, healthcare, hospitality, retail, and education interiors, they represent a well-rounded top-tier source of industry knowledge—which the editors of Contract rely on heavily.

With more than 20 years of experience, Roscoe has a strong reputation as a design leader and innovator in the interior design industry. Her portfolio includes a broad spectrum of work, including hospitality and retail, with a strong focus on workplace interiors. Roscoe has a holistic, interactive, and engaging design approach and her clients appreciate her out-of-the-box thinking. She helps clients understand that great design can reinvigorate a business culture and play a significant role in propelling the business forward. Tara's growing interest on the impact of machine learning on the design and planning process has resulted in her presenting new practice models at both the CoreNet and BuiltTech conferences in 2018. She is passionate about mentoring and coaching younger generations of designers both in the office and through teaching opportunities.

Wilson is one of two co-global design directors for interiors and serves on Perkins and Will's Design Board and Sustainability Council. He has been practicing for more than 35 years and his portfolio includes architecture, interiors, graphics, and product design. He is the only architect in the world to hold fellowships in the AIA, IIDA, and the Green Building Certification Institute (LEED Fellow). Wilson's projects have been published in seven different countries and have received more than 120 national and local design awards, while he was also named Contract's Designer of the Year in 2005. In 2018, Wilson received ASID's Designer of Distinction Awards, which honors one professional who has established a body of superior work demonstrating creativity, excellence, and innovation. —MEGHAN DWYER

PHOTOGRAPHY: TARA ROSCOE—SHAWN MCCABNEY, KEN WILSON—NADIA HUSTY



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Now through January 5, on view at the Bard Graduate Center is "French Fashion, Women, and the First French War"—an exhibition on the relationship between fashion, war, and gender policies in France during World War I. Through a diverse range of clothing, the exhibit provides an examination of how fashion reflected social change and became more than a way of demonstrating personal expression during wartime. Pictured: Dartey, pseudonym of Anette Osterlind. "La 'Fête Parisienne' a New York," *Le Style Parisien*, November 1, 1915. Diktats bookstore.

IMAGE COURTESY OF BARD GRADUATE CENTER

OCTOBER

Archtober

October 1–31
 Various locations
 New York City, New York
archtober.org

Trienal de Arquitectura de Lisboa

October 3–December 2
 Various locations
 Lisbon, Portugal
trienaldelisboa.com

Amman Design Week

October 4–12
 Various locations
 Amman, Jordan
ammandesignweek.com

Hyderabad Design Week

October 9–13
 Hyderabad International Convention Center
 Hyderabad, India
hyderabaddesignweek.com

Berlin Design Week

October 10–17
 Various locations
 Berlin, Germany
berlindesignweek.com

Conscious Cities Festival 2019

October 15–18
 Pratt Institute
 New York City, New York
theccd.org

XVII Bienal Internacional de Arquitectura

October 15–26
 Usina del Arte
 Buenos Aires, Argentina
labienalarq.com

Smart Workspace Design Expo

October 17–18
 Taets Art and Event Park
 Amsterdam, The Netherlands
fleming.events/smart-workspace-design-expo

Designart Tokyo

October 18–27
 Various locations
 Tokyo, Japan
designart.jp

Dutch Design Week

October 19–27
 Various locations
 Eindhoven, The Netherlands
ddw.nl

NOVEMBER

Nashville Design Week

November 4–8
 Various locations
 Nashville, Tennessee
nashvilledesignweek.org

Austin Design Week

November 4–8
 Various locations
 Austin, Texas
austindesignweek.org

Belfast Design Week

November 4–10
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 Belfast, United Kingdom
belfastdesignweek.com

BDNY

November 10–11
 Jacob K. Javits Center
 New York City, New York
bdny.com



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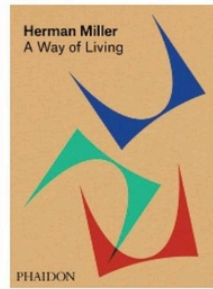
Fall Releases

Nine new books to influence and inspire you

**Space Settlements****By Fred Scharmen**

Columbia Books on Architecture and the City, 208 pages, \$24

In the summer of 1975, NASA brought together a team of space scientists—along with architects, urban planners, and artists—to design large-scale space habitats for millions of people. This book examines these futuristic plans for life in space as serious architectural and spatial proposals that remain relevant today.

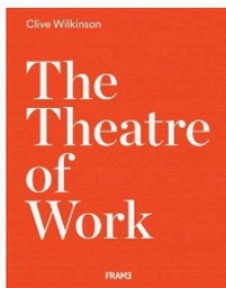
**Herman Miller: A Way of Living****Edited by Amy Auscherman, Sam Grawe and Leon Ransmeier**
Phaidon, 614 pages, \$89.95

This wonderfully illustrated monograph documents and celebrates the influential American furniture company from 1905 to the present day. It highlights significant moments in Herman Miller's rich history, including the Eameses' Molded Plywood Furniture, Robert Propst's Action Office System, and Bill Stumpf's Ergon Chairs, to name a few.

**What Clients Want, Volume 4****By Melissa Feldman**

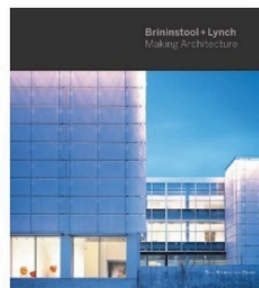
IIDA, 125 pages, \$20

The newest edition of What Clients Want examines shifting workplace needs and how 20 current workplace projects, including those for brands like McDonald's, Vans, Uber, and WeWork, are successfully addressing these changing expectations through design. The tome is available for purchase through the IIDA website: iida.org.

**The Theatre of Work****By Clive Wilkinson**

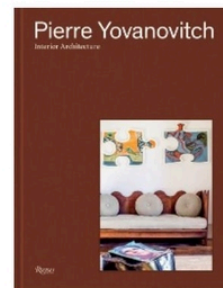
Frame Publishers, 240 pages, \$49

Architect Clive Wilkinson has designed some of the best workplaces today. In this new book, he proposes seven humanistic principles that will inform a holistic design process to bring the concept of "work as theatre" to fruition, and muses on ways to create the best workspaces possible.

**Brininstool + Lynch: Making Architecture****Brad Lynch and David Brininstool, Essay by Reed Kroloff**

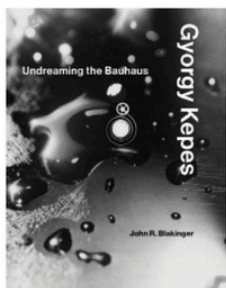
Monacelli, 208 pages, \$50

An overview of the 30-year, award-winning career of the Chicago-based firm, this monograph showcases a series of exemplary built works which are rooted in modernism of American Midwestern architecture, and an updated attitude to composition, aesthetics and nuanced details.

**Pierre Yovanovitch: Interior Architecture****By Pierre Yovanovitch**

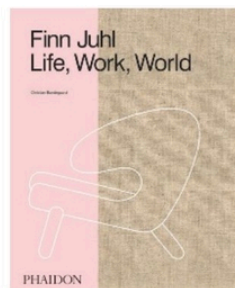
Rizzoli International Publications, 368 pages, \$65

The Paris-based designer explores his refined yet subtle style and signature haute couture aesthetic through an array of extraordinary interiors. Known for his ability to reimagine and modernize old spaces, Yovanovitch has transformed everything from a 17th-century château in Provence, a skating rink converted into a private contemporary art museum, and many stunning private residences around the world.

**Gyorgy Kepes: Undreaming the Bauhaus****By John R. Blakinger**

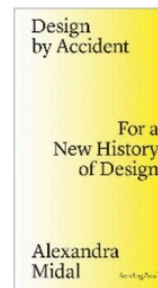
MIT Press, 504 pages, \$55

Best known for his encyclopedic Vision + Value series, Gyorgy Kepes, a disciple of the Bauhaus, pioneered interdisciplinary collaboration between the arts and sciences—what he termed "interthinking" and "interseeing." Drawing on the vast archive of Kepes' papers, the author thoroughly traces this pioneering modernist artist as technocrat, tracing years spent in Chicago's New Bauhaus and MIT.

**Finn Juhl: Life, Work, World****By Christian Bundegeard**

Phaidon, 264 pages, \$95

Finn Juhl is the 20th-century Danish architect and designer who played a huge part in the spread of the international Danish design phenomenon of the 1940s and 1950s. This comprehensive monograph features his best-loved creations, including furniture and interiors, such as his 48 Chair, and the interior for the Trusteeship Council Chamber at the UN Headquarters in New York.

**Design by Accident: For a New History of Design****By Alexandra Midal**

Sternberg Press, 409 pages, \$26

This counter-history and new historiography of design sheds light on overlooked historical landmarks and narratives, while reevaluating the legacies of design's great figures. By weaving design history and theory together, Midal draws out the nuances and radical potentials of the discipline—from William Morris's ambivalence toward industry, to the influence of Herbert Marcuse on Joe Colombo.

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PRODUCT BRIEFS

Textiles & Acoustics

Meet industry's newest solutions for warming a space up while quieting it down.

**1. Carnegie: Viewpoint**

The latest upholstery collection from Carnegie, designed by studio director Chase Taylor, intends to create a new "viewpoint" towards the way that people work and live. Featuring Carnegie's consistent values of sustainability and durable versatility, Viewpoint will surpass expectations in both pattern and color.

carnegiefabrics.com

**2. Paola Lenti: Ebanyis**

While Paola Lenti's Ebanyis wallcoverings look like cushioned tiles, the product is actually a foam module covered in a very thin, inlaid wood veneer stitched together into a custom wallcovering. The wallcovering was initially designed as a flooring, until its sound-absorbing qualities were discovered upon vertically mounting it for display. Ebanyis is available in 15 stains, as well as a number of inlay patterns.

paolalenti.it

**3. Kravet Contract: Natural Looks**

Kravet Contract's most recent collection of drapery is designed to emulate the luster of raw silk and linen, but with properties making it suitable for commercial environments. Natural Looks is exceptionally durable and entirely flame resistant, giving it the luxurious texture of linen with contract qualities. The collection is available in shades of blue, silver, gold, gray, as well as other organic hues.

kravet.com

5. Kirei: EchoCloud Diamond Tiles

The EchoCloud Diamond Tiles provide an edgy indoor solution to harsh noise levels. Available in 1-, 2-, 5-, and 10-diamond clusters in 27 different colors ranging from neutral to vibrant tones, these sound-absorbing tiles were thoughtfully designed for balanced sound control. Unlike many acoustic solutions, EchoCloud Diamond Tiles are easy to install, thanks to a Fast Track flexible mounting system.

kireiusa.com

**4. Luum: State Collection**

The State collection, designed by Suzanne Tick for Luum, is built upon the foundations of functional craft and celebrates the unification of handmade prototypes and large-scale production. Consisting of six patterns—Structured Stripe, Dispersion, Duo Chrome, Homage, Oeuvre, and Doyenne—State Collection is inspired by weaving techniques with high-performance constructions.

luumtextiles.com



contractdesign.com

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PRODUCT BRIEFS

**6. Maharam: Croft**

Defined by the understated luxury of natural materials through the marriage of wool and linen, Croft features a plain weave with a neutral palette and a flaxen warp. Woven by a small producer in Belgium, the collection focuses on the raw materiality of the fibers that require no embellishment—a feature characteristic to the Maharam Design Studio.

maharam.com

8. Snowsound: Botanica

Designed by Mario Trimarchi, this system of sound-absorbing elements is composed of a leaf-shaped panel held by a chromed-metal support. Available in various versions, each of the single panels can be wall-mounted, or configured as a group of six, supported by a standalone frame; larger groupings can also be mounted to a wall using a steel frame, or hung by adjustable cables from the ceiling.

snowsoundusa.com

7. Morbern: Surf

Morbern's new vinyl, aptly called Surf, features wavy lines deeply ingrained into the surface, mimicking the flow of the sea. With a matte finish and 23 colorways in a palette of neutrals, earthy reds, greens, oranges, and blues, the durable product features the high performance that Morbern is known for, including UV protection, crack resistance, four-way stretch, and outdoor capabilities.

morbern.com

**9. Fil Doux: Synthesis**

Fil Doux's latest textile collection, Synthesis, is a representation of movement and pattern. The hand-selected textiles showcase a natural alchemy of woven beauty, coming together unexpectedly to evoke an emotional response. The bespoke patterns are traditionally familiar yet novel, thanks to shifts in scale and unexpected colors.

fildoux.com

10. Mohawk Group: Prizefighter

Prizefighter, available through Mohawk Group commercial and Durkan hospitality brands, combines style and strength into one enhanced resilient tile. Ideal for commercial environments where noise is an issue, Prizefighter celebrates authentic wood visuals on a dimensionally stable, waterproof platform with an attached pad that offers superior acoustical properties.

mohawkflooring.com



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11. Aimée Wilder: Eudaimonia

Eudaimonia consists of two patterns, Pyramide du Soleil and Earthlight, which demonstrate the natural balance between the earth, the sun, and the moon to evoke the beauty of cosmic balance. The Greek word Eudaimonia commonly translates to happiness or "human flourishing," which Wilder explored while designing the patterns. The commercial-grade fabrics are tested for 50,000 double rubs and are available with a range of protective coatings, including anti-microbial and stain coating.

aimeewilder.com



12

12. Arc-Com: Nomad

Arc-Com's Nomad Collection consists of four textiles, inspired by mankind's nomadic nature paired with the design studio's interest in repurposing materials and spaces. By repurposing and modernizing visual design imagery of the Moroccan Berbers—one of the oldest nomadic cultures in the world—Arc-Com has developed a collection of textiles with sumptuous surfaces and enhanced performance features.

arc-com.com

contractdesign.com

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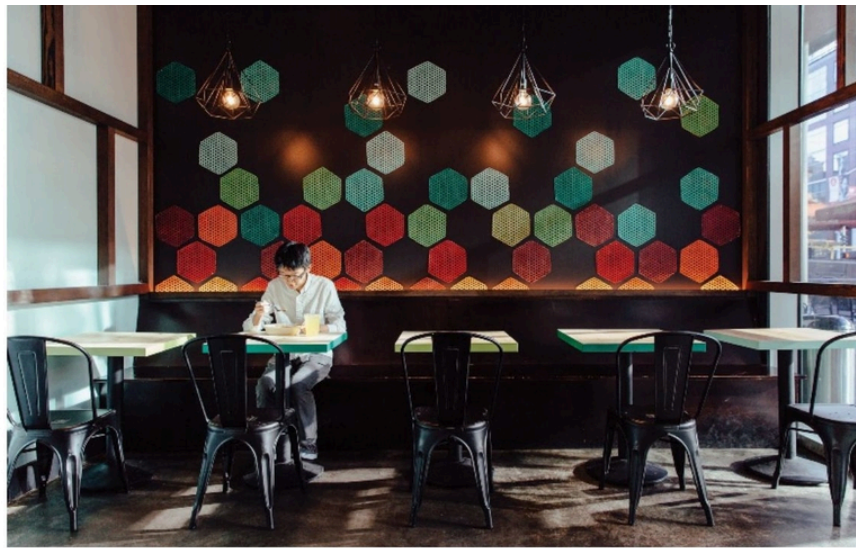
What's important to people is changing. We need to change with them and make products that meet their needs. The cheap way out isn't fair to the customer. People need something they can count on to last for years to come. Money is a factor. We need to convince the person in charge that this will last and will make a positive difference for the people in their spaces. Our customers have to make decisions every day. We aim to make products that help streamline the selection process. Providing people with a safe, pleasing, comfortable place to do business isn't just a priority, it's a passion. Making a space that people want to work in starts with the flooring. The right flooring sets the tone for the rest of the space. For the people in charge, it's about function and form. We have to be the best at both. Companies and their employees have high standards. We strive to live up to them. They don't speak our language. But we have to speak theirs and help their vision come to life. It's our job to make them look good. Flooring is what people use the most, but think about the least. To do it right, we have to talk to the people who use the floors. From the manager, workers, and the custodial staff – everyone matters.

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PROFILE

Designer You Should Know Atelier Cho Thompson



Celebrating natural textures with a material palette that includes walnut, steel, brass, stone, and wool, Christina Cho Yoo and Ming Thompson (top, left) of Atelier Cho Thompson designed a lobby for EQ Office in Boston (above). For the San Francisco location of Spice Kit, the firm developed infographics, interior signage, and marketing materials that suited the brand, as well as a banquette backdrop comprised of colorful bamboo mats (top, right).

Founded by Christina Cho Yoo, AIA, IIDA, and Ming Thompson, AIA, IIDA, Atelier Cho Thompson is a San Francisco- and New Haven-based multidisciplinary design and concept firm that boasts a diverse portfolio of work spanning architecture, interiors, graphics, brand strategy, furniture, installations, and exhibitions. Recently bestowed the IIDA's Anna Hernandez/Luna Textiles Award, the two partners—who met while studying at Harvard's Graduate School of Design—possess an impressive ability to deliver holistic designs through an integrated approach.

Your work encompasses a broad range of disciplines, extending beyond the traditional boundaries of architecture and interior design. Can you share more about what this multidisciplinary approach entails?

On many of our projects, our total approach allows us to become a design partner for our clients and to create and execute strong design concepts at all scales. The logo and the building should work together to build a vision. Transcending typical boundaries, we've been told that we have set ourselves apart from our competition because we are more than service providers. We are allies in aiding clients to maintain staying power in the marketplace with a clear brand message and experience. Most clients have neither the bandwidth nor expertise to coordinate multiple designers and consultants as they are tackling many other things in their workday. They love the one-stop shop approach and ability to talk to a person who can speak skillfully across disciplines in a single conversation.

