

contract

Design Intersections: How hybrid spaces are shaping the way we live and work

On the Rise

A tech start-up grows up

Lighting as an Amenity

3 illuminating case studies

Viewpoint

Does interior design have
a gender problem?

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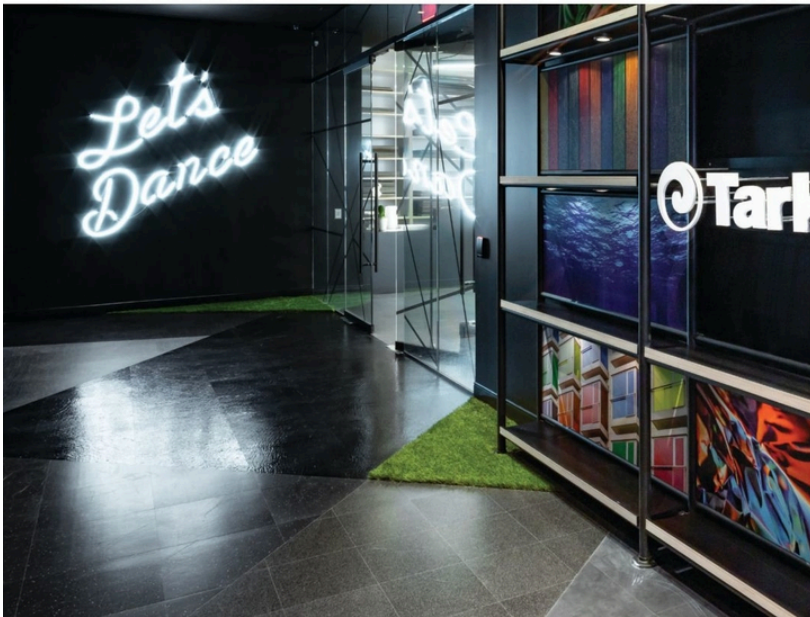
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contents

12

Editorial

20

Show Director's Letter

24

Product Briefs: Acoustic Solutions

28

Designer You Should Know: Betsy Vohs

30

 The Nordic
 Studio BV | Minneapolis
 by Hayley Arseneault

16

Industry News

22

 Viewpoint: Joan
 Blumenfeld on interior
 design's gender problem

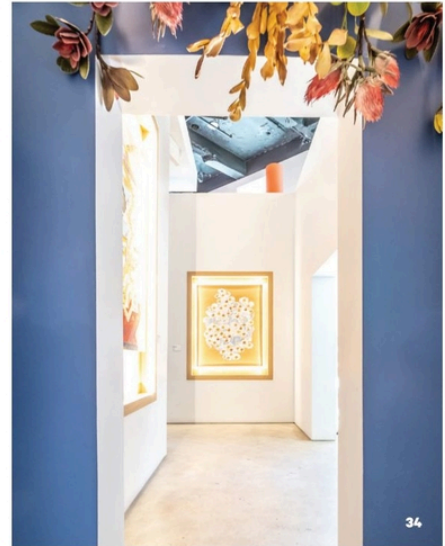
design intersections



34 design intersections

 Hybrid forms that are changing the way we live, work, and play
 by Contract Staff

46 lighting as an amenity

 Three illuminating case studies
 by Sheila Kim


PHOTOGRAPHY: GARRETT ROWLAND (TOP LEFT), ETAN SAMUELI (TOP RIGHT), ERIC LAIGNE (BOTTOM)

52

 LiveRamp
 Studio O+A | San Francisco
 by Beatrice Spinoza

58

Matrix: Innovative Materials

62

Matrix: Lighting

66

Matrix: Tile & Stone Preview

70

 Designers Select:
 Products for Amenity
 Spaces

72

Exhibition: Eileen Gray


 volume 61 issue 2
 cover: LiveRamp, San Francisco
 photography: Garrett Rowland

contract volume 61 issue 2 (USPS 307-970, ISSN 1530-6224, February/March 2020) is published monthly except bi-monthly February/March; April/May; July/August; and October/November; issued by Emerald Expositions, 100 Broadway, New York, NY 10005. Editorial and advertising offices: Emerald Expositions, 100 Broadway, New York, NY 10005; 949-226-5700. Customer Service: For address changes (provide old mailing label and new address including ZIP or postal code and allow four to six weeks), single copy sales (\$10 payable in advance), and subscription inquiries (\$94/year U.S., \$99/year/Canada, \$184/year all other foreign) go to www.contractdesign.com/subscribe, call 630-739-0900, fax 630-739-9700, or write to Subscriptions@cde1976.com or Contract Magazine, Creative Data Services, 440 Quadrangle Drive, Ste E, Bolingbrook, IL 60440-3000. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. Printed in the USA. Postmaster: Please send address changes to Contract Magazine, Creative Data Services, 440 Quadrangle Drive, Ste E, Bolingbrook, IL 60440-3000. Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 40798037. Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to: Emerald Expositions, c/o P.O. Box 2601, 915 Dixie Rd., Mississauga, ON L4T0A9



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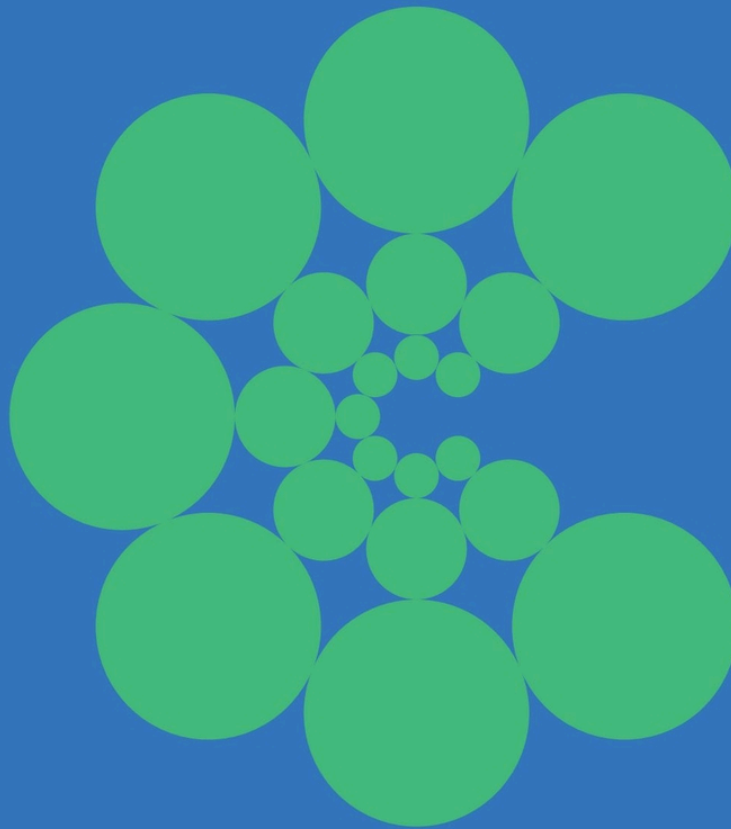
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EDITORIAL

Blurring Boundaries

We live in an architecture and interior design world of muddled distinctions, creative collaborations, and fusion spaces. Commercial studios are dabbling in residential design; hospitality is permeating other sectors like workplace, healthcare, and education; and clients are seeking flexible spaces that mix functions within one building.

In this month's issue, we examine some of the most interesting mash-ups creating new possibilities. One of my favorites that I visited recently is the Tarkett Atelier in New York. Not only is it a showroom that displays new product, but it also is a coworking space and features curated exhibitions that are relevant to the interior design community. Hybrid spaces are changing the way we live, work, and play.

Joan Blumenfeld, *Contract* magazine's 2018 Legend award recipient and a design principal at Perkins and Will, is trying to change our industry. Look around the room at any interior design industry event and you will see a sea of mostly female faces. It certainly appears that the industry skews largely toward women, and that is borne out by statistics. In this month's Viewpoint column, she argues that the interior design industry has a gender problem and does the math to prove it.

The *Contract* editorial staff is always looking for new talent and this month we head to Minneapolis, where we interviewed rising star Betsy Vohs. We also took a peek at one of her new projects, The Nordic, where she designed the stunning interior spaces, custom furniture, and the plaza in addition to doing the art coordination for the space.

Additionally, we visited San Francisco, where we interviewed O+A's design director, Joseph Rodriguez, who designed offices for tech start-up LiveRamp that are reflective of the company's lively spirit and inclusive workforce.

Incorporating amenities into workspaces has been an obsession of most workplace designers. But the news headlines about what perks or elements of office design make for a great

employee experience seem to be dominated by fads—think treadmill desks, nap pods, and “bring your dog to work day,” for starters. However, a new workplace survey reveals that employees are craving something more basic and essential to human needs. Access to natural light and views of the outdoors is office occupants' No. 1 desired workplace attribute, outranking other amenities like cafeterias, fitness centers, and perks like on-site childcare. We explore this reality in this issue, looking at three case studies about lighting as an amenity.

Awards Season

In other news, I want to take this opportunity to invite and encourage you all to begin thinking about submitting your best work to our quickly approaching Inspirations Awards, celebrating projects and practice-based initiatives that improve the quality of life for those in need (the deadline to submit is April 17). The ICFF Awards, presented by *Contract*, which honor excellence and innovation in new products exhibited at ICFF, are also just around the corner. The competition is only open to designers, manufacturers, and companies exhibiting at ICFF 2020, and will be juried by seasoned architecture and interior design professionals. It's important to recognize excellence in our design community. Good luck to all who enter!

Sincerely,

Paul Makovsky
Editor in Chief



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INDUSTRY NEWS

Designers Honored at 41ST ANNUAL INTERIORS AWARDS BREAKFAST



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Contract Publisher Karen Donaghy (2) introduced Contract Editor in Chief Paul Makovsky (3), who emceed the 41st Annual Interiors Awards Breakfast honoring the 2020 Designers of the Year, Joshua Aidlin and David Darling (5), Aidlin Darling Design; the Visionary award recipient, David Rockwell (1); and the 16 winning Interiors Awards projects. The design community, including past Contract Designers of the Year, enjoyed breakfast (4) while celebrating this year's winners, all of whom received custom 3D-printed awards (6) designed by Susan Chang and Joey Shimoda (7) of Shimoda Design Group.



16

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The 41st Annual Interiors Awards Breakfast, presented by *Contract*, was held at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York on Jan. 31. Design professionals gathered to celebrate the 2020 Designers of the Year, Visionary award, and winning projects across 16 categories.

This year's Designers of the Year are Joshua Aidlin and David Darling of San Francisco-based Aidlin Darling Design. The duo is dedicated to discovering innovations and uncovering the individual character of each project through their unique collaborative design process. Their notable projects include the University of Virginia Contemplative Sciences Center, In Situ, Windhover Contemplative Center, and House of Earth and Sky.

The 2020 Visionary award went to David Rockwell. Known for his curiosity, creativity, and versatility, Rockwell draws on his love of drama and community to create immersive environments across disciplines. He is best known for projects including Nobu, JetBlue Marketplace at JFK Airport Terminal 5 in New York, the World Trade Center viewing platform, Imagination Playground at Burling Slip, and stage sets for major productions like "Hairspray" and "She Loves Me." In addition to his powerful impact on the world of architecture and design, the architect and designer's commitment to New York as well as his philanthropic and pro bono work with DIFFA and Citymeals on Wheels made him a natural fit for the inaugural award.

In addition to the 2020 Designers of the Year and Visionary, 19 firms and one student received Interiors Awards and were celebrated at this year's breakfast. Visit contractdesign.com/interiorsawards for more information on the winning projects.

Shimoda Design Group Custom Designs Awards for Honorees

Joey Shimoda, *Contract*'s 2013 Designer of the Year and founder of Los Angeles-based Shimoda Design Group, and Susan Chang, founding partner, Shimoda Design Group, designed the awards for this year's Interiors Awards ceremony.

The duo created three physical awards that evolve in size and complexity from project winner to Designer of the Year to Visionary, capturing the arc of a designer's journey.

"At first, we did the prototyping thinking that it would become a cast piece of glass or a carved piece of wood, but I think in the end, by process of elimination, we ended up really wanting to 3D-print it," Chang says.

Each prototype took an average of 20 hours to 3D-print, amounting to about a month's worth of printing time by the end of the project. Each honoree also received a certificate featuring a print of the 3D award's original drawing.

"Something that's been lost over time from awards ceremonies and awards trophies is this notion of a drawing or a certificate," Shimoda says. "I think for us as designers, our primary means of communication is always through drawing, and we wanted to celebrate that."

The 19 awards and accompanying certificates were distributed to the winners at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York on Jan. 31. "Design is such a personal creative endeavor. Each project tests a designer's ability to make something fresh and new," Shimoda says. "And when we have the opportunity to participate in design awards, it allows us all to come together and acknowledge that kind of insight, hard work, and talent." —LAUREN VOLKER



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Bogota Design Festival

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Various locations
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Design Shanghai

March 12-15
Shanghai World Expo Exhibition & Convention Center
Shanghai
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Melbourne Design Week

March 12-22
Various Locations
Melbourne, Australia
ngv.vic.gov.au/melbourne-design-week

Arctic Design Week

March 18-24
Various locations
Rovaniemi, Finland
arcticdesignweek.fi

Nairobi Design Week

March 18-24
Various locations
Nairobi, Kenya
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Greenbuild Europe

March 24-25
Croke Park
Dublin
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Boston Design Week

March 25-April 5
Various locations
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The WELL Conference

March 29-April 1
Fairmont Princess Hotel
Scottsdale, Arizona
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APRIL

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April 2-5
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SHOW DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Two Brands, One Roof



Since reassuming the role of ICFF show director in September 2019, it has been a pleasure to communicate with so many customers. The perspectives that you have so generously shared with me about the fair and how you'd like it to evolve have helped shape our short-, medium-, and long-term thinking.

ICFF remains North America's major platform for global design with 600 exhibitors covering 10 categories: furniture, seating, carpet and flooring, lighting, outdoor furniture, materials, wallcoverings, accessories, textiles, and kitchen and bath. More than half of the exhibitors will be new to the fair in 2020, and 45 percent of exhibitors will be from outside the United States, representing 35 countries.

Over and above these unique design resources, we are excited to bring 200 more exhibitors to the Javits Center in May 2020 with the colocation of WantedDesign Manhattan. Announced last October, the ICFF-WantedDesign Manhattan colocation brings together two unique brands under one roof, creating a not-to-be-missed business-to-business design event for architects, interior designers, developers, and retailers. After nine successful years at the Terminal Stores building, WantedDesign Manhattan co-founders Odile Hainaut and Claire Pijoulat are excited to embark on the next chapter for the brand at the Javits Center. Collectively, the ICFF and WantedDesign Manhattan teams are committed to fostering the growth and the distinctiveness of each event as we respond to ever-changing industry needs.

The WantedDesign Manhattan colocation is one of 12 special features currently planned for ICFF 2020. Additional features include Contract Pavilion, ICFF Studio with Bernhardt Design, ICFF Schools, Four Hotels in Bergen by Claesson Koivisto Rune, ICFFxFloat Studio, ICFFxEmeco, ICFFxRizzoli, ICFF Talks, ICFF Awards, ICFF Public Day, and NYCxDESIGN Awards. Details on each will follow in my future show director's letters.

Please plan to join us May 17–20 for ICFF at New York's Javits Center. And in the meantime, please share your ICFF thoughts, desires, and aspirations by contacting me at phil.robinson@icff.com.