What are some trends or cultural shifts in design that interest you right now?

We love that clients are looking to shake things up and, dare we say, "disrupt" the way spaces are typically designed. The zeitgeist compels our clients to start each project with the question: "What is the future of the office? A school? A lobby?"

They see our experience working on different typologies as an asset to addressing this trailblazing question. Working on a range of typologies, from homes to offices to schools to hospitality, we approach all these projects with the same kind of conceptual rigor and obsession with detail. We believe that the future of design is one of hybrid typologies. The way we work and live today has changed radically—we work from coffee shops and dining tables, and aspects of home, work, and play have all become blended. Our best projects draw upon a large cross-section of spaces.

What are some of the challenges that you see facing designers today?

The design professions are in an important moment of confronting and discussing equity and diversity. There are too many outdated practices that are roadblocks to creating an equal playing field, not just for women but for all people who want to have a healthy balance between work and life. In our own firm, we are enacting policies that allow for better balance by using technology like cloud-based servers and company-issued laptops, and by creating clearly stated policies for flexible work time.

What's next for Atelier Cho Thompson?

In our projects, we work to build community around design, and this year we are embarking on new firm initiatives to do that. In both San Francisco and New Haven, we've set up storefront architecture offices with windows to our neighborhood, and we're opening a brick-and-mortar design store on the street. We'll be selling a curated mix of objects from makers across the world alongside our own product line with partners from food, fashion, and lighting. We're also setting up a monthly series of events to bring design to the community: Through salons on the crossover between design, food, politics, and fine arts, we're hoping to generate new energy in our two cities toward building great things together.



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PRODUCT TREND

TOOLS FOR WORKING

1. Vitra Herringbone Vessels

Designed by London-based duo Raw Edges, this series of ceramic bowls and vases are created by repeatedly hand-dipping the objects into a colored glaze. This process yields unique patterns, determined by the immersion angle as well as the shape and weight of each and every respective piece.

vitra.com

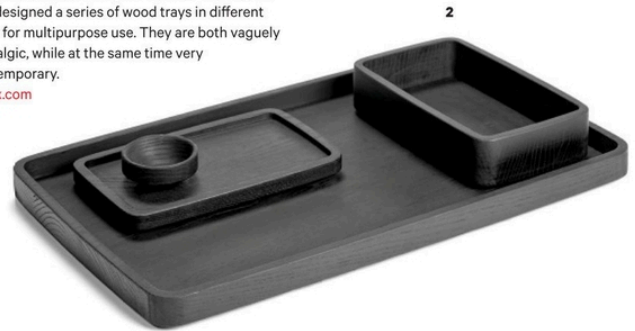


To increase productivity and make your daily office rituals more fun, it's time to do away with those functional yet boring, anonymously designed supplies from the office supply catalogue. At this year's Maison&Objet trade show in Paris, the latest crop of desk accessories offered a stylish crossover to residential, and make for seamless additions in any commercial or hospitality setting. Here are our favorite picks to help elevate your workspace, wherever that may be.

2. Serax Wood Trays

Belgian minimalist designer Vincent Van Duysen has designed a series of wood trays in different sizes for multipurpose use. They are both vaguely nostalgic, while at the same time very contemporary.

serax.com

**3. Perigot Folding Stepstool**

This aluminum folding stepstool, designed by Chiata Murata, is ultra-light, stable and designed to withstand up to 220 pounds of weight.

perigot.fr

**4. Lucie Kaas computer bag**

This nylon laptop bag, designed by Sketch, Inc. for Lucie Kaas, perfectly fits a 13" laptop and comes with a small compartment to store your power cord and charger.

luciekaas.com

**5. Ferm Living Alza Bowl**

Challenging the expression of a classic bowl, the Alza bowl has an elevated design with its tray based on a sturdy plateau. Both light and grounded, this design unites contrasts and lets them come together in a beautiful white or black marble bowl.

fermliving.com

**6. Glacial Matte Navy Bottle**

This ergonomic, reusable stainless-steel water bottle comes with a matte-navy coating, a silver base and lid, and a mouth wide enough to fit ice cubes into the bottle. It keeps liquids cold for 24 hours, or hot for 12 hours, and is 100% BPA-free.

glacialbottle.com



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PRODUCT TREND

ANIMAL INSTINCT

1. Ibride Dalmation Tray

From the Galerie de Portraits series, this playful rectangular tray is adorned with an amusing image of a Dalmation dressed in Renaissance attire. The high-pressure laminate tray is perfect for use as a decorative wall piece; it can also be hung on the wall with ease, using the included screws.

ibride.fr

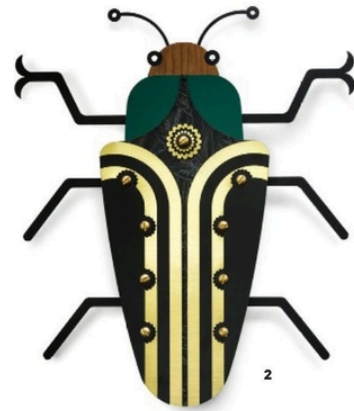


Flora and fauna have always served as a constant source of inspiration for designers, finding their way with natural patterns and motifs such as spirals, meanders, waves, and cracks. At this year's Maison&Objet trade show, animal imagery, whether abstracted or shown in recognizable forms, was the basis for many new product launches. Here is a selection of new products that will add some whimsy to your next interiors project, big or small.

2. Umasqu Bug Wall Plaque

From Tzachi Nevo's Bug Things collection, this plaque is made of Formica and acrylic-coated with gold paint, making them UV- and weather-resistant. A range of sizes are also available for bespoke orders.

umasqu.com

**3. Soletti Monkey Chandelier**

Three irreverent and mischievous little monkeys playfully hang over this chandelier designed by Marcantonio, making it a perfect addition for designing a room that's out of the ordinary.

seletti.us

**4. Roije Paper Pet Magazine Holder**

Like a loyal pet, this holder will stow your papers and magazine and keep them safe. Available in several colors, it's made of powder-coated steel and felt.

roije.com

5. EO Elephant Chair and Table

Designed by Marc Venot, this child-sized chair and table make for cheery additions to any interior; the simple design, made of European beech wood, would please the adult minimalist. The big, curved ears of the Elephant provide a solid support for sitting and leaning, and bring a fun element of play.

eo.dk





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FEATURE



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Branding/Graphics

Product/Furniture

This month, *Contract* looks to the up-and-coming interior design firms that are quickly making names for themselves as the design wave of the future.

From Romania to Brazil, this group of 20 international studios offer insights into the priorities, approaches, and passions of the next generation of designers.

Their energy and fresh processes make for a bright collection of work that is sure to inspire even the most accomplished designer.

contract

FEATURE

71collective

By Paul Makovsky

71Collective is a Brooklyn-based firm, cofounded this year by Rebecca Rumph, Felipe Tejeda, and Gaines Solomon (bottom). They specialize in hospitality, and to date have already completed projects that include No Kisses (this page: top and below right), a groovy cocktail bar in Washington, DC; and its next-door sister restaurant, Sonny's Pizzeria (this page: below left), which is outfitted with benches repurposed from a bowling alley. Their standout project is The Turk's Inn in Brooklyn (opposite page), a 60-seat restaurant that is a replica of an original, over-the-top Wisconsin supper club from the 1940s.

All photos courtesy
71Collective.



Location **Brooklyn, NY**Founded **2019**

Areas of Specialization



While 71 Collective is a new design firm, cofounded by Rebecca Rumph, Felipe Tejeda, and Gaines Solomon earlier this year, the trio met while working at another Brooklyn design/build firm. The number 71 is a nod to the address of the firm where the three of them met, they explain of their new moniker, and Collective refers to the collaborative, team-focused approach they take to both their projects and clients. Together they have more than 40 years of experience designing for the hospitality industry. "We formed 71 Collective predicated on the belief that our role in this business is firstly to listen to our client and secondly to deliver visionary design that captures an audience and the brand essence," says Rebecca Rumph. Probably 90% of their work is hospitality, primarily in the food and beverage sector, and the remaining 10% is spread over workplace, residential/developer, and retail.

71 Collective creates innovative spaces that inspire, engage and excite. Unlike other hospitality firms such as Roman & Williams or Kelly Wearstler that are often known for a certain "style," the Brooklyn-based firm instead curates a desired emotional experience for every project by layering disparate themes and concepts. Take sister restaurants, No Kisses and Sonny's Pizzeria, which opened earlier this year in Washington, D.C. The former is a neighborhood cocktail bar that has been described as making visitors feel as if they're drinking underneath a giant color-changing Lite-Brite board. "It's the kind of dark, groovy bar I had in mind," co-owner Max Zuckerman says. Contrast this to Sonny's, the spot next door, with its

analog-era design, outfitted with benches repurposed from a bowling alley and tables fashioned from old high school bleachers, in addition to old school memorabilia that includes a paint-by-numbers scene from *Goodfellas*.

Worthwild, on the other hand, is a New York City bar and restaurant that feels like a very homey American neighborhood and community hangout that might be found upstate, or somewhere out on Cape Cod. But the firm's standout design has to be The Turk's Inn in Brooklyn's Bushwick neighborhood. The 60-seat restaurant is designed as a replica of a legendary, over-the-top Wisconsin supper club from the 1940s, and sports plenty of kitschy décor from the original space: an old timey bar, moody red walls with psychedelic geometric designs, and a dining room with an alcove and skylight, complete with original artifacts such as antique artwork, ceramic figurines, and photographs.

In addition to an expansion of the rooftop at Turk's Inn, the firm is currently working on a high-end, farm-to-table supper club in Brooklyn Heights, a New Orleans-inspired dive bar in Bushwick, and a second location of a Michelin-starred celebrity chef space in New York (it will have "rustic vibes," the team says).

"The end result is that our work is rich in character and often indiscernible in its aesthetic; creating that break from reality that is so important to us and so valuable for the individuality of a space," says Rumph. "We believe that our job as designers is to create spaces that allow people to escape reality even if it's for a few moments."

contract

FEATURE

bianco e bianca

By Anna Zappia

Elie Kamel and Timeea Bianca Diosi of Bianco e Bianca (opposite page: below) founded the studio last spring as a way to "break the boundaries and try to create a new kind of design in Romania," says Diosi. They love to mix and match colors, textures, and shapes to create unexpected interiors. The duo also designs graphics and products to help their clients form a strong brand identity.

For the recently completed Jess restaurant and bar (this page and opposite), they used a bold "Wes Anderson color palette" of featuring a signature royal blue tone, as well as arches and half circles.



Location **Timișoara, Romania**Founded **2018**

Typologies



Founded last spring by Elie Kamel and Timea Bianca Diosi, design studio Bianco e Bianca is not only known for its colorful interiors, but also graphic and product design. After years of working around the world and completing projects on more than three continents, Kamel and Diosi decided to start their own company in Romania, a country where they believe they can help to foster a more forward-thinking design community. "Well, in Romania unfortunately, architects and designers are very traditional," says Diosi. "They don't want to get outside the box, experiment with materials. It's like they are afraid."

The pair starts their design process by envisioning a comfortable and functional design, and then they think about the style of an interior. Their playful use of color, and how they effortlessly combine it with patterns and textures, is

already a hallmark of their work. "One solid color can change a space. Whether it's bright or dramatic, colors are a must in a space," Kamel says. The recently completed Jess restaurant and bar in Timișoara, Romania, is a perfect example of their aesthetic and holistic approach to work. Kamel and Diosi's imprint can be found in every element of the eatery, from its branding to furniture and signage.

They used what they describe as a "Wes Anderson color palette," which includes royal blue paired with orange and pink tones. A custom resin terrazzo covers the tabletops, backrests, and bar counter. Geometric shapes such as a half circle are used in repeating patterns in each of the building's three distinct areas.

For the Mintish Salon, another project located in Timișoara, the duo let shapes take center stage, as they sought to create a contemporary place with a 1970s beauty parlor vibe. "Of course, we never forget about geometry, which creates patterns in our design," Diosi explains. They created, then elevated, the nostalgic look of simple, common materials by combining a mint green hue with black and white accents.

By bending the rules a bit and embracing the non-traditional, the local design scene is turning heads and taking notice of Bianco e Bianca, though not all the reception has been positive. Kamel and Diosi note that their work has its share of detractors, but they take any criticism in stride, keeping their eyes on the future and what they hope to accomplish. "Our projects are many times judged for being controversial, for being different here," says Kamel. "But despite all this, nothing stops us."

contract

FEATURE

boxx creative

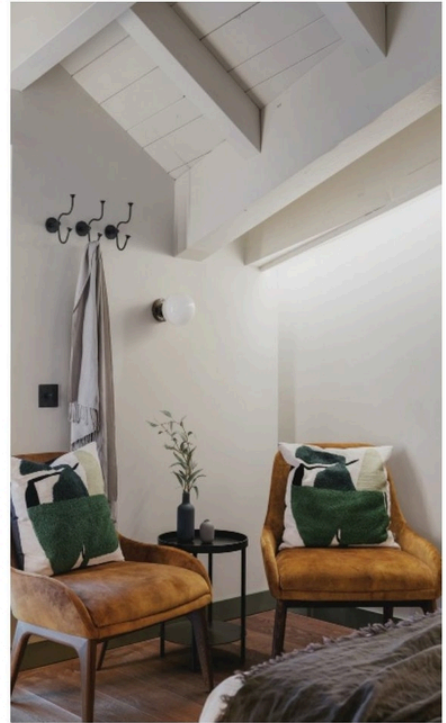
By Meghan Dwyer

The Cafe at Stonebow House (this page) is a refuge within the historic city of York. Featuring a calming color palette, natural woods and textures, and an abundance of plants, the cafe provides guests with a connection to nature. The soft color schemes of Miramonti (opposite page), which means "mountain view," are inspired by the boutique hotel's mountainous location in northern Italy. With a focus on quality designs and environmental impact, a large number of furnishings were crafted by a local artisan man in his workshop, while locally sourced, sustainable materials were used wherever else possible.



Location **London**Founded **2017**

Typologies



Nicola Lindsell and Nicola Keenan joined forces to found London-based Boxx Creative just two and a half years ago, yet in that short time the duo has defined themselves as a one-stop shop for creative services. Realizing that each project is entirely unique, the studio tailors its suite of creative services to meet requirements, including interior design, branding and product design, as well as marketing and strategy.

"Prior to Boxx Creative, we both worked for other leading design studios," says Lindsell. "This is how we first met, as we were part of the team working on a project together. We both began our careers in business and finance. These experiences provided us with solid business backgrounds and strong financial acumen. This has also been hugely beneficial, as many of our clients are entrepreneurs, owning multiple businesses and operating across different industries. We can talk their language and crucially, understand their priorities and what they want to establish both creatively and commercially."

Boxx Creative's client list covers an expansive range of project types, including a cafe, coffee shop and roastery, health food retail store, coworking space, luxury boutique hotel, as well as bars and restaurants. Following a holistic approach to design, the studio works closely with its clients to deliver a fully integrated design with one harmonious voice throughout all services provided, with a focus on environmental and social responsibility.

"We don't believe in design, simply for design's sake, but rather, that it is the responsibility of designers to make a difference for society and the planet

by choosing carefully what and how they create, as well as the materials, processes, and products used," says Keenan.

While many designers see their role as simply to create a beautiful, functional, and innovative space, Boxx Creative holds itself to an even higher standard—making sure the space is profitable. "We work closely with our clients to optimize the commercial value of their project, identifying ways for them to maximize revenue, achieve a good return on investment, or create a business offering that's both scalable and investable," says Keenan.