Thank you and regards,

Phil Robinson

ICFF Show Director



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VIEWPOINT

Does Interior Design Have a Gender Problem?

Yes, it does, and it may not be what you think...



Look around the room at any interior design industry event and you will see a sea of mostly female faces. It certainly appears that the industry skews largely toward women, and that is borne out by statistics. According to Data USA, the percentage of women awarded interior design degrees within the five largest undergraduate programs in the country was 89.7 percent in 2016. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) puts the number of female graduates nationwide even higher, reporting 93.6 percent in 2018.

So the question you might ask is "Where are the men?"

In contrast, the speakers, panelists, and awardees at those same industry events trend much more toward being male. For example:

- Over the past **40 years, 65 percent** of the *Contract Designer of the Year* winners have been male.
- Over the past **30 years, 75 percent** of the *Interior Design Hall of Fame* members have been male.
- While ASID and IIDA fellows are a little more than half female, they do not mirror the percentage of women in the profession.
- **Forty-three percent of presenters/panel participants** at NeoCon 2019 were male. (Interestingly, most panels were largely female, and most single presenters were male. That could be the topic for another essay!)

What about firm leadership? There don't appear to be any statistics out there right now, so I did some

old-fashioned counting, looking at 11 of the largest interior design firms' websites (after eliminating other disciplines such as architecture, planning, and support).

Thirty-three percent of these large firms' partners or principals are female; 67 percent are male. The statistics are almost exactly the mirror image of the percentages of women and men in the profession. In order to get a snapshot of the makeup of leadership for product and manufacturing companies, I looked at six of the largest furniture companies that are publicly traded (so their leadership information is available online). The numbers are even worse:

Firm	CEO	% Female Board of Directors	% Female C-Suite
1	Male	33 %	0 %
2	Male	44 %	31 %
3	Male	17 %	0 %
4	Female	40 %	0 %
5	Male	33 %	0 %
6	Male	20 %	0 %
Averages	17 %	31 %	5 %

Of the six companies, only one had a female CEO, and that firm didn't have any other women in the C-suite.

The percentage of C-suite women at the six companies was 5 percent.

An industry that starts off as approximately **90 percent female** ends up with far fewer women as leaders. This differs from architectural practice, which had a much smaller pipeline of women entering the profession and only recently has reached a graduation rate approaching parity at **42 percent female**, according to the National Architectural Accrediting Board. As mentioned above, there is a much larger percentage of women starting out in the interior design profession, making the drop-off in percentage of women holding leadership positions even more striking. What happens to all that talent? Do women stall out in midcareer, never advancing beyond midlevel positions? Do they drop out, and if so, why? (The fact that the graduation rate is **90 percent female** but the industry as a whole is only **70 percent female** seems to say a lot of them leave.) Do they form their own (largely residential) firms? Or do they do something else entirely?

At the moment, there are apparently no quantitative statistics and no qualitative surveys. This is in contrast

to the situation in architecture; after a big ruckus and the #MeToo movement, the AIA now collects gender information for its members. It also has sponsored large-scale detailed studies such as the latest Equity by Design survey, which seeks to find out what happens to architecture graduates (male and female) in mid- and late career and why. (Its most recent survey covered 14,000 respondents.)

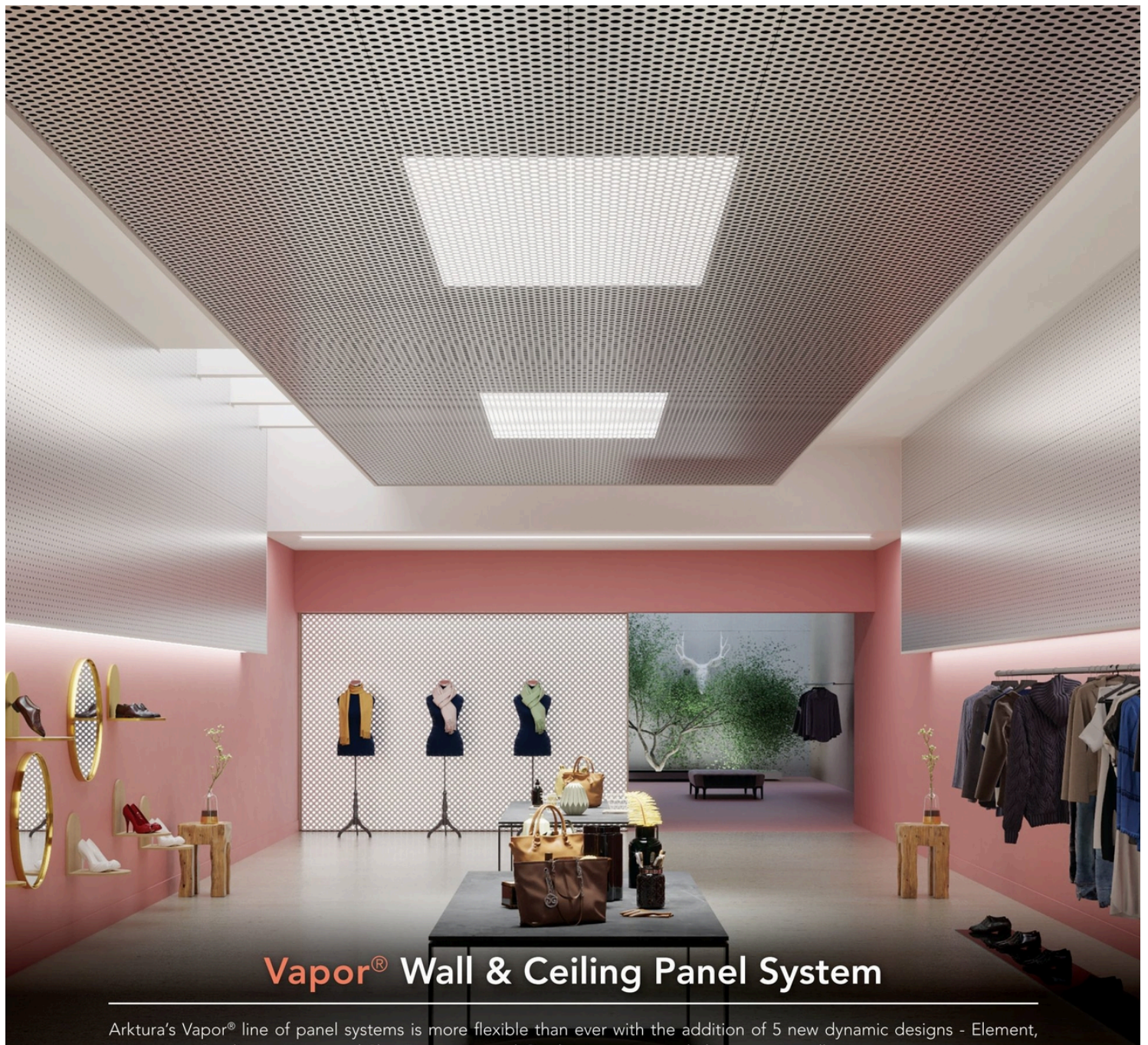
If in fact women are not making it into leadership positions, understanding the reasons why would help to address the issue and level the playing field.* What can be done?

The first goal would be to establish a baseline of numbers, thus confirming (or refuting) that there is a gender imbalance, one that is clearly not a pipeline issue. The second goal would be to try to parse out what happens to women as they move through the trajectory of their careers. The industry starts out with **90 percent women graduates**, dropping down to about **70 percent of practitioners and vendors** who actually stay in the field, dropping down again to about **30 percent of actual leaders of firms**, and dropping even further to less than **20 percent of leaders of product companies**.

Only after we understand through hard data whether there are impediments preventing women from making it to the top of the profession and, if so, what is causing them can there be a meaningful and impactful effort to make sure that there will be fairness and equity for all who enter the profession, regardless of gender.