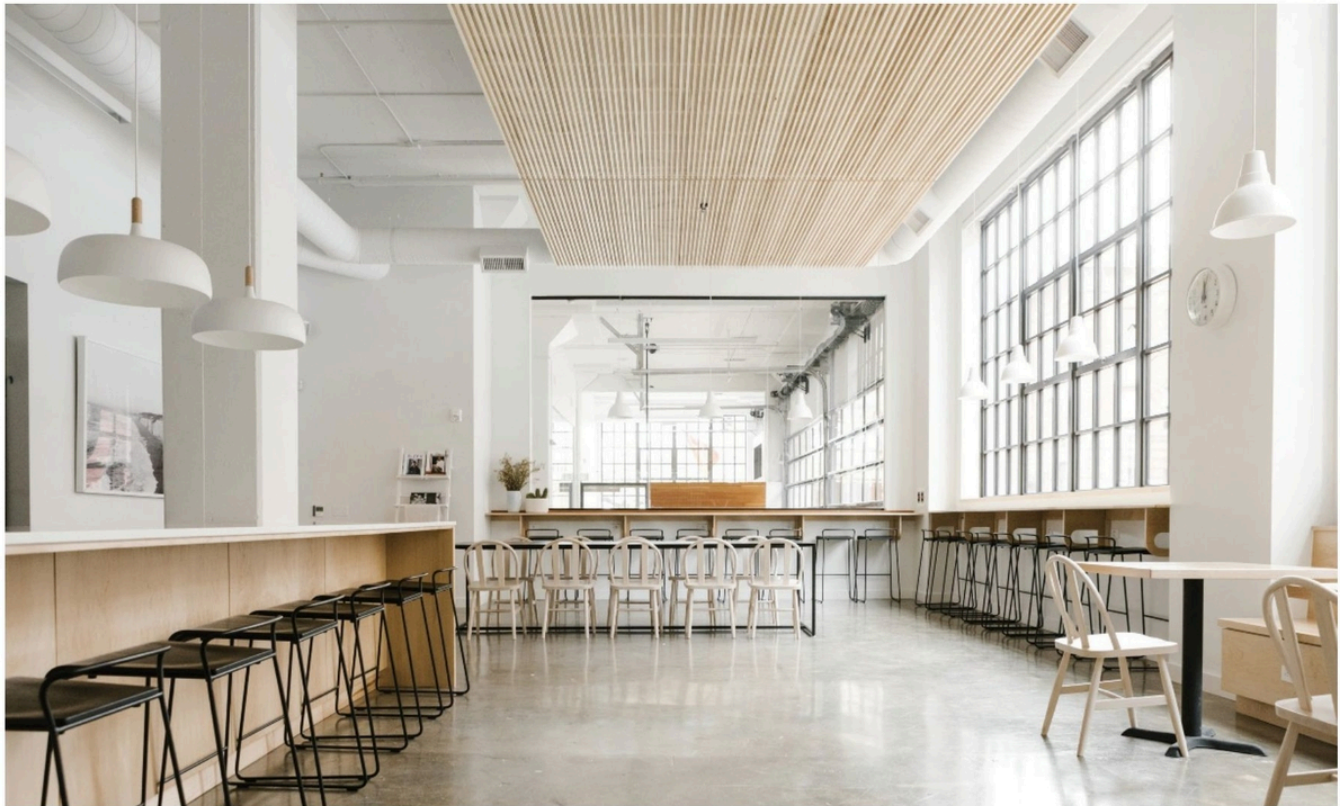
Two recent projects by the studio include Miramonti, a luxury boutique hotel in Brescia, Italy, and the Cafe at Stonebow House, in York, England. Miramonti is a third-generation, family-run business with a colorful history. With a design intent to progress the hotel's modernization, its focus on locality, and desire to support the community, while minimizing environmental impact, Boxx Creative designed a tranquil escape with Scandinavian-inspired furnishings that are locally sourced and made to last. For the Cafe at Stonebow House—York's most renowned 1960s Brutalist building now home to advanced fitness and wellness company Supersonic—Boxx Creative created an urban oasis and oxygen-filled escape. Featuring biophilic design principles and an abundance of plants, the minimalist interior ensures that the Brutalist architecture and man-made materials remain prominent.

contract

FEATURE

casework

By Meghan Dwyer



Location **Portland, Oregon**Founded **2015**

Typologies



Work & Co.'s bright, light-filled office (opposite page) is a welcomed contrast to the dark and rainy winters of Portland. The palette of white and light woods acts as a backdrop that comes to life in a different way each day, as people fill the office. Hightower's showroom (this page) plays on texture, color, and shape to create unexpected statements. The soft-hued, plush showroom makes for the perfect escape from the busy halls of NeoCon, while arched vignettes add intrigue to the space and frame furnishings.

Casework photos courtesy of Casework; Work & Co. images by Nicole Mason.

For the Portland, Oregon-based studio Casework, experience and narrative are the driving influences behind each and every one of their projects. Founded by Casey Keasler in 2015, the five-person team is focused almost entirely on remodels, and very rarely partakes in new construction. With a focus on environments and how they are experienced, Casework believes strongly that quality of one's environment is one of the greatest and most overlooked sources of happiness.

"The power of design is real, and our goal is to understand our client's needs and ideas, then translate them into an environment," says Keasler. "Just like the clothes you wear and the music you listen to, your space is an extension of you. The most meaningful projects tell visual stories that have layers of past and present, unexpected elements not from one particular style or era, but have a familiarity that is real. In short, they have biographies."

No matter the size of a project, the team at Casework dedicates the same attention to detail and passion. Rather than filling a space with items and furniture, they strive to build connections between the spaces and those who occupy them. These humanist sensibilities are then blended with the firm's technical expertise, resulting in successful, meaningful design.

One of the most unique aspects of Casework's design process is the client interview process, which Keasler compares to a first date, in which both she and the client get to know one another and explore the potential of what can be created together. "We believe each client is unique and because of this process, each project has a unique result," says Keasler. "The bottom line is not about what Casework wants to design, rather it is to serve the clients and create a space

that is a true extension to their personality. Each project we are a part of is as individual as those involved. At the root, we are designers looking to create meaning in the work we produce. We are listeners, managers, detectives, therapists, advocates, and visionaries."

For furniture manufacturer Hightower's Chicago Merchandise Mart showroom, Casework began the design phase by asking the company for three words to inspire the project. They chose *varmt välkommen* (Swedish for 'warm welcome'), linger, and unexpected. The showroom is now a true reprieve from the chaos of NeoCon, and guests are welcomed to kick their feet up, charge their phones, and enjoy a drink. Unexpected details playing on space and scale adorn the showroom, from traditional and upside-down arches that create vignettes into other rooms, to a 12-foot pink Boxplay sofa by Swedish partner Swedese. The space tells a story and makes visitors feel welcomed and at ease.

While designing the Portland offices of digital agency Work & Co., Casework employed the same careful consideration for what the client desired—the comforts of home. The minimal, contemporary office is functional for all employees, and acts as simply a supporting role to creativity and work, without unnecessary distractions. The company's core values of collaboration and community shine through the entire space through lounge spaces with plush seating, a spacious break room for lunches and social activities, and multiple meeting rooms of various sizes.

contract

FEATURE

craft & bloom

By Anna Zappia



Emma and Ofer Shahar are the husband-and-wife duo behind Craft & Bloom (right). For the Maapilim pop-up shop in New York City (this page, above and far right), the pair reflected the brand's use of ingredients from the Mediterranean, designing a white, Grecian-style interior. While designing Opa vegan restaurant in Tel Aviv (opposite), the couple was inspired by chef Shirel Berger's plating and philosophy.

Maapilim photos by Will Ellis;
OPA photos by Yoav Gurin.



Location **Tel Aviv**Founded **2013**

Typologies



Craft & Bloom, the interior design studio founded and run by the husband-and-wife team Emma and Ofer Shahar, has continually evolved since they founded the firm six years ago. Their work encompassed much more than designing interiors when they first started: The studio initially housed a full-scale carpentry shop where they built their own furniture, and they also ran workshops in the evenings.

However, as the team expanded to ten employees, accruing significant overhead costs, the couple began to reevaluate their operation when they started thinking about having a family. Eventually they decided to pare everything down and focus on their own designs. “We have since morphed into a more classic interior design studio, as well as offering consulting services,” says Emma.

Unlike most firms with a set number of staff members, the Shahars now work with a flexible network of different freelancers so that they can tailor the team to the specific project they are working on. They receive portfolios and résumés regularly, and then review submissions and interview fellow designers when the need arises. “By hiring on a project basis,” Ofer explains, “we are able to find the person whose skillset, ambitions, and personality mesh ideally with the task at hand.”

With a steady stream of new collaborators to work with, and assignments underway, the pair is always evaluating. They check in with themselves and their clients, asking if they are being true to themselves and if they are enjoying what they are doing. It is this process of reflection that gives the couple the freedom to explore both personally and professionally. Now, they take on assignments that they wouldn’t have considered previously.

“Over the last few years our clients have challenged us to dive into new typologies. We designed our first restaurant, a cabin in the woods, and our first pop-up shop, all in the last two years,” notes Emma. The pop-up was designed for Maapilim, a line of men’s grooming products that are made with ingredients from the Mediterranean. Open for just under a month in New York’s Nolita neighborhood, the small shop—housed in an all-white space inspired by Grecian rooftop gardens—made a big impression and captured the brand’s essence perfectly.

For the Shahars, the Maapilim pop-up is the type of project they especially love, because it satisfies their natural curiosity and desire to explore different disciplines. Says Ofer: “This allows us to incorporate our design experience, spiritual journey, and our various hobbies, offering a much richer experience.”

contract

FEATURE

ETC.etera

By Meghan Dwyer

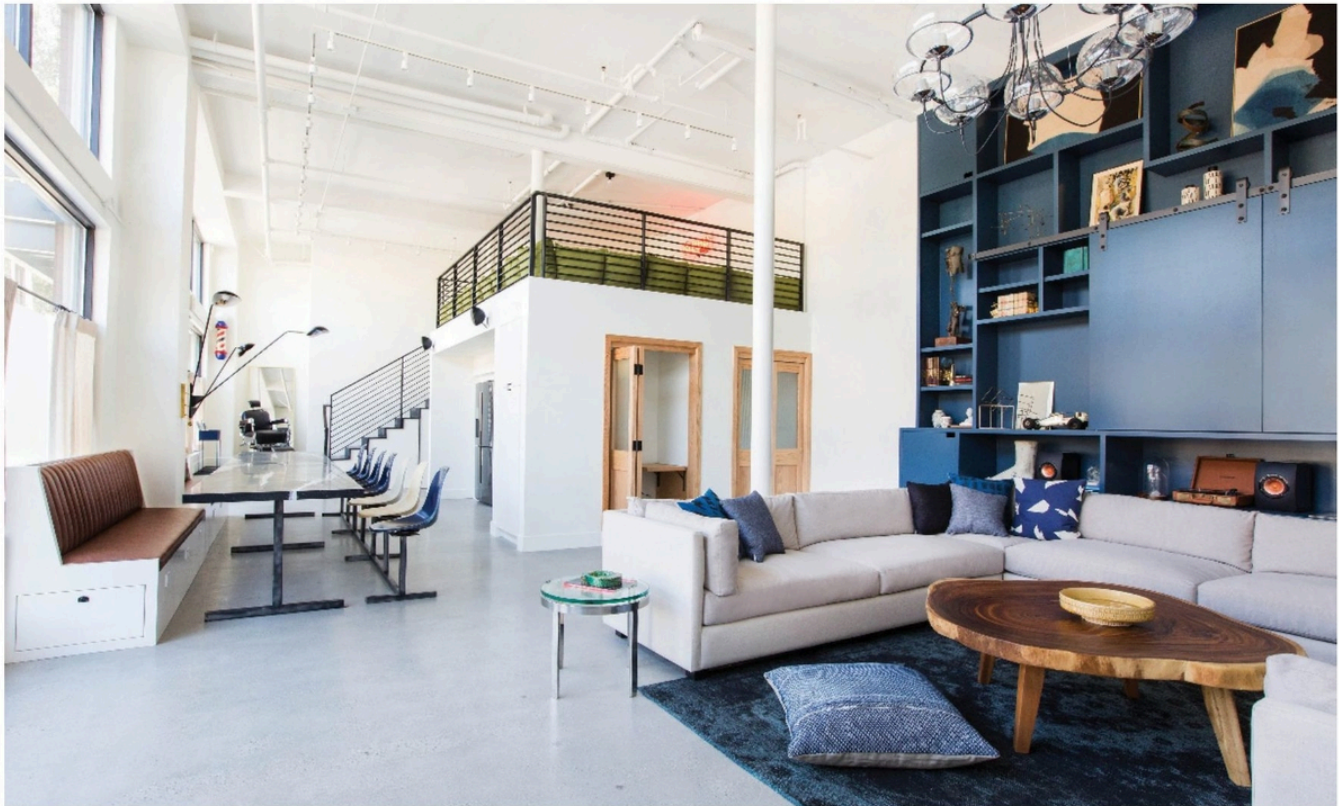
Transforming an old firehouse into a boutique hotel (this page) didn't come without difficulties. "The actual challenge was respecting the bones while infusing a freshness into the space," says Sally Breer, who founded ETC.etera with Jake Rodehuth-Harrison (this page, below) in 2016. "It was important to have some big moments that felt very different from the old brick." Each guest room in the hotel features a different color of the ROYGBIV spectrum for a fun '70s element. When it came to designing office project El Centro (opposite page), "it needed to feel cozy for one person to bunker down and work, but simultaneously be able to host a large writing team when the client was there working on a bigger project," says Breer.

Firehouse photos by Laure Joliet; El Centro photo by Tessa Neustadt.



Location **Los Angeles**Founded **2016**

Typologies



Founded in 2016 by interior designer Sally Breer and stylist and creative director Jake Rodehuth-Harrison, ETC.etera (etc for short) is a Los Angeles-based interior design firm that seeks to design spaces that go beyond trend. The six-person firm covers all sectors from residential to commercial and hospitality projects, mixing form, function, and mood to create interiors that are equal parts tactile and narrative.

"To us, there's a difference between simply furnishing a space and decorating it, between creating environments that are based on trends, and those that have a lasting appeal," says Breer. "We believe in narrative-driven design that goes beyond the 'what' in a space and explores the 'why?'"

The firm is careful to think outside the box and bring their clients along for every step of the design journey. Realizing there is no one-size-fits-all solution to design, the studio draws inspiration from different times and places, as well as a site's history and character.

"L.A. is a vast potpourri of architecture, which means no two projects are ever the same," says Rodehuth-Harrison. "Some of our spaces are clean white boxes when we begin the design process, while others can be old, wonky spaces with odd nooks and crannies. Working out how to utilize these spaces to meet our client's needs can be a challenge, but it's a challenge we love!"

The recently completed Firehouse Hotel, located in the L.A.'s Arts District, is a perfect example of one of these more intricate spaces. Located in an old firehouse, the challenge required respecting and preserving the history of the space while at

the same time infusing it with freshness. "The bones of the building were so good," says Breer. "Huge lofted ceilings, brick walls, original steel windows. I mean, how often are you given an old firehouse to play with?"

To help inform the design narrative, etc came up with a fictional story of a mother-daughter named Mabel and Marta. "The idea was that Mabel, the mom, took over the building as a boarding house in the '40s and then later, her daughter Marta, raised in the boarding home with her mom, added another layer to the decor in the '70s," the designers note. "So there's a classical element, contrasted with a rock-and-roll playfulness."

El Centro, a recent project for film director Justin Lin, is a workplace that functions and feels like a home. Since Lin has another space for his production company, this one was designed to incubate ideas rather than host day-to-day operations. Featuring a 16-foot dining table that doubles as a workspace, and stainless-steel kitchen cabinets inspired by laundromat washers—items that Lin personally finds inspiring, for their cleanliness and utilitarian qualities—the office is far from traditional. "He has two kids, so the idea was that this feels as comfortable as his own home, without the noise of home," says Rodehuth-Harrison.

Aside from continuing to create intricate spaces that tell fascinating stories, etc has lots more on the horizon, including a showroom in L.A.'s Historic Filipinotown, where they offer an array of furniture designed in-house along with curated vintage goods.

contract

FEATURE

fettle

By Paul Makovsky

The Hoxton Portland (this page) is located in a 1920s theater in the city's Chinatown. The warm, comfortable lobby features midcentury-inspired furnishings and fabrics, and is designed to be a community hub for locals and guests alike—a common feature of the Hoxton brand.

The Draycott (opposite page), located in California's Pacific Palisades, evokes a nostalgia of a European brasserie with a hint of California lifestyle. Designed to be a neighborhood stable, the 196-seat restaurant has a range of dining spaces from the private Queen's Room to the outdoor terrace.

All photos courtesy Fettle.



Location **Los Angeles
and London**

Founded **2013**

Typologies



Directors and co-founders Andy Goodwin and Tom Parker started Fettle in late 2013, having spent a decade working at some of London and New York's top interior architecture practices. Initially working on a six-bedroom Kensington townhouse and a restaurant in Windsor with ambitions for a Michelin star, Fettle soon gained a reputation for a design-led, client-focused workflow and began to pick up international hospitality projects.

By 2017, they were working on a variety of worldwide projects including the Hoxton Hotel in Portland, Oregon; the Elder Hotel in Bath, UK; and The Draycott restaurant in Pacific Palisades, California. Having since grown to a team of eight, the studio is currently working on a range of mid- and high-end hospitality projects in London, Munich, New York, Rome, and Los Angeles. "As a company we are

fascinated with how spaces function, whether residential or hospitality projects," says Goodwin. "We believe the most successful projects develop when spaces flow seamlessly, and design decisions are made based on a strong, client-led concept."

Today, the firm is based in London and Los Angeles, an arrangement that has both its advantages and unique challenges. For Fettle, it's key for them to understand what will and won't work aesthetically and functionally between the two cities, but many of the challenges tend to come at the different stages of projects within the two different locations. In London, for example, it's crucial to understand the cultural context of each neighborhood within the city. "What works concept-wise in Shoreditch differs greatly from what works in Mayfair, and it's important for us to design accordingly," says Parker, whereas in L.A., the challenges occur more in the permitting and construction phases of a project. "The different city areas within L.A. have very different regulations regarding how and what is permissible to build which obviously generates a very complex set of challenges," he says.

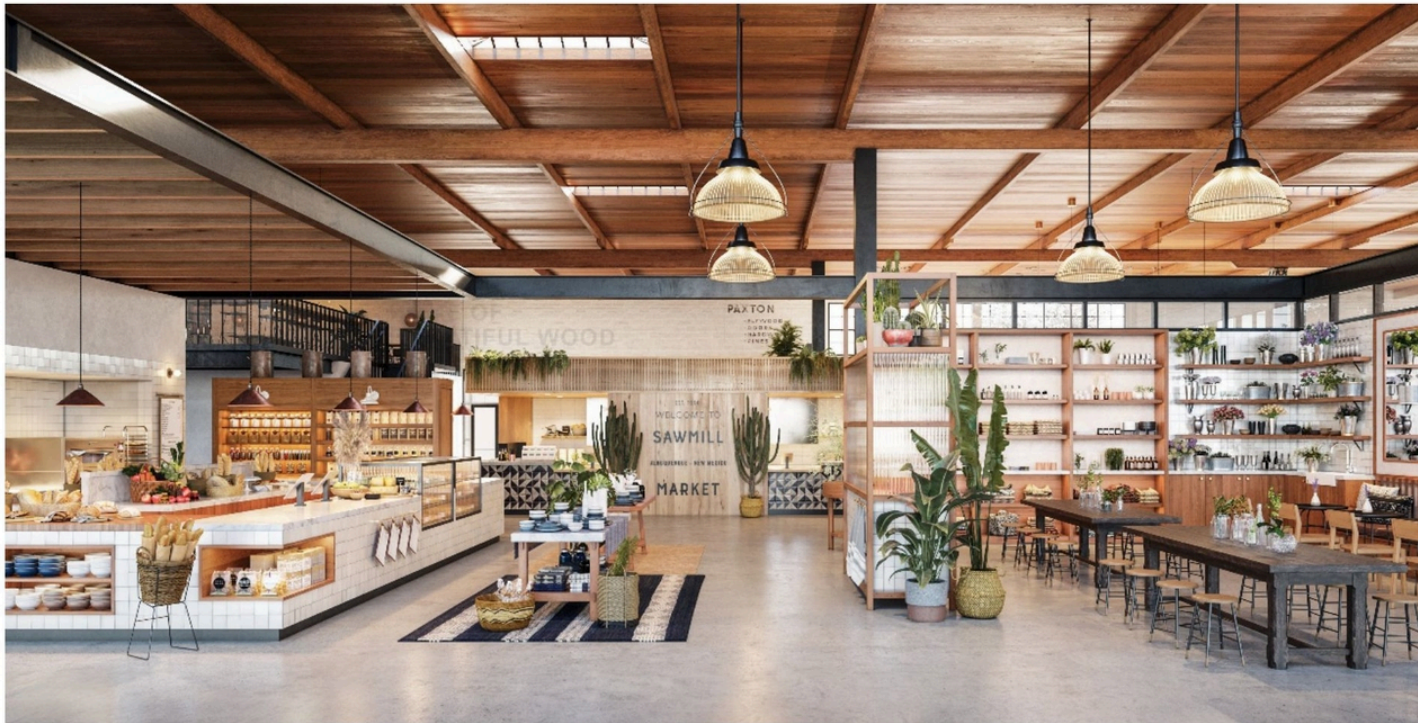
Working with a tight-knit team across two continents gives the firm access to a great variety of types and uses of spaces that benefit them in a number of ways: For one, it enables the team to work cohesively across many great cities and various time zones. The setup also allows the firm to evolve as a company by learning from how people's use of space is developing and changing in different continents and contexts. Fettle also benefits from the cross-pollination of both aesthetic influences and clients. These influences help to give Fettle's work a uniquely global yet local flavor.

contract

FEATURE

islyn studio

By Meghan Dwyer



Located in Sawmill Market in Albuquerque, New Mexico, The Mercantile (above) is a modern new Mexican market, cafe, and wine bar that is meant to emulate one's own pantry or kitchen. West (right), also located in Sawmill Market, is a bespoke cocktail bar inspired by the people, art, woods, colors, and smoky flavors of New Mexico.

Located in New York's Flatiron district, the women's health, IVF, and egg-freezing clinic Kindbody (opposite) places women at the focus of the design for a more comfortable environment.



Location **Brooklyn**Founded **2017**

Typologies



Islyn Studio describes itself as a group of “thinkers, dreamers, and wildly curious makers who believe experience can be an art form.” The full-service studio is run, owned, and operated completely by women and may just two years in the making. Their projects, designed to explore contemporary culture through the lens of an immersive sensory experience, are nothing short of impressive.

“At Islyn Studio, we believe experience can be an art form,” says founder Ashley Wilkins. “With meticulous consideration to detail and an allegiance to the senses, we create the worlds we want to escape to. We believe that a sensual experience of place can contribute to a life well-lived. Our work is unique because we approach each project through a holistic lens.”

By beginning each new project with an intensive research and strategy phase, the firm builds a unique, authentic story specific to each brand. “We view ourselves more as design strategists versus traditional interior designers,” she adds.

Islyn Studio was born in large part out of Wilkins’ own distaste for the negative experiences she had at boutique design firms that she had previously worked at. After facing long hours, low pay, and high turnover rates, she felt unfulfilled. “I also saw a huge lack of female director-level representation in our

industry, which has always bothered me,” Wilkins says. “There wasn’t a clear path for my future and growth, nor for many of my female colleagues.”

For Wilkins, Islyn Studio is the solution to shifting the hospitality design industry into a kinder and more meaningful direction, and a way for her to seek out clients who want to improve the world through design. “We built the studio with focus on mentorship, curiosity, collaboration, and cultural storytelling to build immersive spaces where people can feel alive again,” she says. “Worlds to escape to, and long for.”

The studio’s first project was Sawmill Market—a 40,000-square-foot food hall that will open in Albuquerque, New Mexico, this winter. “The most exciting thing about working on this project is that Albuquerque is on the cusp of a design and hospitality revolution,” says Wilkins. While researching, the design team learned that most residents had never even heard of a food hall, putting Islyn in the unique position of introducing the community to something completely new. “This project helped us realize all that we had been fighting for, and formed the very fabric and expectations for all future projects we take on and the clients we work with,” says Wilkins. “We will be forever grateful to them for taking the risk on a young firm.”

The six-person firm is small but mighty—making a name for themselves as true curators of interior design experiences. By way of fragrance development, sound collaboration, live music programming, and immersive and rotating art, to name just a few, Islyn is taking design one step further.

“Our design studio is driven by imagination, collaboration and the stories behind things to build sanctuaries for the senses—places you leave longing for,” says Wilkins. “With a synthetic palette that includes color, texture, sound, scent and memory, we design identities around these spaces that give brands soul.”

contract

FEATURE

LA-Más

By Anna Zappia



Helen Leung and Elizabeth Timme (opposite page: below, left) are co-executive directors of LA-Más, a nonprofit urban design organization based in Los Angeles that helps lower-income and underserved communities through policy and architecture. "We envision a world where city growth is equitable and self-directed—where the best local solutions are brought to a city-wide scale," Timme says.

Photos courtesy LA-Más, Kevin Poli, and Victoria Wall Harris.

Timme and Leung focus on finding low-cost, high-impact design solutions that don't cost exorbitant amounts, such as the "Storefronts, LA" initiative (this page, all images), which supports minority-owned businesses by providing free design, permitting, and construction administration for improvements like storefront painting and new signage. The Welcome to Western project (opposite page, above and below) brought a number of improvements to Western Avenue, including permanent furniture pieces, palm fronds on light poles, and additional planted trees.

Location **Los Angeles**Founded **2013**

Typologies



Helen Leung and Elizabeth Timme, co-executive directors of the nonprofit urban design organization LA-Más, have designed projects from affordable housing to storefronts for small business owners, helping to revitalize neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles since the group's inception six years ago. The duo's work has cast a much needed spotlight on homelessness, housing shortages, and overdevelopment in Los Angeles, and they are using design and policy advocacy in a powerful way to address these issues.

"LA-Más was originally founded on the principle that great design should be a right, not a privilege. We use design and architecture as a vehicle to push forward the systemic changes needed to support the communities that have often been underserved and overlooked," says Timme.

To ensure that changes are not only impactful but lasting, Timme and Leung maintain an open dialogue with neighborhood groups, business owners, and government officials, listening to both positive feedback and constructive criticism

to make sure every voice is heard. "The majority of Los Angeles residents are living in a city that was neither planned with them, nor for them. Instead of excluding residents in the design process, we seek to highlight their diversity and the melting pot character of Los Angeles," Timme notes.

Timme and Leung focus on finding high impact design solutions that don't cost exorbitant amounts, such as the "Storefronts, LA" initiative, which supports minority-owned businesses by providing free design, permitting, and construction administration for physical improvements like storefront painting and new signage. These upgrades are vital in helping local shops to enhance their visibility and increase revenue.

Welcome to Western is another project that brought improvements to an area used every day and often in need of a significant overhaul—the street. With more trees, colored light poles, bicycle racks, and trash bins along Western Avenue, pedestrians can now enjoy a safer, more vibrant thoroughfare.

However, the process of renewing urban communities is not as easy as generating a few good ideas. Budgets, feasibility, and time constraints all have to be considered, and a simple proposal can often get lost in the shuffle. With Leung's experience in policy and community work, and Timme's in architecture, cutting through the red tape is something they excel at.

"At times it can seem like there is an insurmountable amount of bureaucracy to navigate, and a profoundly extravagant number of agencies to get permission from when building anything in Los Angeles," Timme says. "As architects, designers, and policy advocates, we are able to leverage our unique position as intermediaries while serving communities that need the most support and preserve their local identity."

contract

FEATURE

LEVER architecture

By Paul Makovsky



Thomas Robinson (right) and his firm LEVER Architecture, based in Portland, Oregon, and Los Angeles, have not only reached a point where they are transitioning to larger-scale and institutional work, such as the Nature Conservancy's Oregon headquarters (this page and opposite), a project that was just completed recently, and is one of the first to use Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) that is both domestically fabricated and FSC-certified.

All photos by Lara Swimmer.



Location **Portland**
and **Los Angeles**

Founded **2009**

Typologies



A native of Santa Barbara, California, architect Thomas Robinson founded LEVER in 2009 after having worked as a Senior Architect on cultural projects for Herzog & de Meuron and Allied Works. The firm's early projects in Portland, such as Union Way and TreeHouse, gained national attention for their transformation of local and commonplace materials into unexpected designs, built for modest budgets.

Researching materials plays an important part of the firm's approach. More recently, LEVER's interest in materiality has led to pioneering work with engineered-wood products, such as Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) and Mass Plywood Panels (MPP). The LEVER team completed Albina Yard, the first building in the U.S. made from domestically fabricated CLT, and their design for Framework, a timber high-rise, was a recipient of the U.S. Tall Wood Building Prize. Research and development for Framework included more than 30 tests to demonstrate the fire, structural, seismic, and acoustic performance of tall wood building assemblies. This year, the firm completed The Nature Conservancy's Oregon Headquarters, a project that is one of the first to use CLT that is both domestically fabricated and FSC-certified. LEVER advocates for mass timber because it is a low carbon way to build, and an economic catalyst for rural economic development in the Northwest and beyond.

After 10 years in practice, the 32-person firm is at an inflection point where they are transitioning to larger-scale and institutional work. This is reflected in a 180,000-square-foot, 240-unit affordable housing development in Portland called The Louisa Flowers. Soon to be completed, this project will be the city's largest affordable housing project in 50 years. They are also in construction on a new headquarters for Meyer Memorial Trust, one of the largest private foundations in Oregon, and are currently designing a major renovation of Portland's Artists Repertory Theatre.

At a very basic level, LEVER is fundamentally interested in creating great experiences for people. Thomas Robinson compares his firm's approach as being not so different from the farm-to-table culinary movement that has evolved in Portland and elsewhere over the last 20 years. "Chefs know that fresh local ingredients make great food. We use the best local materials to make great buildings," Robinson explains. "We've worked directly with forest owners, lumber mills, and regional manufacturers to create innovative architecture with beauty and a high level of craft. The experience of the architecture is enriched by the use of local materials. When you are in one of our buildings, the materials connect you to the regional landscape." The Nature Conservancy is a great example: It incorporates flora, juniper cladding, and cedar decking sourced from the organization's preserves, and CLT that is made in Oregon using regionally harvested wood.

If there is one challenge of building in Portland, Robinson points out that construction budgets are lower in comparison those in larger cities, like San Francisco or New York. But he sees these constraints as something that has made the firm's work better, which calls for a focused process that is highly collaborative. "To make great architecture, we innovate at the level of building technology and construction," Robinson says, pointing out that the firm's partnerships with local manufacturers and fabricators are instrumental to this. "People in Portland are very interested in working together to innovate, to create something better. Ironically though, we are a Portland firm but half of our work is in L.A.—another city we're passionate about. The spirit of our work in Portland and the approach informs all of our projects."

contract

FEATURE

matthew goodrich

By Paul Makovsky



Location **New York**Founded **2017**

Typologies



Goodrich Studio focuses primarily on hospitality projects. Shown here are renderings for the reception area (opposite page: top) and hotel room (this page) for the Standard International, Maldives. The studio also designs custom product and furniture designs such as this wall sconce and banquette for Kimpton (opposite page: below).

All photos courtesy Goodrich Studio.

Since founding Goodrich Studio in 2017, Matthew Goodrich has quickly grown a multidisciplinary team. His staff of 14 includes interior designers, architects, graphic designers, and an industrial designer who develop custom furniture and lighting for their projects. The firm currently focuses primarily on hospitality projects but seeks out clients who are expanding the boundaries of the category. They have been designing hotels with Kimpton and West Elm, two restaurant projects for Danny Meyer and the Union Square Hospitality Group, resorts for The Surf Lodge and Standard International, brand work for Marriott, a national prototype for Cava, and premium spaces for a large arena project in New York.

For their own workspace, Goodrich and his team created a studio that brings two scales of design under one roof. Drawing on their rich experience creating highly creative, hand-made restaurants and hotels for entrepreneurs, but also on their extensive experience working with some of the biggest global brands (Goodrich, for example, was previously Chief Creative Officer at AvroKO, and before that, a designer at the Rockwell Group). The firm aims to make great design accessible, and they are currently working on a mix of boutique single-location projects alongside projects that will scale nationally or globally. "This allows us to bring high-quality, creative design to projects that scale, and to share our strategic understanding of trends and evolving behavior with our smaller clients," says Matthew Goodrich.

The studio's design process is grounded in empathy and fueled by curiosity, and the firm creates enduring spaces that nurture people and foster human connection. "We research the meta context of each project carefully

to uncover hidden histories and cultural resonance, building a design language from this material," explains Goodrich. "We listen closely to our clients, transforming their aspirations and business goals into interiors that function seamlessly and provide great guest experiences. Above all, we hope to infuse meaning into the spaces we create." They also approach the design process with an open mind, thinking of each project as a puzzle to solve. "We synthesize our client's goals with the inspiration from the project's context to arrive at the design, rather than imposing our own aesthetic point of view," he says. The end result is that each space they design should have a unique design language that embodies the client's aspiration and responds to the community that surrounds it. "We would love to look back at ten years of work and see enormous variety in what we have designed."

According to Goodrich, New York is a fantastic place to establish a design practice, especially being surrounded by other great design firms, restaurateurs, creators, and visionaries who inspire him and his team every day. But it's also the support they get from other firms in the design community. "We've gotten great advice and support from other firms, especially our great colleagues at Dutch East Design, Parts & Labor, Home Studios, Curioso, and Patrick Thompson Design," Goodrich says. "At the outset, our intention was to work only with people we admired on projects that would have a big impact on their communities, and we've exceeded even our wildest expectations." Support also comes from working with great clients, too: "They've felt our passion and trusted us with big projects, which has allowed us to grow steadily."

contract

FEATURE

ménard dworkind architecture & design

By Anna Zappia



Location **Montréal**Founded **2017**

Typologies



Le Blossom (opposite page, top), in Montreal, seeks to steer clear from Japanese restaurant clichés with nods to the '80s and '90s. Miss Wong (opposite page, below right) in a Montreal suburb, embraces Chinatown kitsch and visual noise in a lavish way. Vivien wine bar (opposite, below left), in Montreal, serves up vivid graphics and bold colors that strays from the traditional.

For the new outpost of the Ryū sushi restaurant (this page: far left) on Peel Street in Montréal, Ménard and Dworkind masterfully used existing elements and transformed them into something entirely new, drawing upon the principles of Japanese wabi-sabi, described as “flawed beauty.” They covered original walls in plaster, paint, and wallpaper that had accumulated over time to create a natural patina with unexpected warmth.

Specializing in commercial interiors and residential architecture, partners Guillaume Ménard and David Dworkind founded Ménard Dworkind architecture & design (MRDK) in 2017, when Atelier Mainor and David Dworkind Architecture were combined. Dworkind and Menard have a wealth of design experience between them already, so a partnership was a natural progression that would allow the pair to evolve their designs together.

Ménard grew up working at his father's construction company, where his love of design was nurtured; he started Atelier Mainor in 2008. Dworkind graduated from McGill University with a M.Arch, and eventually founded his namesake office in 2013, working on a range of projects in residential architecture, commercial interiors, photography, and videography.

Now, Dworkind serves as MRDK's architect, and Ménard its designer, both sharing a respect for site and materiality, which guides the way they conceive each interior. “We thrive on detail-oriented spaces,” says Dworkind. Indeed, by celebrating the smallest details as much as the big ideas, the duo is able to create a cohesive, memorable spaces—and experiences—that resonate with users.

At the recently opened outpost of the Ryū sushi restaurant on Peel Street in Montréal, MRDK masterfully used existing elements and transformed them into something entirely new. When the demolition of the original building was completed, the pair discovered that the original walls were covered in plaster, paint, and wallpaper that had accumulated over time. This patchwork of worn materials inspired the team to embrace the Japanese concept of wabi-sabi, described as “flawed beauty,” in their final design.