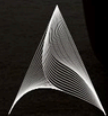
*For the purpose of simplicity, I have not addressed the obstacles faced by both men and women of color or nonbinary gender here. These are factors that almost certainly would affect career trajectories and should be included in any surveys.

Joan Blumenfeld, Contract magazine's 2018 Legend, is a design principal at Perkins and Will, a global architecture and interiors firm. Over the past 20 years she has been committed to achieving gender equity across all aspects of the design and construction business, as well as being an active advocate for building better and healthier interiors, buildings, and communities. Her widely published and award-winning work is notable for incorporating socially responsible principles of designing for health and sustainability.



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snowsoundusa.com

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PROFILE

Designer You Should Know Betsy Vohs



Betsy Vohs founded Studio BV four years ago, after more than a decade of design experience at a global firm. Based in Minneapolis, Studio BV boasts a 15-person team of designers whose expertise ranges from site planning and branding to interior design and architecture. Dedicating her ideas and energy to fulfilling clients' needs for transformational design solutions, Vohs' expanding enterprise employs a holistic approach that has won her work with high-caliber clients and companies across the country. Determined to give back to the design community by working to mold the minds of its next generation, Vohs has taught at the University of Minnesota, lectured at South Dakota State University, and acted as guest design critic at the University of Minnesota, Dunwoody College, and South Dakota State University.



PHOTOGRAPHY: COREY GAFFEE PHOTOGRAPHY

How does your background in interior design and architecture inform the way you approach design problems at Studio BV?

It allows me to think about how the body experiences space in different ways—from the scale of the neighborhood and the building to what individuals experience when they transition into the interior environment. The diversity in my education allows me to create spaces that work across many scales. Thinking about design decisions that affect how people experience space is often a mixture of small details and large architectural design strategies that create profound results.

Studio BV's work includes a diverse scope of design disciplines, from architecture and interior design to brand design and site planning. Can you share more about what this integrated approach entails?

We are design generalists. We do not specialize and organize the firm into practice areas. This strategy generates the most transformative design solutions for our clients and provides our team the most joy. We are fortunate to work with a diverse group of clients who look to our firm to bring them new and innovative solutions because we are not "experts" in the field. We are a firm that is focused on learning and exploration. This model allows us the time and space to ask questions and test ideas that provide insights to shape our work. Since our team is trained in many fields, we are able to work on different project types and scales, which allows us to push solutions to new places, in part because we are not constrained by our expertise in these areas. We ask all the questions, we dig in, we get close to clients, and we learn. This simple approach generates transformational solutions.

Can you share some of the challenges or problems that you see facing designers today?

Creating spaces that can change over time. We design spaces for clients that have more than 10-year lease terms. Ten years is an unpredictable timeline. Leases are longer and change is ongoing. How, as designers, can we open the door for change to happen within our

design solutions? This is a challenge that we are working on for most of our clients. We used to strive for control of the final design execution, and now we are designing for change and ad hoc environments. This is an opportunity to build a continuous design cycle that can support the need to change spaces with ease.

What are some design trends that interest you right now?

Designing for the sensory experience is something that we are focused on. How can our clients experience spaces in a deeper and more phenomenal way? We are designing for sound, texture, smells, visual effects, and color. This helps communicate the stories we are trying to tell in the physical environment. We are also interested in designing for performance. The integration of technology into the performance and the measurement of space is the next chapter for design. Data will drive more design decisions in real time. This is exciting and will shape how we think about what design can do as a tool for performance.

What is next on the horizon for Studio BV?

We are launching a new division for our firm—Design Forward—that will be a pro bono design practice. Studio BV has been committed to doing design work for clients that can't afford design services since I founded the firm four years ago. This will be a platform for working with not-for-profit clients, and a place where we can reach new organizations and build bigger partnerships with our industry friends that help make these physical transformations possible for the people that need design the most.

Betsy Vohs' multidisciplinary portfolio includes the 16,000-square-foot Parameters showroom (above) in Minneapolis and 65,000-square-foot Digi International headquarters in Hopkins, Minnesota (left).



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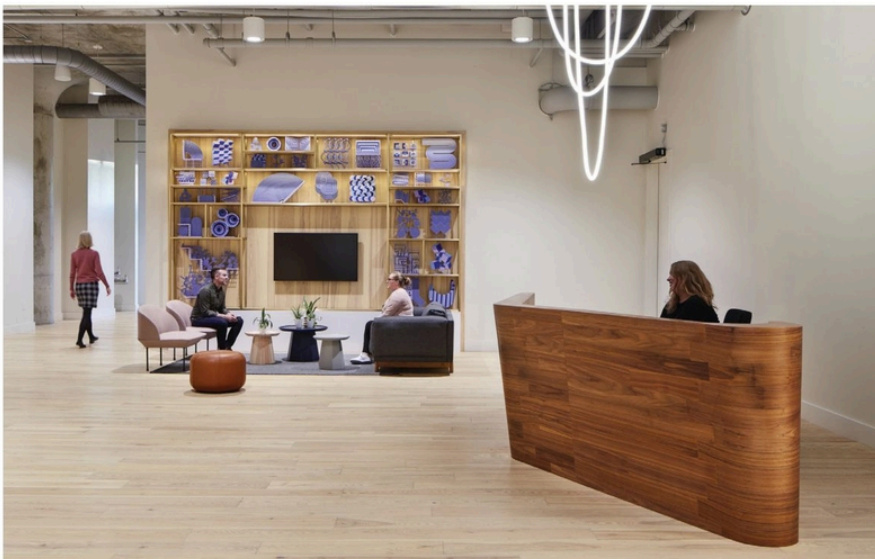
The Nordic

**Amenities
abound
at this
mixed-use
complex and
public plaza
designed by
Studio BV
to bring
a modern
yet warm
community
space to
Minneapolis**



The Nordic's public plaza features a custom-designed firepit (above) that leads to the lobby, which is defined by a crescent-shaped concierge desk crafted out of walnut wood (left).

The cozy fireplace lounge is anchored by an upholstered felt panel system in a rich blue hue that is installed alongside a custom sofa (opposite page).



30

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FEBRUARY | MARCH



Posted at a prime position in the middle of Minneapolis's historic North Loop, The Nordic is a mixed-use development—comprising 205,000 square feet stretched throughout a 10-story high-rise—that combines office, residential, and retail space while maintaining a modern warehouse aesthetic. The talent of Twin Cities-based Studio BV was tasked with spearheading the design of the project's lobby, public plaza, and retail spaces, as well as the art, furniture, and signage throughout the complex.

A four-season plaza acts as a gateway at the nexus of The Nordic and its neighboring Loose-Wiles Building. The plaza blurs the lines between public and private, play and work, and interior and exterior environments in an exercise of intentional overlap. "Our biggest objective was to create a sense of community," says Betsy Vohs, founder and CEO of Studio BV. "The building is located in an old warehouse neighborhood that has great brick warehouse space, but no green space or public parks. The Nordic was designed to change that condition."

The public plaza adopts the role of a figurative front yard for the neighborhood featuring gathering spaces awash in greenery with outdoor dining areas, a custom-designed firepit, commissioned sculptures, and winter curling courts. Its inviting outdoor oasis contributes to the daily life of residents, workers,

and visitors alike—and at the same time accommodates cultural programming and events.

Once inside, guests are greeted by the ground-floor FRGMNT coffee shop—buzzing with caffeine and conversation—which cohesively connects The Nordic's plaza to its 12,000-square-foot lobby. Elements of The Nordic's exterior are echoed across the interior: "The community-focused programming was designed to translate into the lobby," Vohs says. "We really wanted to connect the theme of warmth and gathering around a fire from the plaza to the interior." The lobby features a bespoke fireplace flanked by a large concrete plinth that functions more as a piece of furniture than an added adornment, activating the space and anchoring the interior while inviting individuals to linger and lounge atop its leather-clad cushions.

In a nod to the name of the building, Studio BV established a modernist aesthetic inspired by Scandinavian sensibilities as seen through material, color, and pattern. "In Copenhagen, you see a mix of texture and details in public spaces that are often missed or not considered," Vohs says. Careful touches of tactility, warmth, and Danish decor are incorporated to balance the raw nature of The Nordic's concrete construction. Pops of color abound across the lobby's loose furnishings and surfacing. Grounding the space with a delicate

yet bold pattern, an illuminated screen installation is inspired by Swedish textile design, while an upholstered felt panel system—hand-stitched with large leather cording—softens the space as it sweeps its rich indigo-blue hue across the lobby walls.

A custom crescent-shaped concierge desk crafted out of walnut wood stands in contrast with the ash flooring underfoot. Evincing a streamlined structure akin to a Scandinavian ship, the desk acts as a physical anchor that establishes a focal point in the large open lobby. Bespoke bookshelves were incorporated to support The Nordic's whimsical art collection and to delineate distinct areas of the interior. "We designed a custom wood bookcase in concert with an artist who developed 38 small sculptures for the shelves," Vohs says. "This piece adds interest and creates a place for small-scale art in a very large open space." These evocative elements underscore The Nordic's modernist milieu while creating a seamless visitor experience extending from the exterior past the entryway and all the way to the elevators. —HAYLEY ARSENAULT

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FEATURE

Design Intersections

**Hybrid spaces and creative collaborations are changing
the way we live, work, and play.**

By Contract Staff

We're in an era when everything is blurring. Gone are the days when firms specialized in just one vertical. It's not uncommon for a commercial studio to design multifamily housing or even standalone residences. Moreover, companies are mixing design verticals: Hospitality is creeping into other sectors like workplace, healthcare, and education. And because of rising real estate costs, clients are demanding multipurpose spaces—ones that mix functions within a building, offering flexible programs and solutions.

With telecommuting, we're increasingly working at home or on the road, and with the residential influence on commercial design, our workplaces are looking more and more like our homes, with comfy sofas and amenities that make us happier and healthier. Additionally, work environments are popping up in places like hotels and members-only clubs.

Design-forward consumer brands are turning to hybrid spaces as well. The influence of pop-up retail spaces is at an all-time high and is now

finding its way into other sectors, offering end users new experiences that often merge physical spaces with digital technologies. We're seeing showrooms fused with workspaces, creating environments that allow customers to experience products in different settings, and the brands themselves to test new ideas and products.

Here we highlight some promising examples of these new hybrid forms—from SHOWFIELDS, an imaginative retail concept that invites customers to discover and engage with brands, to Tarkett's New York Atelier, a showroom, co-creation workspace, and community destination—all of which are creating new possibilities and challenging the expected.

Pop-Up Retail x Micro-Experiences



SHOWFIELDS at the historic 11 Bond Street in New York's NoHo neighborhood combines pop-up retail with one-of-a-kind micro-experiences for a revolutionary shopping environment. Envisioned by local design firm Marin Architects, the concept is designed to offer a unique physical store experience in order to drive brick-and-mortar sales in an increasingly web-dominated retail industry.

The shopping destination features three floors dedicated to showcase spaces—highlighting future-thinking brands like Quip, Frank Body, Boll & Branch, PureWow, The Farmer's Dog, Coffee 'n Clothes, and more—and a fourth-floor event space, with experiential elements like slides sprinkled throughout. "We created elaborate circulation in the space, so that every time you turn a corner you are surprised and are able to engage with and experience a different retailer," says Walter Marin, senior principal at Marin Architects. "Whether you wish to dip into a colorful ball

bathtub, try exercising by the storefront, or become a brand model—all of these things are possible."

The immersive concept amazes and delights visitors, offering an elevated shopping experience. "Today's customer is very different than the previous generation's retail customer," Marin says. "They are looking for experience, excitement, and engagement. SHOWFIELDS isn't your typical department store. Fans of brands line up outside the stores for product launches and socializing, creating a sense of community in the process."

FEATURE

Contemporary Vegan Cuisine x Nostalgic Design





West London's Humble Pizza serves up a menu made from exclusively plant-based ingredients in a vibrant space that recalls the look of a classic 1950s "Formica cafe." Local design team Child Studio envisioned the space, wanting to celebrate the brand's passion for vegan cuisine along with the restaurant's culture-rich location.

"King's Road is such an iconic place for London's creative scene—all kinds of youth and fashion movements originated here," says Chue Huang, co-founder, Child Studio. "We wanted Humble to feel as an organic part of this unique neighborhood."

The restaurant interior is clad in wall-to-wall candy-pink Formica and accessorized with classic mid-century lighting pieces by European designers Poul Henningsen, Jacques Biny, and Luigi Massoni.

"Just imagine Vivienne Westwood is setting up her first punk boutique down the road, Mick Jagger is hanging out at the notorious

Chelsea Drugstore, and the sunlit cafe is buzzing with bohemian characters, aspiring writers, musicians, and socialites," says Alexy Kos, co-founder, Child Studio. "This is the mood we aimed to create here."

An illuminated cherry-clad light box frames the open kitchen counter toward the rear of the space, creating a cinematic focal point while offering a glimpse behind the scenes at the food preparation process. The menu presents a contemporary vegan perspective on Italian classics with an expertly curated selection of pizzas.

"We worked very closely with everyone involved in the project, from the chef and kitchen team to furniture makers, to consider every aspect of visitors' experience," Huang says. "The design evolved organically, as a continuous search for something that feels fresh, exciting, and authentic."

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FEATURE

The Workplace as Home



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF M MOSER ASSOCIATES

Addressing Hyatt's growing business needs across the Asia-Pacific and Greater China regions, M Moser was selected to design two offices in Hong Kong and Shanghai. Marrying hospitality and workplace, the firm used a guest-centered approach to the office designs.

"While a hotel is a home away from home that helps us unwind and takes us to a place we long to go to, a workplace is about creating spaces that encourage collaboration and interactions," says Ramesh Subramaniam, design director, international, M Moser. "We combined the philosophies of both into one celebratory community space to achieve a work environment that inspires from the outset."

In a nod to traditional Chinese courtyard homes, both projects embody the essence of multifamily living and blur the lines between indoors and outdoors. Residential furniture, warm wood tones, and memorabilia from regional Hyatt hotels provide familiarity and comfort throughout

the office. "[These details] contribute to a hospitality-inspired journey that fosters meaningful connections and brings people emotionally closer to the Hyatt brand," Subramaniam says.

Each office also celebrates the visitor's arrival—a fundamental element of the guest experience—with open and hospitable reception areas and expansive communal spaces where staff and visitors can relax, work, or engage with others. Social interactions are further emphasized throughout the space using pre-function areas as well as open kitchens where people can connect over drinks and snacks. The resulting spaces elevate the workplace, offering a home away from home.

Hospitality x Wellness



With the rise of wellness-driven spaces, Hilton has launched a new hotel concept curated to fit the modern traveler's desired lodging experience. Coined Tempo, the new brand is focused on well-being, striving to meet visitors' daily needs and desires while implementing sustainable practices throughout the guest experience.

"Tempo by Hilton combines all the benefits and efficiencies owners expect from a limited-service model with an uplifting dose of inspiration," says Phil Cordell, senior vice president and global head of new brand development at Hilton. "Utilizing a data-driven blueprint, we identified lifestyle offerings inside the guest rooms and throughout the property that push the entire sector to new heights."

Merging thoughtful design with a diverse range of partner lifestyle brands—including Thrive Global, Arianna Huffington's behavior change platform—Tempo provides a holistic experience for travelers, going beyond

standard on-site gyms to create a space for total mind and body training.