They decided that keeping the walls was a must, so that the natural patina and bits of erosion would be a central element sure to be a conversation starter. With a minimalist palette and burnished brass, aluminum, and steel metal used throughout the space for contrast, the restaurant has an unexpected warmth that beckons patrons in.

As Ménard and Dworkind take on more projects in their home base of Montréal, warmth, or more precisely, the lack of it during the cold autumn and winter seasons, is something they have to take into consideration. “Our clients constantly approach us with references from places like California with very clean details that don't work in our climate. On our hospitality projects, we have to think about designing for slushy, salty boots, as well as cold drafts in the space,” Dworkind explains.

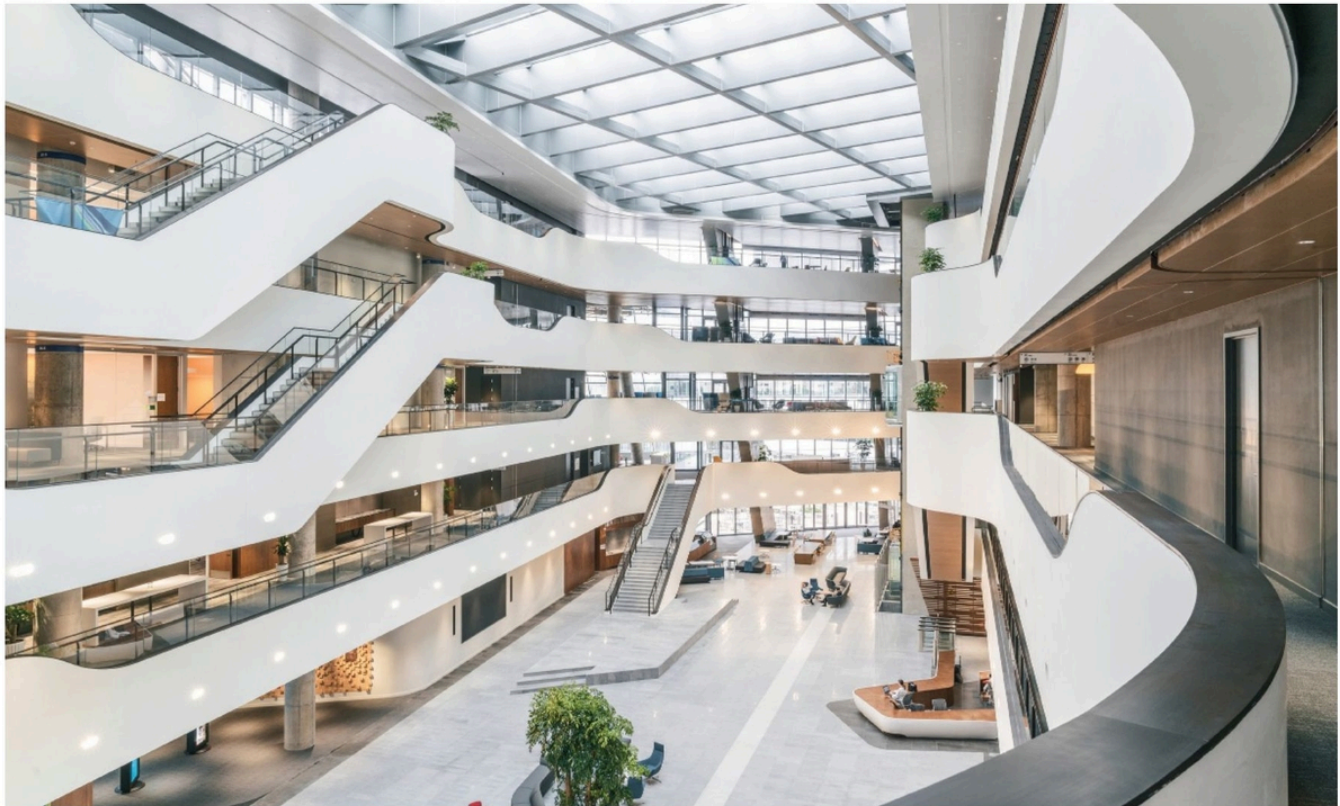
Yet no matter the climate or the client, MRDK can bring any vision to life, translating clients' needs and desires and making them a reality.

contract

FEATURE

oswaldo ortega

By Paul Makovsky



A native of New York City, Oswaldo Ortega, AIA, NOMA, LEED (right), is an associate architect in Gensler's Chicago office since 2014, where he leads master planning studies, and architectural and interiors projects.

He was project architect for Johnson Controls' Asian Regional headquarters in Shanghai (this page), and also for The Garage at Northwestern University (opposite page). This year, he was a recipient of the AIA Young Architects award, which is given to young architects who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the architecture profession early in their careers.

All photos courtesy Gensler.



Location **Chicago**Joined firm **2013**

Typologies



It's sometimes a challenge to find rising talents in a big firm: Design, after all, is a team sport, and recognition is generally given to the firm's team, rather than specific individuals. At Gensler, however, Oswaldo Ortega, AIA, NOMA, LEED, is one young architect whose talents and work with underserved communities makes him one to watch.

A native of New York City, Ortega joined Gensler's Chicago office as an associate in 2013, where he leads master planning studies, and architectural and interiors projects. He was project architect for Johnson Controls' Asian Regional headquarters in Shanghai, coordinating the efforts between the firm's Chicago and Shanghai offices. Ortega represented the firm during 11 trips to Shanghai, establishing himself as a critical team member and client contact. Prior to Johnson Controls, Ortega was the Project Architect of The Garage at Northwestern University, a 12,000-square-foot tech incubator space located within an existing garage on its campus. Most recently, Ortega has been given the opportunity to lead a series of retail projects for one of Gensler's global clients.

Ortega has committed himself to diversifying the architectural industry while serving to enhance underserved communities through design excellence, leadership, education and mentoring. Since 2003, with his founding of SMAD (Society of Multicultural Architects and Designers) at Syracuse University, Ortega has been developing initiatives to serve disadvantaged communities

and to increase the percentage, retention and matriculation of minorities into architecture.

In 2017, as President of I-NOMA, Ortega, through NOMA's Project Pipeline Initiative, developed a strategy to methodically support a child from the age of 10 through his/her architectural licensure exams. The restructuring of the chapter created a finance and marketing team that Ortega led to a dramatic increase from the previous annual budgets the chapter had been accustomed to working with. Through Ortega's leadership, the Project Pipeline program went from being a two-day camp with seven students, to a year-round program that has impacted over 550 students this year alone, and over 2,000 students since he started leading project pipeline programming in 2015.

This year, Ortega was a recipient of the AIA Young Architects award, which is given to young architects who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and made significant contributions to the architecture profession early in their careers. Ortega sums up his design philosophy quite simply: "Through design excellence we can create positive social changes in underserved communities and in our workplace; as design has the ability to create new efficiencies, resources and opportunities, not to mention a lot of joy," he says.

contract

FEATURE

roar

By Anna Zappia

For the Dubai-based office of global communications firm Edelman, Roar designed a network of "cultural villages" each with a distinct personality, yet united by a common thread. The team added layers of color, texture, and furniture to give each village its own look and feel. "We balanced the deeply scientific approach to the space planning with an appreciation of local art," says Pallavi Dean, Roar's founder and director. They commissioned paintings and installations from two Emirati artists.

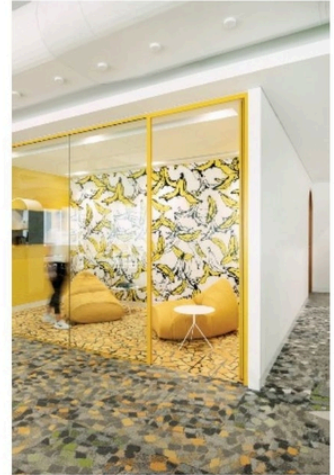
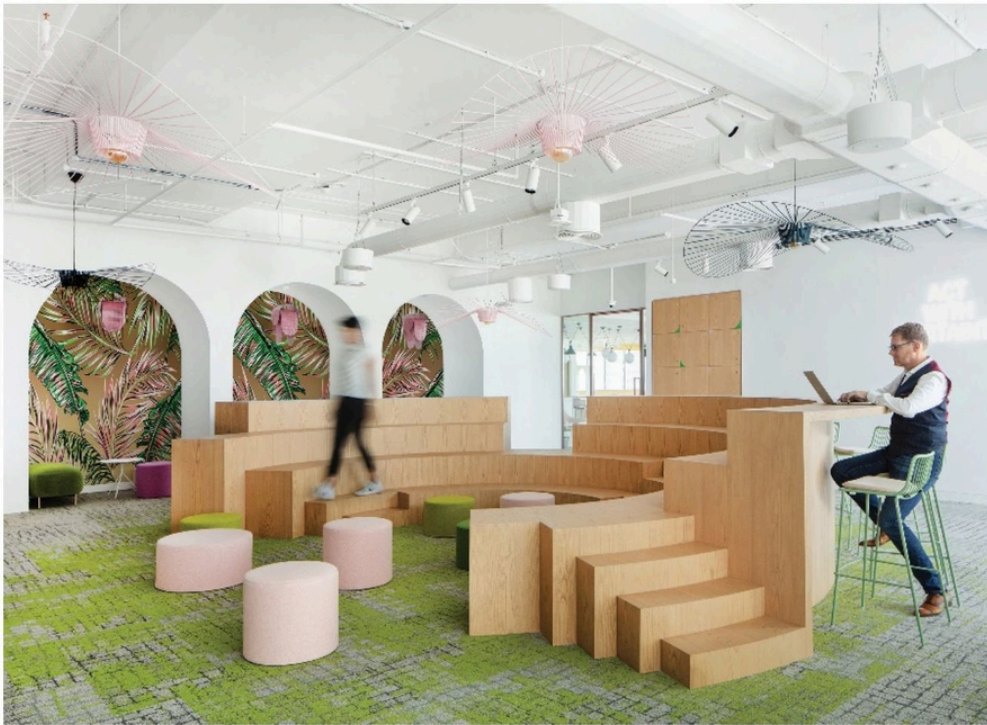
For Ora, the Nursery of the Future, part of the UAE government's Future Collection initiative, the design brief was to create a world-class learning experience that instills the habits of innovation and futurism that will stay with children for life. "That meant designing a space that's playful, stimulating, and social. Learning by doing is so much more powerful than a conventional lecture-style setup," Dean notes. The stark white interior includes touches of bright color throughout to stimulate the children's senses.

All images courtesy Roar.



Location **Dubai**Founded **2013**

Typologies



Since launching in 2013 as Pallavi Dean Interiors, and then rebranding as Roar in 2018, it's been a whirlwind of activity for the women of the Dubai-based interior design studio. The firm's principals, founder and director Pallavi Dean, managing director Kathryn Athreya, and design director Agata Kurzela, have been working across all sectors from retail to residential, designing interiors as diverse as the Dubai office of the global communications firm Edelman, and Ora, the Nursery of the Future, part of Future Collection, a suite of forward-looking programs and initiatives from the UAE government.

The starting point for the team is not a typical one that begins with desks awash in fabric swatches or mood boards. "We have an extremely scientific approach to the early stages of our design process. We have an in-house psychologist, and a meeting with her informs a part of our client briefing," says Dean. After laying this foundation, the team can then think about, imagine, and create spaces that will give end users positive experiences, not just interiors

that look good or are riding the wave of a trend. It's a pitfall all too common in today's world of endless Instagram posts and trying to capture the shot that will garner the most likes.

"A lot of designers these days are designing for how things photograph and look on social media, but in real life they feel flat. We also avoid the Pinterest technique—looking at Pinterest for inspiration—which is resulting in a lot of sameness in the industry," Dean notes. Roar strives to deliver a strong narrative, acting as storytellers to places that go beyond what is popular at any given time. While benchmarking and precedent analyses can be valuable tools, Roar doesn't want to place limits on what they use to create. As a result, their spaces have a distinct personality, with pops of color from commissioned artwork, and a playful mix of shapes and textures.

Dean credits the studio's culture of positivity with helping her staff stay inspired and able to generate a steady stream of ideas; staying in touch with neighbors, fostering relationships, and giving back to their community. Indeed, in addition to excelling at their regular jobs, the busy staff of twelve can be found teaching university courses, running their internship program, or participating in design fairs.

At Roar, Dean wants the staff to work as they see fit, so they have abandoned the typical 9-to-5 fixed schedule in favor of a more flexible arrangement. Employees can choose the hours they prefer to work, and there's plenty of down time so that everyone in the office can recharge and keep their creative juices flowing. It is clearly Roar's formula for success, and with 125 completed projects and even more in the works, there's no slowdown in sight.

contract

FEATURE

ROY

By Paul Makovsky



Location **San Francisco**Founded **2018**

Typologies

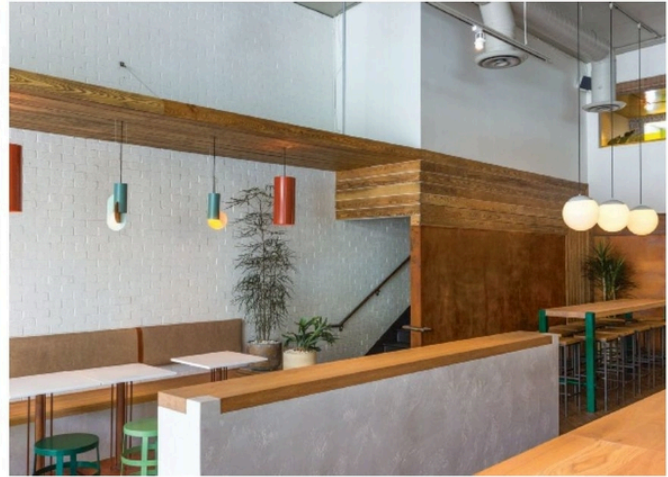


After starting a solo firm in 2013, as a one-woman show designing residential and restaurants, Hannah Collins changed her company name to ROY in 2018, which she now owns with her sister, Emily Collins (right). The firm does mostly hospitality projects in the San Francisco area, including: Media Noche (opposite page, top left), Flores (opposite page, top right), Sam's Anchor Cafe (opposite page, bottom), Magnolia (this page, top left) and Elda (this page, top right).

All images courtesy ROY.



Hannah Collins started her company, Hannah Collins Designs in 2013, as a one-woman show designing residential and restaurant projects. Last year, she changed the company name to ROY, which she now owns with her sister Emily Collins. Both sisters grew up in the restaurant business and worked in restaurants throughout their college years and beyond. Their infatuation with hospitality and the industry has led them to focus their seven-person business on designing spaces that are conceptually strong and fun to be in. When it comes to designing hospitality interiors, Hannah Collins sums up her design philosophy as a belief that gathering and sharing a meal is a fundamental part of being human and a catalyst for positive change in how we live and thrive in our communities. "We believe that when design and concept are in harmony, they create a memorable experience



bigger than the sum of their parts," she says. "We believe when form and function align to create a strong concept, we can create spaces that are emotionally irresistible."

ROY designed the Elda cocktail bar in San Francisco, for example, with a warm mix of tropical wood tones, lightly textured cementitious plaster walls inspired by Mexican adobe style architecture, and plenty of leafy plants. Brightly colored pendants and stools bring in a playful, relaxed sensibility with an end result that has evokes the look, feel, and vibe of 1970s Baja vibe yet contemporary and rooted in the present.

For Sam's Anchor Café, located in Marin County, California, ROY was charged with updating the nearly 100-year-old business—and local landmark—located right on the water, and with great views. With a layered nautical color palette of navy blues, off-white creams and warm wood tones, the space feels completely connected to the boating culture of the Bay Area. ROY added vintage pendant lighting, exposed the original redwood ceiling, and installed a floor-to-ceiling sliding glass door that opens onto the deck. They also worked with Galanter & Jones to design an 80-foot heated wrap-around bench seat to the deck to extend the use of the outdoor space in the cool evenings. The sensitive design refresh has made sure that this space will continue to be enjoyed for years to come.

It's no surprise that being based in San Francisco, the overhead and cost of running a business can be a challenge. "The city doesn't make it easy to own and operate a restaurant or to open one," says Collins, explaining that with frequently changing codes, the rules are constantly viewed differently and creating barriers to entry. On top of that, "there is a lot of construction happening in San Francisco, so everything is expensive to build," she says. "We try to really help clients navigate all those challenges to get the most bang for their buck. When we work on projects outside the Bay Area those challenges tend to be easier to get through."

Regardless of locale, the studio always strives to design in elements that feel memorable and work well with the larger brand as a whole. "I tend to use a lot of high contrast in our designs and often approach with a design philosophy that less is more," says Collins, "but above anything else, I think our approach to really telling a story and digging into the concept to inspire design decisions is the most important part of what we do."

contract

FEATURE

standard architecture

By Meghan Dwyer



The 3,000-square-foot loft-like Helmut Lang store (this page) feels reminiscent of an edgy gallery and less severe than the brand's previous stores. By trading steel for plaster and incorporating handmade art and tons of natural light, the showroom marks a new contemporary direction.

Intelligentsia Hollywood (opposite page) is a richly textured space that calls on old Hollywood references. A soaring ceiling allowed the design team to design a grid of arched vaults, which were adorned in mosaic tiles.



Location **Los Angeles**Founded **1996**

Typologies



The multidisciplinary, Los Angeles-based firm Standard Architecture has a consistent goal when they take on a new project—to discover a brand or company's culture and identity, and to communicate that identity through all aspects of the project. Aware that architecture has the power to communicate a message, a feeling, or a way of living, principals Jeffrey Allsbrook (who founded the firm in 1996) and Silvia Kuhle (who joined in 2006) make it a priority to ensure that the people who occupy the spaces they design are able to sense this.

"Silvia and I both started our careers in Europe, where we met, and we came to Los Angeles in the mid-'90s," says Allsbrook. "Our experience gives us distinct perspectives on building and site. It's a view that combines an elemental approach to architecture and an open relationship toward the environment. As our practice evolves, this perspective increasingly defines our work. Our projects start with a dialogue about program and purpose, and progress toward their own identity."

With Standard Architecture's large focus on retail and cultural projects,

embodying the brand within a shop, gallery, or cultural space is critical.

The firm designs from the inside-out, considering the spatial experience first, as well as the set of conditions and constraints. Their interior projects are guided by views, light, proportion, orientation, and materiality, tying them to their environments and surroundings—especially in Los Angeles, where interior and exteriors can co-exist so seamlessly.

The firm recently completed Intelligentsia Hollywood—a high-end coffee house that takes a myriad of cues from its tantalizing surroundings. Hollywood Boulevard, the wood-paneled of nearby local institution Musso & Frank Grill, and the French flower-painter Paul Delongpre all played an influence on the firm's approach to the cafe interiors. The design team flipped through old postcards and photos of the fields of flowers on Delongpre's Hollywood estate, and was inspired to apply colored mosaic tiles, reminiscent of poppy fields, to the vaulted ceilings. The dark wood-paneled walls, fluted mirrors, brass accents, and ceiling-mounted light bulbs add to Intelligentsia's true Hollywood flare.

For another project, the Hollywood showroom of fashion brand Helmut Lang on Melrose Avenue, the firm took a completely different approach. The space reflects the grayscale minimalism and gallery-like feel of Helmut Lang's early California stores, but with an updated freshness. By integrating contemporary art pieces and a contrast of raw and refined materials, such as smooth troweled-plaster walls, blackened timber, and concrete, the space remains true to the brand while feeling reinvigorated and refreshed. The modernist architecture of surrounding Los Angeles and Palm Springs is referenced through an outdoor courtyard garden in the rear of the shop, and cutouts in the roof, which allow natural light to flow throughout the entire space.

contract

FEATURE

studio boscardin. corsi architettura

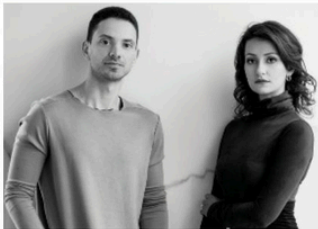
By Meghan Dwyer

Ben Cafe (this page) is a clean, minimalist space that highlights natural materials like wood and concrete. The Coffee (opposite) takes "hole-in-the-wall" to the next level. Set within a former restaurant service door, the shop now stands boldly on the block thanks to a large light-cube sign.



Location **Curitiba, Brazil**Founded **2011**

Typologies



Based in Curitiba, Brazil, Studio Boscardin.Corsi Arquitetura is a contemporary interior design practice seeking to solve design challenges through simple, timeless solutions. The firm was started by college classmates Ana Boscardin and Edgard Corsi, three years into designing projects together following graduation. Thanks to their joint appreciation for architecture and design, as well as their complementary personalities and skills, Boscardin and Corsi's practice has been a success for eight years and counting.

"Our goal is to positively impact the lives of people and the city through architecture," says Corsi. "What dictates the direction of our work is the lifestyle of the clients, who are side-by-side with us through every step of a project."

The studio is skilled at taking lusterless, often forgotten spaces and turning them into beautiful spaces that have positive influences on their surroundings. A recent project called 'the coffee,' for example, was formerly a forgotten service door, unused by the neighboring restaurant. Studio Boscardin.Corsi transformed the

narrow 32-square-foot space into a charming hole-in-the-wall coffee shop, where passersby can grab a cup of joe to-go. The shop now stands prominently on the block, featuring a facade of vertical black slates.

"The acrylic light cube is the focal point of 'the coffee,' marking the entrance, offering protection on rainy days, and shining bright at night and on cloudy days that are typical to Curitiba," says Corsi. On the back wall and ceiling of the interior, wood slates contrast with the exterior. The espresso machine is intentionally positioned so that the barista's back is never to the customer, encouraging casual conversation. "'the coffee' is not just an architectural proposition," says Corsi. "It is an experience, a new kind of customer service relationship, and a new way of interacting with public space."

Another recent renovation by the studio, Ben Cafe, blends minimalist design and industrial references to create a welcoming environment enriched with high-quality, unfussy materials. Walls and floors feature cement, while a transparent wood veneer bookcase divides a dining space and counter without entirely closing them off from one another. A prominent curved wall informs the rest of the space—including wooden banquettes that wrap along the arched walls. Though aesthetically minimal, Ben Cafe is flooded with warm light, giving it the welcoming and friendly ambiance that has become characteristic of Boscardin.Corsi's work.

contract

FEATURE

studio modijefsky

By Sheila Kim

Studio Modijefsky's shop design for hosiery brand Wolford in the Marais neighborhood of Paris (right) immediately draws passersby inside, thanks to window displays of custom rails that wrap a terrazzo staircase. The intimate shop is full of textures and bespoke lighting for a captivating retail experience.

Kanarie Club (opposite) is set within a former tram depot in west Amsterdam. For the renovation, the firm paid homage to the space's past life through materials, signage, lights, and colors reminiscent of the depot.

Photos by Maeve Stan.



Location **Amsterdam**Founded **2009**

Typologies



Almost an amalgam of contradictions, Dutch design often reads as purposeful yet whimsical, subtle yet bold, focused and complex, and time-honored yet experimental. According to Esther Stam, founder and creative director of Amsterdam-based Studio Modijefsky, there is “a lot of ‘Dutchness’ in our studio’s DNA. A concept is almost always multi-layered with different stories and we try to use a material to its full potential, finding new ways of applying or processing it...we take our work very seriously but appreciate playfulness and humor in design.”

Launched in 2009, the firm is currently eight-women strong, and consists of both interior designers and architects. For most projects—many of which are hospitality and retail—the team conceives everything, down to the most minute of details and responds to site and client heritage. Consider its second Woldford shop in Paris: For the high-end hosiery and underwear brand, they designed poufs that resemble feminine thighs to furnish the fitting rooms, industrial pipe-like display fixtures that reference the factory floor where the merchandise is made, and bespoke pendant lights sporting glass diffusers that recall the silhouette of spools of thread. A rare characteristic, the designers take out time to visit the fabricators of these custom elements to ensure a certain level of quality. “The worlds we create

need to make sense up to the last detail and achieving this requires a team of not just designers but painters, electricians, craftspeople, shop fitters, and contractors,” says Stam. Fortunately, Amsterdam is rife with creative types and skilled artisans.

Rather unfortunately, however, it can be hard to stand out in the city, where design-centric venues are aplenty and new ones are constantly opening. Studio Modijefsky is up to the positive challenge, applying a philosophy of making interiors to “fit context yet have an identity of its own, and still be cool and appreciated in 15 years’ time,” says Stam. Local project Bar Botanique Café Tropicque, for instance, incorporates the current botanical craze through its color palette and live plants, but many of the elements also respond to the site and have the potential for longevity. Arch motifs throughout evoke the existing exterior radiused brickwork above the double-height windows, while mirror elements installed high up catch light and reflections of the greenery as well as elevated rail trains across the street, animating the space further. “By relating to the location’s context, whether natural or urban, and playing with the composition of texture and materials, height and depth, sight and tactility, we’re creating spatial experiences for people that will become valuable new memories.”

contract

FEATURE

uufie

By Paul Makovsky

The experimental facade of fashion house Ports (this page), located in a high-end commercial district of Shanghai, combines two types of glass blocks with innovative structural engineering to make the building resemble an iceberg floating on the ocean.

Uufie's vertical circulation space at Printemps Haussmann in Paris (opposite page) features a 3D-form based on the concept of a vertical dome and contemporary reinterpretation of stained glass.



Location **Toronto**Founded **2009**

Typologies



Founded in Tokyo by architects Irene Gardpoit and Eiri Ota, Uufie is an interdisciplinary, research-based architecture studio that has been based in Toronto since 2013. Gardpoit, who grew up in Canada, met Ota, who was born in Paris and raised in Japan, in Tokyo while collaborating on Nagi, an apartment renovation in which the “wall” partitions were made of lace curtains. Gardpoit, a University of Toronto graduate, was then working at Arata Isozaki’s studio; Ota, who got his architecture degree from Musahino Art University in Japan, was working with Jun Aoki & Associates. Today, their small firm, comprised of about four to eight people, spans the fields of art, architecture, landscape, furniture and product design, and is a rising star on the Canadian design scene, making headway with projects internationally.



Uufie’s first Canadian project, in the backwoods of Ontario, was a weekend cottage, clad in mirrored panels and black cedar, that incorporated Japanese design thinking and looked to nature for inspiration. In another project, for the Shanghai flagship of the Canadian fashion house Ports 1961, they covered the storefront with undulating glass blocks to look like seamless cubes of ice that are inspired, in part, by elements of the icy Canadian landscape.

“Reflecting on the natural world reveals the limitless connectedness of things, and our architecture offers room for this reflection,” says Gardpoit. “We give our structures the potential to inspire moments of contemplation and to define new social spaces.” This approach is especially evident in the vertical circulation space they designed for the iconic Printemps Haussmann department store in Paris, where Uufie created a “veil”—a delicate three-dimensional form that was inspired by a vertical, 24-ton dome, but appears to weightlessly float in front of the vertical circulation with a mirrored ceiling.

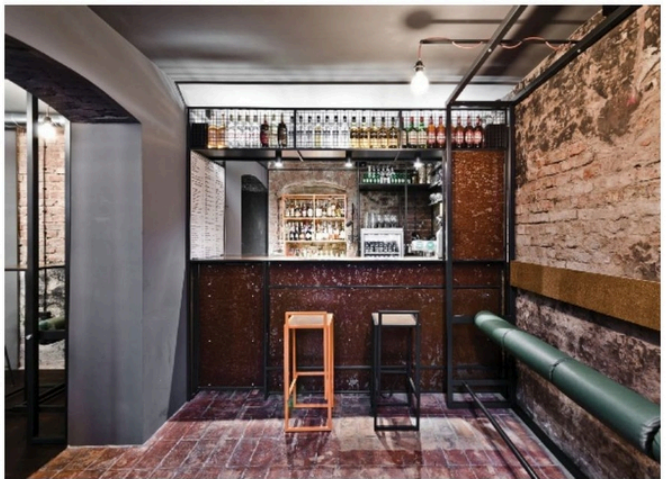
The studio’s philosophy and approach seeks to find a specific natural characteristic and strength within every project they undertake, so as to bond people with the natural world through sensorial and visceral experiences. They believe that each work both transcends and connects to us. “This seeming contradiction is our way of understanding that each project is simultaneously unique and universal,” says Gardpoit. “To that end, the studio celebrates experimentation, diversity, and site-specificity with an aim to create ‘experiences of transition’ that evoke nature in all of its work.”

contract

FEATURE

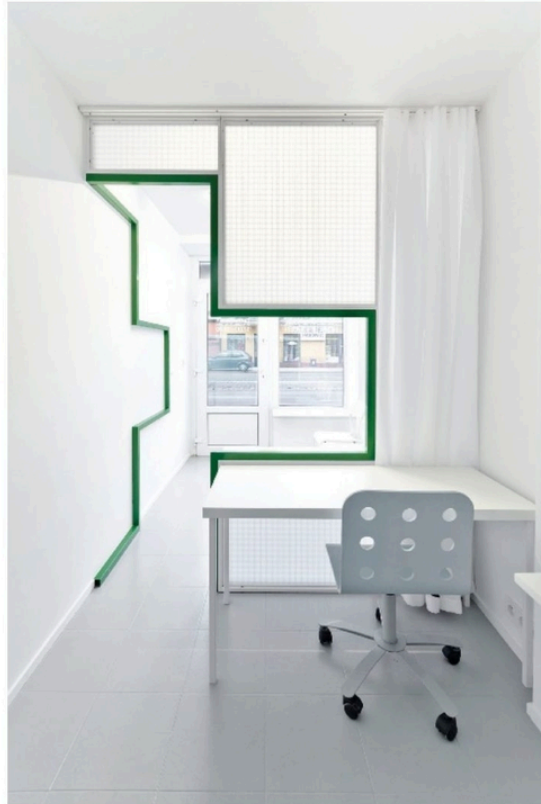
wiercinski-studio

By Sheila Kim



Location **Poznań, Poland**Founded **2015**

Typologies



Dent dental office (this page) is defined by polycarbonate plates that partition spaces while letting in light.

The restaurant Yeżyce Kuchnia (opposite, top), located in a modernist building in Poznan, Poland, is designed with custom-made furnishings paired with rugged materials including steel and metal pipes. Źródło.bar, also in Poznan, is a previously dilapidated basement that got a second life as a whiskey bar. The space features original brickwork and wooden floors, as well as steel structures that hold seating and lighting.

Dent and Źródło.bar photos by Przemysław Turlej; Yeżyce Kuchnia photos by Pion Studios.



Founded by architect Adam Wiercinski in 2015, Poznań, Poland-based wiercinski-studio is practically a one-man show, barring the occasional collaboration with one or two other designers depending on a project's scope and needs. Despite working solo or with a trim team, Wiercinski has built an impressive portfolio of projects—the majority of which are in the hospitality segment—ranging from temporary shipping-container art venues to offices and even furniture.

"Regardless of the scale of the project, I always try to add something new from myself, mostly in the details," explains Wiercinski, "and we avoid readymade solutions." For an extremely tight 108-square-foot dental clinic in Poland, for example, he conceived a unique partition that separates the front-of-house waiting area, check-in reception, and treatment room, leaving one side open to eliminate the need for a space-eating wall with a door. A notch cut into the open side serves as a "window" for the reception desk. But the ingenious part is a green ribbon that traces the partition's edge and continues down the perpendicular wall. When

viewed from a 45-degree angle, this linear detail forms the green cross recognized throughout Europe as an icon for medicine.

In Źródło.bar, another space-challenged project in Poland, he converted an old tenement basement into an industrial chic space, preserving various elements such as the exposed brick and incorporating new bespoke touches: Light pendants dropped from a custom exposed-steel structure, grid grille-like elements used as adornment but also practical storage cages, trestle tables sporting bent rebar, and coordinating benches that feature roller-style upholstered seats.

"Each topic is different and we always engage 100 percent, regardless of whether it is a table or horse stable," he says. The latter refers to a riding-hall and stable project he's soon beginning construction on. "We always think about the context in which we design, of course, but there is no common principle as each topic is very individual and specific." Perhaps the only common thread between his projects is that, like an editor or curator, he'll always challenge himself by asking what makes for a good project or product design.

contract

MATRIX

Feeling Good

Healthcare design today demands furnishings and finishes that meet performance and cleanability standards—while also promoting wellness through aesthetics and palettes. Here is a preview of products that will be shown at the Healthcare Design Expo next month, Nov. 3-5 in New Orleans.



Axis Lighting: CoeLux ceiling panel
axislighting.com

Advancements in LED technology have improved the realism of artificial-skylight products such as CoeLux. Replicating the full spectrum of sunlight throughout the day, it brings the outdoors into windowless or dark spaces.



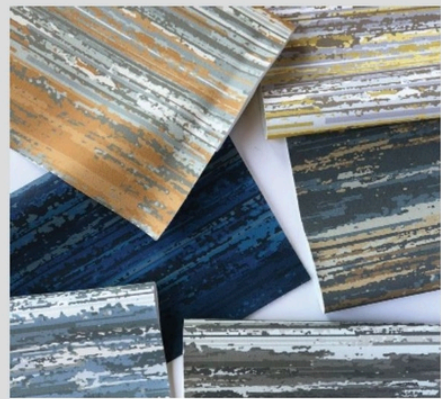
American Standard: NextGen Selectronic faucet
americanstandard-us.com

This integrated, commercial-grade faucet mounts above deck and sports a sleek design with just a front sensor and a discreet water mixer on the side to adjust temperature. SmartTherm Safety Shut-Off prevents scalding-hot water.



Integra: Reef lounge
integraseating.com

The manufacturer has updated some of its existing product lines, such as Reef lounge seating, with a new plinth base that offers a more secure and stable platform for patient safety. Particularly ideal for behavioral health facilities, the base also has an easy clean-out option.



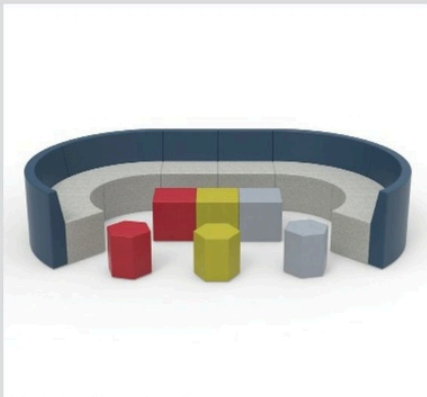
CF Stinson: Sirocco upholstery
cfstinson.com

Painterly brushstrokes of color emblazon this phthalate-free upholstery vinyl. Sirocco can withstand up to 100,000 double rubs, comes in 10 colors, and is GREENGUARD Indoor Air Quality Certified.