With the intention of not disrupting guests' wellness routines, Tempo also features relaxing guest rooms that offer curated assortments of morning and bedtime rituals, as well as a Get Ready Zone—a space where guests can get organized for the day and focus on work. Amenity spaces display art and design collections chosen to encourage guests to take a moment and look up from their daily grind, while state-of-the-art fitness spaces make it easy to continue exercise routines. Flexible meeting spaces, as well as informal areas, give guests the opportunity to continue working in comfort. And to ensure everyone is considered when it comes to cuisine, renowned culinary firm Blau + Associates has developed a menu of expansive offerings that sustain energy and boost focus. From hand-selected premium coffees and teas to hearty and healthy options, as well as alcoholic and nonalcoholic craft cocktails at the bar, every diet is considered.

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The Hotel as a Community Builder



Olio is a new 27-story, 116-room hotel located in the heart of New York City's theater district. Designed by the Rockwell Group, the hotel, opening later this year, celebrates the life and blood of the city's theater district, and will serve as a gathering place and destination for travelers, locals, and the theater community. At the heart of this new hotel concept is a first-of-its-kind curated art program with permanent and rotating works of art by emerging and established theater creatives, which will hang in the hotel's public spaces and rotate every six months. Moreover, selected pieces will be available for purchase with the proceeds benefiting both the Actors Fund and the American Theatre Wing.

As creative director of the program, David Rockwell selected a stellar group of co-curators for the inaugural exhibition including two-time Tony Award-winning scenic designer Christine Jones, Tony Award-winning costume designer Ann Roth, and nine-time Tony Award-winning lighting designer Jules Fisher. The curatorial team, in turn, will invite fellow artists to contribute sketches, design concepts, models, still photos, costume pieces, digital art, and other items showcasing their design work as well as original art pieces that explore other facets of their artistic expression for Olio's permanent and temporary art collections. Scenic designer Tony Walton will be contributing sketches of each of the 41 Broadway theaters that will be incorporated into custom light fixtures in Olio's public spaces. In addition, the work of veteran Broadway photographers, including Joan Marcus, Matt Murphy, and Bruce Glikas, will be featured in the hotel. Finally, Olio's bar and lounge will feature pop-up performances, allowing emerging artists to present new theater work in various stages of development to an audience in an intimate and engaging setting.

Building as a Teaching Tool



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY OF ROCKWELL GROUP (LEFT), COURTESY OF CANNONDESIGN (RIGHT)

Set to open in fall 2022, the Seneca Valley K-6 school project was envisioned by CannonDesign in partnership with the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. Exploring how schools can emulate children's museums, the team is looking at how to make learning spaces more compelling, relevant, engaging, and successful for students. This collaboration has explored and highlighted the educational opportunities available when teachers and students are empowered to curate their experiences and space.

"Generally speaking, children are more enthusiastic about heading to a children's museum than school even though learning occurs in both places," says Troy Hoggard, design principal. "The Seneca Valley project explores physical and emotional reasons behind this reality and as a result seeks to create learning communities that ignite more joy and engagement in the school experience."

Several concepts of museum design will make Seneca Valley's K-6 school a more active learning experience including large-scale magnetic wall maps; a wall-mounted energy use dashboard with accompanying student-accessible apps that educate about energy performance and monitoring; floor graphics and patterns that teach students about measurement, distance, scale, and proportion; a main canopy lighting constellation "time capsule" that documents the night sky the month the school will open; a transparent layered wall explaining the building construction assemblies; and mechanical pump and fan rooms with illuminated displays and interpretive graphics that demonstrate condensation, evaporation, conduction, and convection.

"The goal is for Seneca Valley's K-6 school to bring more effective, joy-filled, and self-curated learning experiences to the students it serves," says Mike Corb, Pittsburgh education market leader and educational planner, CannonDesign. "We also believe it can stand as a model for other PK-12 schools across the country and encourage them to partner with children's museums to explore new design concepts."

PHOTOGRAPHY: ETHAN GULLEY FOR W HOTELS (LEFT), DEEPSHKHA JAIN (RIGHT)

Sustainable Fashion x Travel



Rent the Runway, the company that pioneered apparel rental, and W Hotels have partnered to offer a first-of-its-kind travel program called Rent the Runway Closet Concierge. The new service, available at W Aspen, W South Beach, W Washington, D.C., and W Hollywood, gives guests access to a travel wardrobe curated by Rent the Runway for each destination and waiting for guests when they arrive, no packing or baggage required.

"Rent the Runway is working to constantly transform how our members think about ownership as well as optimize their time," says Maureen Sullivan, president and COO of Rent the Runway. "We've already changed how our members get dressed every day, so expanding into travel—specifically with a hotel—was a natural extension."

Upon booking their room, W Hotel guests are able to choose four styles to rent for their stay from Rent the Runway's Unlimited Closet for \$69. Guests have access to the entire Unlimited Closet in addition to being able to select from a destination-ready assortment tailored to each unique W hotel location incorporating Rent the Runway's proprietary data on trending colors, designers, silhouettes, and local climate.

"When guests are traveling, there's no better time to try out new looks whether for a business meeting or the perfect Instagram shot, and even better if that doesn't mean buying extra clothes that might not be suited for everyday wear," says Anthony Ingham, global brand leader, W Hotels Worldwide. "We are embracing the trends of travelers and anticipating their desires, which is a cornerstone of hospitality in itself. As for the future of our industry, I'd like to think we're starting a trend to enable access to more sustainable fashion options while on the go."

W Hotels will be evaluating and considering possible expansion of Closet Concierge at the end of its pilot period in March, eyeing soon-to-open locations in Philadelphia and Toronto as possible additional sites for the program.

Retailer as Research Lab



IKEA-supported research and design lab SPACE10—which has hosted pop-ups in cities like New York, London, Shanghai, and Nairobi—has arrived in Delhi, India, with a mission to enable a better everyday life for people and the planet.

Founded in Copenhagen in 2015, the initiative is focused on investigating sustainable and scalable design. "SPACE10 explores solutions to some of the major shifts expected to affect people and the planet in the coming decade—from rapid urbanism and the scarcity of natural resources to climate change, and the most promising avenues of emerging technology," says Kevin Curran, program lead at SPACE10.

Given that the space would host both public programming and research elements, including residencies and collaborations, it was important for the design to display a sustainable and circular design mindset. In line with SPACE10's global pursuit, reclaimed textiles by local Indian brand 11.11/eleven eleven and hand-dyed by artist and IKEA designer Akanksha Deo Sharma breathe beauty into the space "not for the sake of being beautiful, but with a purpose," Sharma says.

"Circularity and sustainability are at the forefront of the project because of the city and the times we're living in," Sharma says. "I chose to create an installation that is conscientious about how we use leftover materials. The entire installation is made up of leftover textiles that 11.11/eleven eleven terms as 'reclaimed.' This work to me connotes something positive rather than negative, as 'waste' often does. I wanted to combine and elevate these different pieces of leftover textiles to create a new, constructive narrative that emphasized the need to look at materials and resources with an alternative approach."

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FEATURE

The Showroom as Curated Space



With 10,000 square feet dedicated to innovative and sustainable flooring, Tarkett Atelier is a far cry from your everyday flooring company showroom. The space is a sophisticated trailblazing showroom that acts as a co-creation workspace and source of inspiration for the A&D community. Industry professionals are encouraged not only to visit and view products from all of Tarkett's brands, but also to use it for events and presentations, and as a place to collaborate and learn.

Huntsman Architectural Group, the firm tapped to design the space, kicked off the initial design process through conversations with New York architects and designers about what they desire in an atelier space. "They wanted a space where they could be inspired and perhaps learn something," says Chris Stulpin, chief creative officer for Tarkett North America. "They wanted a space where they could work and lay out projects, a space to



socialize that was really flexible, and they wanted a space where they could easily interact with our brand.”