Kwalu: Prizzi Lounge
kwalu.com

This wall-saver lounge chair measures 33" deep, with an upholstered seat and back rest and a midcentury-modern style frame that simulates wood and is steel-reinforced. It has a concealed cleanout component behind the seat.



KI: MyPlace lounge furniture
ki.com

The versatile, modular collection has expanded with new shapes and options including a 30-degree, 45-degree, or 60-degree curve with or without a back; ottomans; inline laminate table; and a single lounge chair with back.



nora by Interface: norament satura flooring
nora.com

This rubber flooring delivers superior performance for high-traffic areas and a wide range of colors to choose from, whether neutral and earthy or vibrant and saturated. It's also free of phthalate plasticizers, PVC, and halogens.



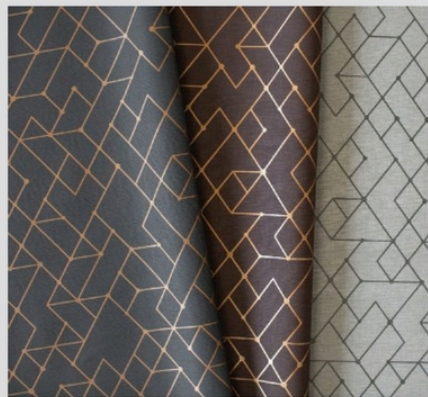
Shaw Contract: Living Systems flooring
shawcontract.com

Biophilia permeates this carpet tile collection with earth-inspired designs, ranging from the imperfect lines formed by broken rock to vegetation in nature. A total of seven complementing patterns are offered in a 9-by-36-inch format.



LG Hausys: HI-MACS Strato surfacing
lghimacsusa.com

This solid surface line now comes in three additional colors: earthy and warm Terra, cool gray Slate, and velvety light Crème. Sporting a wavy horizontal pattern, the Strato series is available in up to 30-by-145-inch slabs.



Mayer Fabrics: Vector upholstery
mayerfabrics.com

Part of the upcoming Quantum collection, this polyurethane-coated fabric is free of antimicrobial additives, phthalates, and DMF, and is finished to resist graffiti.



9 to 5 Seating: Sophie Series
9to5seating.com

This lounge line addresses cleanliness with spacious, easy-to-reach cleanout crevasses between the seat and back cushions. It includes guest and bariatric chairs, multi-person seating, and benches with optional tables.



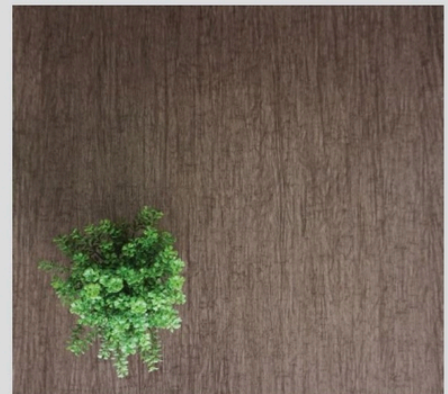
Sedia Systems: JumpSeat Wall
sediasytems.com

The award-winning JumpSeat, associated most with auditorium and education applications, is also making strides in the healthcare market, thanks to the wall-mounted model which allows for easy floor cleaning.



Herman Miller Healthcare: Compass System furniture
hermanmiller.com

Helping to create warmer, welcoming spaces within healthcare environments, this clinical-furniture series boasts a more contemporary, residential aesthetic and on-trend finishes.

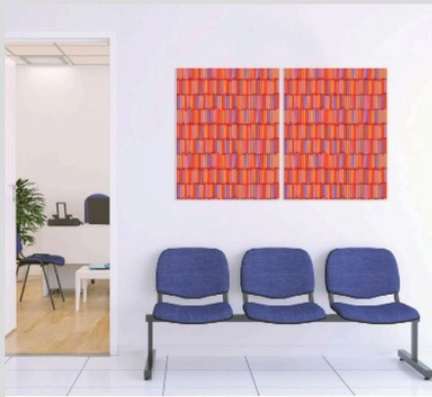


Lonseal: Lonstrand Topseal
lonseal.com

This resilient flooring product incorporates biophilic principles with its wood-simulating texture based on the fibrous strands of tree bark. Available in eight colors and 60-by-6-foot rolls.

contract

MATRIX



Skyline Design: Glasette for Healthcare
skydesign.com

Skyline's most popular designs and imagery are now available as glass wall art to enhance healing environments. Curated works include Alexander Girard's Ribbons and Henry Domke's Blue Angles, to name a few.



Mohawk Group: True Hues flooring
mohawkgroup.com

Winner of a Best of NeoCon 2019 award, this rubber sheet flooring comes in a wide variety of tone-on-tone colors to suit any healthcare, education, or other commercial environment.



Allseating: Tuck Nester
allseating.com

For spaces with limited vertical space or other areas where chair stacking is not possible or practical, the Tuck Nester is an ideal solution that collapses to a nesting depth of just under 7 inches.



SiOnIt: Nano
ideondesign.com

A modular seating collection, Nano comes in four shapes—triangle, diamond, trapezoid, and boomerang—allowing for a variety of unique configurations adaptable to any space.



Tarkett: LinoFloor
tarkett.com

Linoleum is already an environmentally responsible material, but Tarkett ups the ante by using almost 100 percent renewable energy to manufacture LinoFloor. Available in a wide range of colors.



Porcelanosa: Krion surfacing
porcelanosa-usa.com

Krion solid surface material now offers K-LIFE, a property that helps purify air particles when in contact with natural light. It's composed with a low percentage of resins and two-thirds natural mineral material.



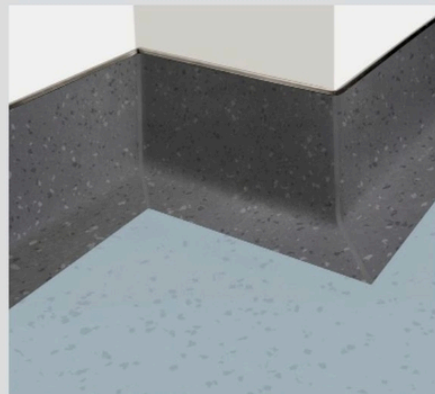
Wieland: Hale Easy Access seating
wielandhealthcare.com

The Hale chair collection has expanded to include a model that not only boasts easy cleanability, but also added safety via an integrated angled footrest that keeps shoes from slipping off.



Kimball Health: Greer recliner
kimball.com

Designed with infusion treatments in mind, this patient recliner carries a smaller footprint to suit today's reduced floor plans, yet still offers comfort for periods of prolonged seating.



Roppe: Envire flooring
roppe.com

Formulated to be Red List Chemical Free, Envire rubber sheet and tile flooring offers excellent wear resistance and dimensional stability. It can be specified for the manufacturer's FlashCove Prefabricated Bases.



Pallas Textiles: Limn Collection
pallastextiles.com

Inspired by the act of painting, Limn comprises six patterns—four for cubicle application and two for upholstery—that each play with sophisticated hues and subtle shade transitions.



Krug: Ascend recliner
krug.ca

The award-winning Ascend chair is unique: It uses a motor to not only recline, but transform into a completely flat exam table or sleep surface. In the exam position, the surface rises to a height of 32 inches.



Mannington Commercial: Drift Collection flooring
mannington.com

This luxury vinyl tile collection draws on visuals ranging from cypress wood to granite stone as well as abstract designs. In total, there are 26 designs, all boasting Quantum Guard Elite scratch-resistance technology.



Sky Factory: Aperture SkyCeiling
skyfactory.com

Bringing realistic blue skies and sunlight into dark or clinical spaces, Aperture enhances the effect by removing the grid lines between image panels and presenting a vacant interstice between panel and frame trim.



Versteel: Thea table
versteel.com

Well-suited to staff lounges and other gathering spaces, this Roberto Lucci-designed table features a sleek powder-coat; open, ribbon-like legs with integrated USB ports; and round, square, or rectangular tops.



Patcraft: Subtle Impressions flooring
patcraft.com

This carpet tile collection takes cues from delicate flower pressings, translating the craft into a watercolor-like field of abstracted visual indentations, as if created by fallen petals. The planks come in a 12-by-48-inch format, are Cradle to Cradle Certified Silver, and utilize Eco Solution Q Nylon.

contract

MATRIX

BDNY Preview

At the Boutique Design New York (BDNY) trade show, running from November 10-11, attendees will see the newest products for hospitality interiors, from fabrics to furnishings. Here are just some of the pieces and collections that will be making their debut.

**Aceray: Unico Privacy Armchair**aceray.com

This stylish armchair features a tall back and wings that absorb sound and envelop the user, providing shelter in busy open offices and lobby areas where extra privacy is needed.

**Dyson: Lightcycle Task Light**dyson.com

Using a unique algorithm to calculate the color temperature and brightness of daylight to ensure the right illumination depending on time of day, this lamp features 20 settings to suit any task or mood.

**Bernhardt Hospitality: Calista Metal Round Accent Table**bernhardthospitality.com

A round accent table with a plated stainless-steel base and an open pattern that brings soft sophistication to commercial interiors, the Calista has an inset, tempered-glass top and a polished-nickel finish.

**MDC Interior Solutions: Digital Curated Collection**mdcwall.com

Using proprietary media, this collection of digital wallcoverings features high-tech images in 37 patterns, printed on a textured silver mylar to bring unexpected luminosity to a range of commercial spaces.

**Bover: Domita Pendant**bover.es

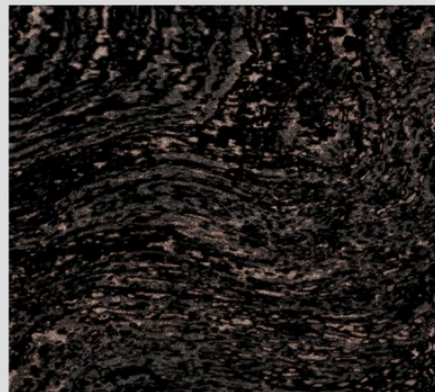
With thin wooden slats formed into a small dome that houses an LED bulb, Domita can be grouped with other pendants. It also comes in a table lamp version.

**Nanimarquina: Capas Collection**nanimarquina.com

Designed by Mathias Hahn, this rug collection plays on colors, tonality, and shadows, with a new type of Kilim structure that allows for mixing the hues of the warp and weft.

**Ligne Roset Contract: Ettoriano Chair**ligne-roset-contracts.com

The Ettoriano chair features a steel base and one-piece molded shell made of felt, designed to hug the body and surround the user in comfort, with an optional cushion available.

**Marc Phillips Rugs: Nimbus Rug**marcphillipsrugs.com

Capturing the feeling one gets when looking at rolling cloud formations, the hand-tufted, wool-and-nylon blend Nimbus rug is designed to change and breathe as individuals walk upon it.



Brown Jordan: Walter Lamb Aluminum Rocking Chair
brownjordan.com

To commemorate their 75th anniversary, Brown Jordan presents Walter Lamb Aluminum, a reissue of their iconic Walter Lamb Bronze collection featuring modern materials, with an official launch slated for 2020.



Cambria: Myddleton Quartz Stone
cambriausa.com

This durable quartz stone can be backlit. It also features a translucent, crystal-like base covered with white wisps and large brushstroke detailing, to create exceptional depth ideal for kitchen countertops.



Concertex: Topo Collection
concertex.com

This collection from Concertex draws inspiration from the natural landscape, echoing the organic contours transcribed in topographical maps, with an assortment of woven and coated fabrics in 10 new patterns.



Fermob: Sixties Chair
fermob.com

Fermob's Sixties collection embodies a young, carefree attitude and this chair is no exception, with playful curves, an aluminum frame, and a resin seat, now available in an ochre hue.



Wolf-Gordon: WonderWood Collection
wolfgordon.com

These wood veneers feature an innovative proprietary backing made specifically for drywall applications. They are flexible enough to install around curves and columns with a seamless look, and come available in 12 new colorways.



Expormim: Liz Sofa
expormim.com

From Expormim's new Liz outdoor collection, this sofa pays homage to the sensual and captivating forms of screen legend Elizabeth Taylor, with elastic fabric stretching along a metallic tubular structure.



Shaw Contract | Shaw Hospitality: Gather Portfolio
shawcontract.com

Emphasizing the creation of bespoke spaces that promote connection and community, Gather Portfolio blends inspiration, aesthetics, and practicality, featuring three pattern stories designed to enliven hospitality environments.



Toto: Nexus WASHLET+ toilet
totousa.com

Toto introduces the redesigned Nexus WASHLET+ toilet with new and improved features to deliver unparalleled cleansing performance, sensor-operated automatic flushing, and ergonomic height design.



Momentum Textiles & Wallcovering: Woven Silica Collection
memosamples.com

These wallcoverings are derived from silica sand and a bio-based coating, with CleanAir technology that absorbs and captures harmful volatile organic compounds permanently, ensuring they will never be released back into the air.

contract

MATRIX



Janus et Cie: Anatra Armchair
janusetcie.com

From the Anatra collection designed by Patricia Urquiola, this armchair celebrates craft and texture, with a powder-coated aluminum frame and soft, braided upholstery that looks good indoors or out.



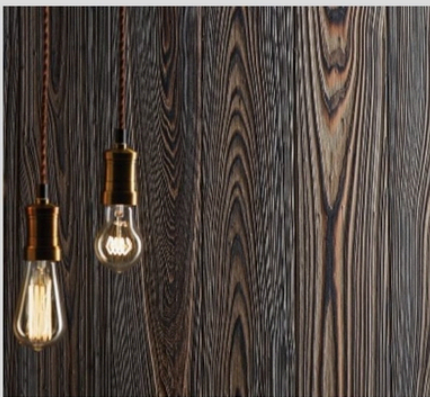
Cortina Leathers: Natural Worlds Collection
cortinaleathers.com

In collaboration with designer Virginia Langley, Cortina Leathers presents this line of luxury leather in a range of colorations and textures, overlaid with a finish that enhances the natural grain.



RS Barcelona: Ombra Stool Collection
rs-barcelona.com

These stools by Emiliana Design Studio have ergonomic seats to provide comfort for each user, and come in wide range of colors and finishes that make them perfect for restaurants, bars, and terraces.



Havwoods International: Shou Sugi Ban Wallcovering
havwoods.com

This line of contemporary coverings captures the look of grains and knots associated with *shou sugi ban*, the centuries-old Japanese technique of charring wood. It can be used on ceilings, interior walls, and cabinets.



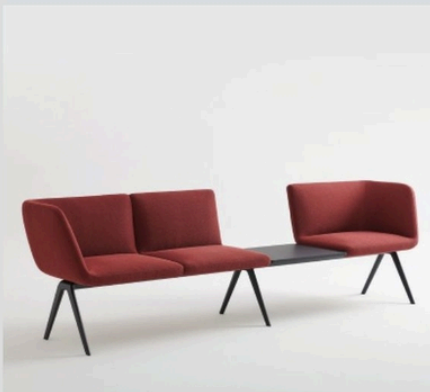
Samuelson Furniture: Upholstered Settee
samuelsonfurniture.com

This new upholstered settee masterfully combines form and function, with charging ports that are discreetly hidden, and LED lighting at the base that highlights upholstery details of its floating back.



Encore Hospitality Carpet: Montage Collection
encorehospitalitycarpet.com

Montage is based on art in all forms, styles, and techniques, with lines that mimic the look of brushstrokes on canvas, as seen here in a Colorpoint pattern from the collection.



Davis: A-Bench
davisfurniture.com

Designed by jehs+laub, this modular system features eight different seating elements, including straight or curved pieces, as well as connector tables and backless bench options to create endless seating combinations.



Crossville: Familiar Territory Collection
crossvilleinc.com

This new porcelain tile collection from Crossville has multidirectional striations inspired by quartzite and shifting sands to create a subtle stone look, available in five colors and two finish options.



Dvelas: Skipper Armchair
dvelas.com

Made in Spain using discarded sails, the Skipper armchair has fabric in a warm linen tone wrapped around a wood frame, making it an ideal casual seating option for garden, sidewalk, or terrace settings.



Interface Hospitality: Luxcierge Custom Design Service
interface.com

Available to the full-service hospitality market, the Luxcierge custom design service allows clients to work with the Interface design team to choose colors and patterns to create unique flooring.



Architectural Systems, Inc.: Interplait Wood Panels
archsystems.com

With a blend of textures in serene tonal ranges, plus an interlocking installation, this collection of sustainable wood panels brings a richer industrial look to all types of commercial interiors.



Ethnicraft: Bok Dining Chair
ethnicraft.com

The new upholstered version of the Bok dining chair is available in an oak frame with cognac leather or dark brown fabric, or in a black oak frame with black leather or grey fabric.



Andreu World: Status Table Collection
andreuworld.com

The Status series of meeting tables gives users unlimited flexibility, allowing them to easily change the look of the table with different types of bases and tops, and a cable management system option.



Isimar: Paradiso Collection
isimar.es

With retro styling that calls to mind summer days gone by, this furniture collection includes tables and chairs made of galvanized wire and powder-coated polyester, suitable for outdoor or indoor use.



Tempaper: Zoe Bios Collection
tempaperdesigns.com

This collection of removable wall murals was designed in collaboration with Los Angeles-based art collective Zoe Bios Creative. Inspired by the works of legendary American painters, it includes seven prints.

contract

MATRIX

Lessons In Design

The best products for education settings bring color and texture to an often overlooked interior—the classroom. Furniture, fabrics, and lighting can make learning easier with comfortable forms and helpful features. The selections shown here are designed to go from Back to School season and beyond.