Upon exiting the elevator, guests are immediately greeted by a large neon light in the entryway that reads “Let’s Dance.” Spaces outfitted in a variety of Tarkett products flow seamlessly from softer, quieter moments to louder, more interactive areas—all of which are named after dance moves. There’s an office called The Floss, a phone room called The Hustle, a meeting room called Hip Hop, and an IT room called The Robot.

“The approach is unexpected; not everything is neutral,” says Sandra Tripp, managing director at Huntsman Architectural Group. “It’s not a white box where the design lives in a pure environment. New York City is a dynamic place. To get someone’s attention you sometimes need to shout.”

Different zones—denoted by color, product, lighting, and

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FEATURE



temperature—including a theater, conference area, coworking space, lounge, soundproof quiet area, samples library, cafe, and office space, all help bring the initial visioning process to light. But in order to ensure the atelier also acts as an ongoing source of education and inspiration, Tarkett forged an innovative partnership with trends studio Edelkoort Inc., through which they will host a series of curated exhibits—the first of which took place at Tarkett Atelier's grand opening on Oct. 30, 2019, with a panel discussion called "Circular by Design."

"We are so excited by the outcome—the space has an energy all its own, and we can't wait to take in the rotating exhibits and see how the design community embraces it and finds uses for it," Tripp says.

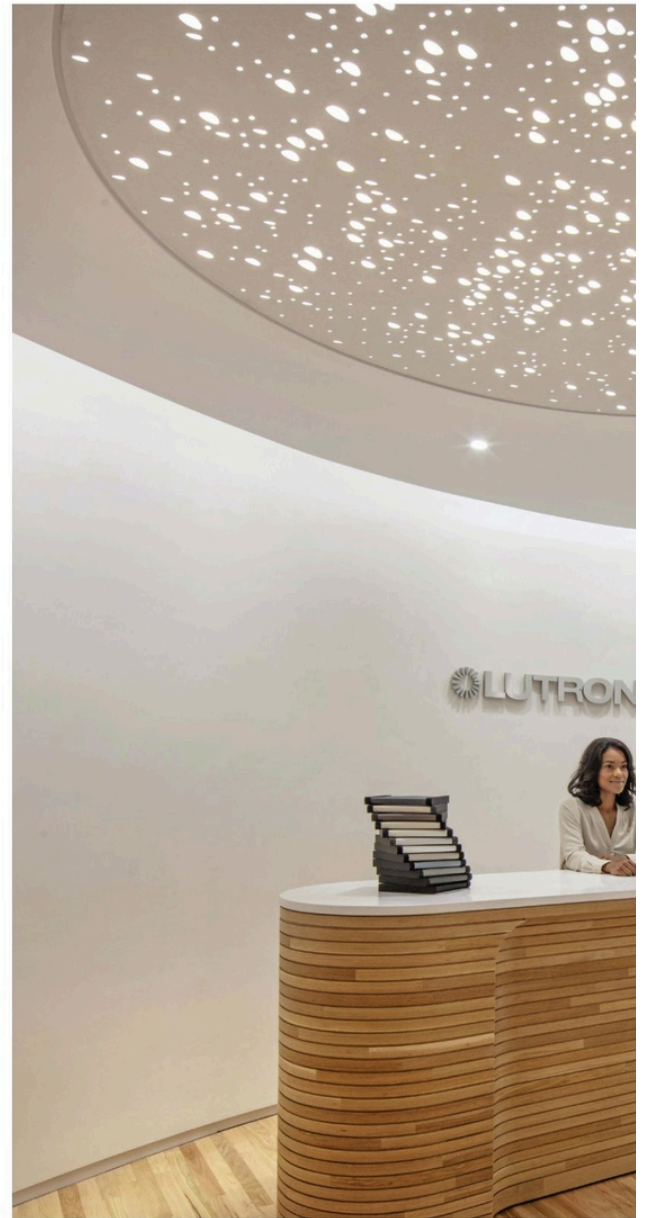
Activation by Curation



In conceiving the atelier, Tarkett desired a space where the architects and designers could be educated and inspired. As part of the showroom's programming, Tarkett created a strategic partnership with the New York-based trend forecasting studio Edelkoort Inc. led by partners Li Edelkoort and Philip Fimmano. The pair is curating a series of four panels this year to discuss contemporary issues relevant to the interiors profession and highlight topics such as sustainability and creativity at large. The studio also debuted an exhibition last fall that looks at objects and materials that are circular by design and features the work of over 10 international designers. The items are placed on podiums made with a variety of Tarkett flooring. A new exhibition is planned for this spring.

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LIGHTING AS AN AMENITY



By Sheila Kim

Goodbye treadmill desks and napping pods. The No. 1 office perk is natural light. Here we showcase three illuminating case studies that explore lighting's ability to instill ambience, make biophilic connections, increase productivity, and more.

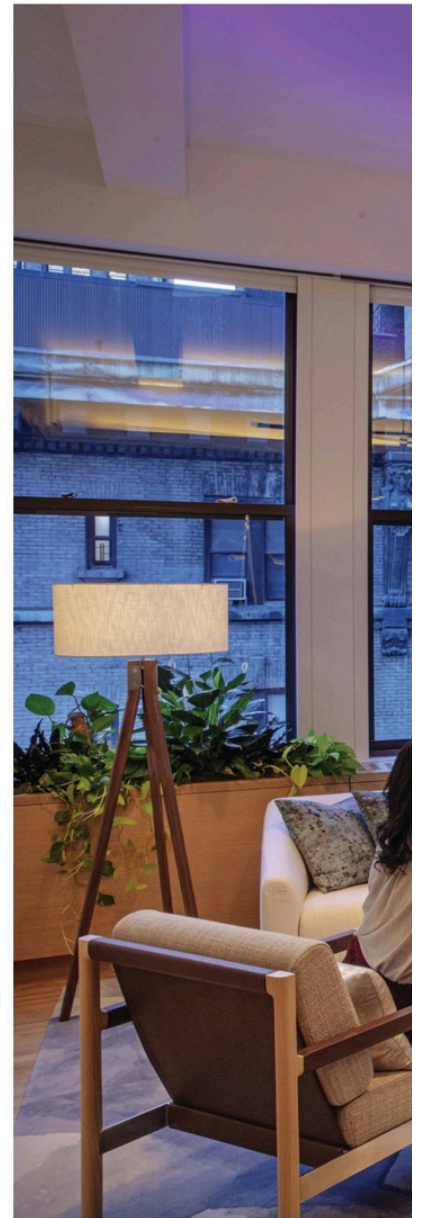


Lutron Commercial Experience Center, New York

Achieving desired results with lighting requires more than window placement and fixture selection. It requires orchestration of different light sources and control strategies. This is where Lutron shines bright. A leader in developing light-management systems, the company opened its New York Commercial Experience Center to inform designers on using light as an amenity.

Upon entering the reception zone, visitors encounter an 8-foot-diameter custom perforated ceiling luminaire. "Our design team developed this moment to recreate the dappled light of a tree canopy and introduce biophilia through manipulation of light," says Rob Laterza, experience center leader at Lutron Electronics. "The movement of light is reminiscent of wind blowing gently through leaves—it's beautifully captivating and creates that wow factor

FEATURE



as soon as our guests enter the space."

Farther in, a variety of vignettes and rooms demonstrates artificial and natural lighting strategies and the impact they can have on occupants. Lutron partnered with COOKFOX Architects, One Lux Lighting Studio, and RDA to tackle these. "The center was envisioned as an open park space with intimate gathering areas on either side. We looked at the various journeys people would make throughout the space and employed vignettes of our major verticals—office spaces, hospitality, and higher education—so we could host multiple groups at the same time," Laterza explains. An undulating plaster wall forms a spine that guides visitors to each space. Glass-enclosed meeting rooms—including a consultation room with curved glazing that follows the plaster spine—ensure natural light will



penetrate the core. In turn, the light-filled areas enable visiting designers to better interact with lighting-control and shading products as well as examine shade-fabric options more closely.