Poppin: Key Chair
poppin.com

Designed to stack up to eight chairs high, this all-purpose seating solution from Poppin is easily stored when not in use. A cushion can also be paired with the molded plastic seat.



National Office Furniture: Swift Lounge Collection
nationalofficefurniture.com

This collection's new plinth base option helps prevent food, dirt, and bacteria from getting beneath the lounge units, making it easy to maintain strict cleaning protocols; the vertical tufting of its seat adds a fashionable touch.



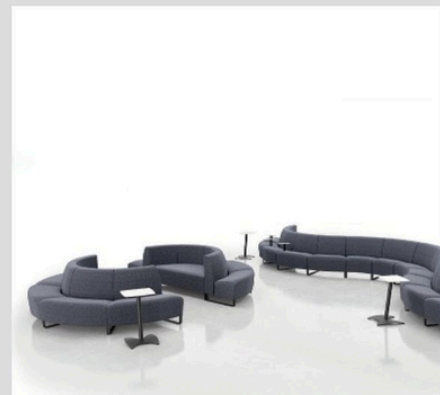
Konzept: Royyo Desk Lamp
konzept.com

Combining style and practicality, this lamp has an efficient LED bulb and an embedded USB port for convenient charging, with ten interchangeable base plate options that allow students to customize it.



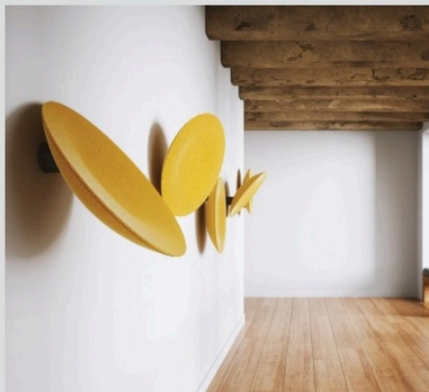
Teknion: Emote Private Office Collection
teknion.com

The Emote collection offers a creative take on traditional private office furniture. The suite includes a cabinet, desks, and accessories in a range of colors and finish options designed to enhance smaller work spaces.



Integra Seating: Coffee House Collection
integraseating.com

This flexible system can transition from a collaborative configuration to private, individual seating in minutes to meet a range of study settings. Available features include tablet arms, casters, and now, a half-round ottoman.



BuzziSpace: BuzziDish Acoustic Treatment
buzzi.space

Designed for use on the wall or ceiling, the concave design of BuzziDish efficiently mitigates noise by absorbing undesired sound waves, helping to create a more pleasant atmosphere in noisy classrooms and open-plan offices.



HAY: AAC 123 Chair
us.hay.com

This chair features a high backrest and a generous seat, with angled legs that slant slightly outward for optimal stability. The shell comes in a variety of upholstery options.



Modernfold: Acousti-Clear Protector Series
modernfold.com

This system works together with the motorized offering: Blinds can be quickly deployed and all sightlines eliminated at the push of a button, ensuring safety and privacy in schools and other public spaces.



SitOnIt Seating: Vectra Task Chair
sitonit.net

With proprietary lumbar tension support, low-profile arms, and a standard adjustable seat depth, this task chair provides comfort throughout the workday, with six colors of micro-mesh to choose from.



Smith System: Theorem Chair
smithsystem.com

Designed specifically for high school juniors and seniors, this seating aligns with the maturing self-perception of older students, and the durable nylon shell can accommodate a range of body types.



Arcadia: WorkSmith Collection
arcadiacontract.com

The WorkSmith collection is comprised of artisan-style tables, benches, and cabinets made of ash wood, designed to be used together or independently in today's educational facilities, offices, and co-working spaces.



Coalesse: Potrero415 Light Tables
coalesse.com

Featuring the same design of the original Potrero 415 series, the Potrero 415 Light standing- and seated-height tables are streamlined to fit smaller spaces, and come with built-in power outlets for charging.



Mannington Commercial: Self Assembly Collection
manningtoncommercial.com

A modular carpet collection inspired by the craft of knitting, the four styles in this line feature a mix of horizontal and vertical designs, available in nine neutral colorways to complement any education space.



OFS: LeanTo Lounge Seat
offs.com

From teacher conferences to focused study time for students, the LeanTo provides a quiet location within large learning spaces, giving individuals a sense of privacy and a chance to recharge during the school day.



Sonneman: Intervals Lighting
sonnemanawayoflight.com

The Intervals frame holds equally spaced LED bulbs to cast an even glow throughout an interior. The fixture also provides bi-directional light, with an integrated downlight lens and upward illuminated decorative glass diffuser.



Wilkhahn: Intra Chair
wilkhahn.com

The Intra chair not only has organic lines and sophisticated upholstery—it also includes an adjustment mechanism fitted to the seat, so it automatically adapts to users of varying weights.



Encore: Melina Collection
encoreseating.com

Reinterpreting midcentury design elements, the Melina furniture collection features mixed materials and angular forms, including tables and chairs in an array of sizes and heights, that are softened by tailored upholstery details.

contract

MATRIX

**3form: Flek Panel**

3-form.com

A zero-waste product, Flek renews trimmings from 3form's Varia Ecoresin applications to create a terrazzo-like panel with a speckled effect that's made of 70% recycled material, and available in six colorways.

**Nienkämper: Plexus Table**

Nienkamper.com

Suitable for conference rooms and meeting areas, this table features a wood base in two sizes and a curved inset along the exterior of the legs. It's also comes with an aluminum base option.

**Interface: Winning Team Collection**

Interface.com

This collection from Interface includes both hard and soft flooring, and the two carpet tiles in the line vary in pattern and color, allowing for non-directional installation that brings a refreshing touch to institutional spaces.

**Emeco: Alfi Aluminum Frame**

emeco.net

Jasper Morrison and Emeco created a new aluminum frame option for the Alfi chair, which offers additional functionality and durability, ideal for education environments. It's suitable for both indoor and outdoor use.

**VS America: Uno-C Desk**

vsamerica.com

The C-shaped frame of this desk is designed to offer an unparalleled freedom of movement for the legs, and the cross-section of the tubular-steel frame is shaped to prevent any distortion as its height is adjusted.

**ANDlight: Vale Lighting Series**

andlight.ca

The Vale lenses creates an ambient diffusion of light, while its aluminum frame houses the technical components of the fixture, available as a pendant, ceiling or wall mount, and floor luminaire.

**Ki: MyPlace Lounge Furniture Elements**

ki.com

The new MyPlace elements enable users to create an unlimited range of modular formations, with pieces that support engagement in smaller spaces, including a rectangular in-line table with dual-sided storage.

**Allseating: Tuck Nester Chair**

allseating.com

The lightweight, compact Tuck Nester chair can be neatly stacked or tucked away in smaller classrooms where vertical space is limited, while its sturdy frame allows for continued, high-performance use.

**Martin Bratrud: Trestles Tables**

martinbratrud.com

Featuring rounded corners and sleek metal bases, these Trestles tables, designed by Brian Graham, offer plenty of legroom. Available in communal, counter-height, or dining styles, they suit a range of school or office environments.



Versteel: Maker Lighting
versteel.com

The newest addition to Versteel's Maker Project, this lighting trio features studio steel fabrication and hardwood accents, and comes available in full length table-mounted, floor lamp, and clamp-on table light versions, shown here.



Audience Systems: Espace Chair
audiencesystems.com

The Espace's unique tipping action creates wide, safe seatways when the chair is occupied, and has compact dimensions when it is retracted, making it suitable for use in lecture halls, music rooms and auditoriums.



Thos. Moser: NYPL Branch Chair
thosmoser.com

Designed in collaboration with the New York Public Library, this chair celebrates the mission and the vision of one of the most celebrated libraries in the world. It comes in cherry or walnut wood.



Kimball: KORE Work Cart
kimball.com

Combining the privacy of the cubicle with the flexibility of a mobile workstation, this cart allows users to create their own study and workspaces, open or closed off as needed.



Knoll: Ollo Task Chair
knoll.com

Designed for today's more spontaneous style of working and learning, Ollo's active pivot creates a smooth recline without any manual adjustments, while its balanced seat back provides an optimal amount of support.



Innovations Wallcoverings: Sonar Textile
innovationsusa.com

This seamless, polyester-backed vinyl offers a new solution for sound refraction, and is easy to apply to walls, dividers, and ceilings in quiet areas for concentration and study.

contract

MATRIX

Work It

From the kitchen table to the corner office and the coffee shop, work is shaping our lives and physical world, and is everywhere whether we like it or not. An office is no longer really an office, but more like a home away from home. At this year's Maison&Objet trade show in Paris, one of the biggest highlights was a focus on "soft contract" in the context of work. Many small companies at the show are producing a range of crossover products that work well in any residential or workplace setting. Here are our highlights of the new kinds of products you might be specifying or seeing soon in a future workplace interior.



USM Inos Box
usm.com

The USM Inos box is a perfect internal storage solution. Made of compressed polyester fleece finished in light or dark anthracite gray with optional metal inserts, the box is available in four sizes to suit your storage needs.



Framery O Phone Booth Pod
frameryacoustics.com

An innovative solution to workplace privacy, Framery O is an echo-free phone booth for private calls and video conferencing. Equipped with a Tovi stool, Framery O allows users to adjust their working position.



Fram Oslo Haldar Wall Rack
fram Oslo.com

Designed by Andreas Bergsaker, this wall rack can be used in the hallway or any interior space to help organize your belongings in a unique and stylish way. The name Haldar is a play on the Norwegian word for holding onto things.



Magis Plato Chair
magisdesign.com

Designed by Jasper Morrison, this aluminum chair references Plato, one of the pillars of ancient philosophy, and brings a balance of form and function. It's available through Herman Miller in North America.



Vitra Lampe de Bureau lighting
vitra.com

Vitra has done a re-edition of Jean Prouvé's 1930 small table lamp that was designed for the dormitory at Cité Universitaire in Nancy, France. Constructed from bent-sheet steel, it pleasantly illuminates the desk surface.



Case Eos Picnic House
casefurniture.com

From the Eos line by Matthew Hilton, the stylish and lightweight Picnic House is a covered table that can be used for spring and summer parties, and is ideal for use in the garden, on the patio, or deck.



Ferm Living Punctual Shelving System
fermliving.com

This high-quality shelving system comes in different heights and a beautiful range of soft color hues. The basic structure is strong and robust, with a clear reference to industrial shelving systems.



Ethnicraft DC Counter Stool
ethnicraft.com

This new DC bar counter stool is based on the signature airy contours of Ethnicraft's DC dining chair, which designer Djordje Cukanovic altered with a taller silhouette. It comes available with or without backrest.



Serax August Lounge Chair
serax.com

Designed by Vincent Van Duysen, this series of minimalist aluminum chairs, available in black or gray-green, reference historic military hospital furniture, with wider, slightly lower proportions for modern-day comfort.



FLOS Bellhop Table Lighting
usa.flos.com

This tabletop lamp was originally designed by Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby for the London Design Museum. Evoking a candle, the portable, wireless Bellhop casts a pool of direct light and holds a charge for up to 24 hours.



Bene Studio Table
bene.com

Designed in collaboration with Austrian product designer Thomas Feichtner, Bene introduces Studio, a modern and modular system that can be used at home or in the office. It's perfect for people who need flexibility for work or creative activities.

contract

DESIGNERS SELECT

On the Surface

From tiles to carpets, designers share their pick of flooring products

Jungin (Jay) Chang

KAZA Concrete: Exodyn Tiles

kaza.com



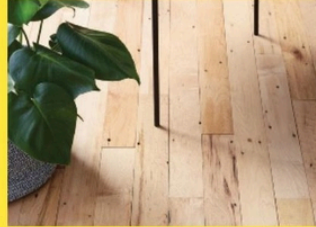
Architectural Designer
Kostow Greenwood Architects
New York



"Reintroducing a classic! This product reinterprets well-known terrazzo with an unexpected, intriguing shape as well as a mixture of a concrete formula and mineral stones. Familiar, but with a sense of discovery and uniqueness."

Tri-Lox: Industry Collection, Maple Factory Floor – Neutral

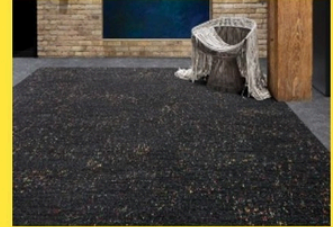
tri-lox.com



"This wood flooring recalls the historic character of an old factory and provides a refined industrial style while enhancing durability. Tri-Lox's comprehensive approach to the sustainable process enables this product to become a new leader in the industry."

Interface: Look Both Ways Carpet Tile

interface.com



"I finally found the product that works as both a soft and hard surface. This carpet tile + LVT brings simplicity into the installation process with a seamless integrated modular system without a transition strip. As an added bonus, you can mix and match the various designs."

David Shove-Brown

Connectrac: In-Carpet Wireways

connectrac.com



Principal Architect and Co-Founder
//3877
Washington, D.C.



"Bringing tech to an existing space is never easy. With this low-profile track system, you can have a cable raceway that either fits between carpet tiles or under them completely."

Tilebar: Metal Look Porcelain Tile

tilebar.com



"Don't have the budget to put in CorTen steel flooring? I absolutely love this metallic look tile that has a great price point and looks amazing."

Artaic: Tile Mosaics

artaic.com



"I am a proud geek and love the combination of cool flooring and robotic technology. Can I get an image of the Death Star in my kitchen?"

Ryan Berman

Shaw Contract: Unite LVT – Inlet

shawcontract.com



Designer
Switzer Group



"This collection of wood-look LVT offers a wide-plank format in a variety of colorways. The lighter tones lend to a clean, natural, Scandinavian look."

Florim: Magnum Large Format Porcelain Slabs

florim.com



"Porcelain slabs in sizes up to 64 inches-by-126 inches—and as thin as 6 mm—offer lightweight and durable options to create a continuous appearance for floors, walls, and furniture. Effects include concrete, metal, and stone."

Tai Ping: Raw by Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance

taipingcontract.com



"These bold, sculptural carpets make references to geological formation. The pieces blend soft tactility with an artistic interpretation of raw form."

PHOTOGRAPHY: JUNGIN (JAY) CHANG—KOSTOW GREENWOOD ARCHITECTS; TRI-LOX—ARION DOBER

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INSTALLATION

common thread

Sheila Hicks' latest exhibition pairs contemporary textile works alongside ancient Andean crafts, weaving a powerful dialogue between past and present.



The renowned textile and fiber artist Sheila Hicks has worked out of her studio in Paris, France, for years, since 1964—but it is the indigenous people of Mexico, Peru, Chile, and other South American countries and cultures that have profoundly informed her weaving practices. Hicks, 84, first developed a passion for ancient Andean textiles while living abroad as a student and completing her research for her master's thesis. Throughout her prodigious career, now six decades and counting, she has continued to produce a sweeping collection of works inspired by the vast array of countries and cultures that she has lived in. With no surprise, the contemporary artist's portfolio has landed her dozens of awards and recognitions, and nearly 50 solo exhibitions at museums and festivals across the globe—from the Whitney Biennial and the Venice Biennale to the Centre Pompidou, the latter which devoted a seven-decade retrospective of her work last year.

The latest exhibition of works by the Nebraska native, "Sheila Hicks: Secret Structures, Looming Presence," is currently on display at the Dallas Museum of Art (DMA). Pairing artifacts from the museum's collection of Andean art alongside Hicks' loom-woven, wrapped, twisted, and knotted fiber works, the installation shows visitors exactly what



The Dallas Museum of Art purchased Hicks' *Zihzabal* (far left) in April at the Dallas Art Fair through the Dallas Art Fair Foundation Acquisition Program. The richly textured piece, created in 2018, is a highlight of the exhibition. Also on display are traditional crafts, including *Bag with fringe*, made in Peru from cotton and camelid fiber (left) and *Representation of a tree (element for figural scene)*, a Chancay craft piece dating back to 1000-1460, using camelid fiber and reed (bottom).

inspired her to begin weaving in the first place. A celebration of craft both past and present, the installation makes for an expansive examination of textile traditions over the course of time.

"A portion of her vast body of work is a dialogue between past and present," says Anna Katherine Brodbeck, assistant curator of contemporary art at DMA. "This gives us an opportunity to examine both her practice and ancient fiber arts from a different perspective. Hicks is inspired by both history and the present experience of the beholder. While she has been working in this vein for decades, the acknowledgement of her importance for contemporary art has only intensified in recent years."

A collaboration between two of DMA's curatorial departments—Arts of the Americas, and Contemporary Art—the exhibition also includes *Zihzabal*, Hicks' first work to enter the museum's permanent collection. Purchased by the DMA this past April, the Andean piece features vibrant twine that blankets bamboo skewers, giving way to rich depth and texture. The museum will soon acquire its second work by Hicks, which recently exhibited at Sheila Hicks: *Seize, Weave Space*, a solo show of her work at the Nasher Sculpture Center. The artist has also announced her plans to gift to the museum *Chaine et trame interchangeable*, a massive woven wall structure originally commissioned in 1980 for the lobby of the One Main Place building in downtown Dallas.

"Sheila Hicks: Secret Structures, Looming Presence" is currently on display through January 12, 2020 and is included with free general admission.

—MEGHAN DWYER



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