In the hospitality vignette, Lutron's myRoom guest-room solution paired with the Palladium keypad showcases control of a room's lights, thermostat, and motorized shades using a single intuitive device. The main conference room utilizes Lutron T-Series tunable-white drivers on fixtures to offer flexibility for every type of meeting, including A/V presentations and virtual meetings. The Vive wireless system, displayed in the open-office area, handles automated daylighting programs that work on sensors or individual control. Well suited to offices and educational facilities, it's also simple to install and extend in the future should needs change.

Lutron implemented Ketra—acquired two years ago for its contributions to occupant wellness—in major zones including high-profile meeting spaces and lobbies to demonstrate its commitment to the WELL Building Standard. Best known for accurately mimicking sun phases throughout the day, from sunrise to sunset, Ketra boasts full-spectrum color control that supports circadian rhythms and, paired with Lutron automated shading products, “immediately encourages our guests to embrace the impact light can make on a space,” says Laterza. And since many of these vignettes present the current residential trends, “each space can inspire designers with ideas for a living room as much as a corporate workplace.” ■

contract

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PHOTOGRAPHY: ERIC LAINGEL



Sunbrella Headquarters, Burlington, North Carolina

When textile giant Sunbrella tasked Tsao & McKown with renovating its Burlington, North Carolina, headquarters—a 1901 building that originally served as a plant for parent company Glen Raven—it issued a two-pronged request: Create a bright and airy environment that would promote wellness for employees, but also a means to control light as needed. The designers went to work on opening up the building to achieve the former, while teaming up with Sunbrella and The Shade Store to address the latter.

The most noticeable intervention greets staff and visitors at the entrance. After removing a floor slab in the lobby and cinder block that was installed sometime in the 1950s, the design team inserted a new 50-foot-high glass curtain wall, café area, and staircase that doubles as stadium seating. “From a lighting perspective, this atrium was the biggest change to the existing structure. It faces due east, showering the grand staircase and front of the building with strong, direct light,” says Allen Gant III, director of outdoor market for Glen Raven

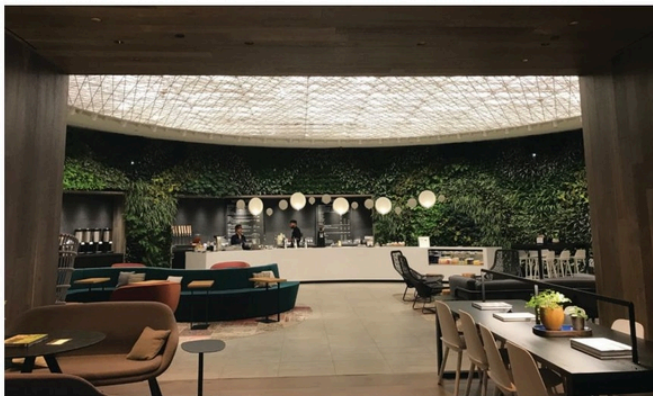
Custom Fabrics. “From a functional perspective, this atrium is separate from the workspaces, which are tucked farther inside the building, so the light here doesn’t impact anyone’s permanent working area.”

New clerestory windows on the second level “create a line of light from the base of the building up. From the first floor, you can see the garden washed in light and look up to the sky,” says Gant. And windows bricked over during the building’s mill days were restored to afford further connection to light and the outdoors.

The strategy for the main workspaces was the inverse: Shading was needed to combat glare, solar heat gain, and other discomforts. Some 30 shades—installed by partner The Shade Store—along the first- and second-floor windows feature Sunbrella’s own Solar Collection, which boasts UV protection, glare reduction, and fade prevention. Crisp and minimal, the textile is composed of 63 percent PVC, 20 percent Sunbrella acrylic, and 17 percent PET, and comes in 20 colors with 1 to 10 percent opacity levels.

Staff can operate the shades as needed via remote, but The Shade Store’s solar technology can automate these as well using a small window sensor that follows the sun’s movement throughout the day. The sensor, in turn, can activate shades to raise or lower, ensuring that employees have abundant—but not overpowering—light. Open since last May, Sunbrella’s headquarters demonstrates that shading sunlight can be just as essential as providing light for occupant comfort and wellness. **■**

PHOTOGRAPHY: JEREMY FRECHETTE (TOP), PALLAVI WAGLE (BOTTOM)



4 Times Square Food Hall, New York

Whereas the lighting in New York's Times Square is cacophonous, it's subtly soothing on the fourth floor of 4 Times Square, otherwise known as the former Condé Nast headquarters and cafeteria. At the start of Y2K, the employee cafeteria was a sensation partly because Frank Gehry—hot off the heels of his Guggenheim Bilbao fame—designed it. Today, Condé Nast no longer resides there, and the exclusive dining space is now inclusive thanks to a renovation and expansion by STUDIOS Architecture and a new human-centric lighting concept by Loop Lighting and USAI.

With current “resimercial” workplace trends in mind—the most popular ones being occupant wellness and flexible spaces—the building owner, Durst Corporation, sought to provide an amenity that could meet such criteria. At the same time, it desired to keep the architecturally significant cafeteria. The client finally concluded that the rest of the fourth floor should be an extension of amenities—only for all building tenants to enjoy as opposed to one company.

The architects transformed the remaining space into a hospitality suite comprising a farm-to-table artisanal food hall, coffee bar, and garden-evoking flexible space. (The south end of the floor, however, features a drastically different group of bookable meeting and event spaces run by Convene.) To visually connect the dining and lounging zones with Gehry's signature undulating forms, the project team incorporated elements ranging from sinuous seating to a 180-degree curved living wall.

Meanwhile, the original moody cafeteria received a brightened face-lift tying it to the new biophilic spaces—while still being respectful of Gehry's design, of course. The team kept the undulating glass but refinished the blue titanium ceiling panels and twisting columns in white, reupholstered the original banquettes in a light greige hue, replaced the laminate flooring with white oak, and swapped out the yellow tables with crisp white thermoformed Corian tables.

Finally, STUDIOS worked with Loop Lighting and USAI to develop a lighting program that could promote wellness. “With a much larger floor plate, we weren't looking at one room,” says John Newman, a partner at Loop Lighting. “We were looking to solve a design problem that reimagined the one-of-a-kind architectural element and weave it through the new food hall, dining area, café, meeting spaces, and other areas.”

The resulting program mingles layers of color LEDs and USAI's Color Select tunable-white LEDs to mimic the sun's natural cycle throughout the day—in turn tapping into emotional connections to the outdoors and circadian rhythms. From 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., a warm white (2700 Kelvin) paired with amber accents mimics a sunrise to gently wake up the early birds. When people are breakfasting in the next few hours, the lights shift to a more neutral warm white without the added colors. At noon, the LEDs transition into an energizing cool white (3700K), accompanied by light blue tones to evoke blue skies. Mid-afternoon, the white lights transition back to a more neutral tone (3200K) while the light blue gradually deepens into more saturated blues. At 5 p.m.—the building's happy hour—the lighting returns to a warm (2700K) white but with magenta accents, simulating sunset. The luminaires dim to candlelight levels from 6 p.m. onward, when the space becomes a bar and lounge. Aiding one's circadian rhythm, the lighting scheme is a far cry—and respite—from the Times Square illuminations outside. **■**

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upwardly mobile

52

contractdesign.com

FEBRUARY | MARCH 2020



San Francisco-based tech start-up LiveRamp has grown up—literally.

By Beatrice Spinoza
Photography by Garrett Rowland

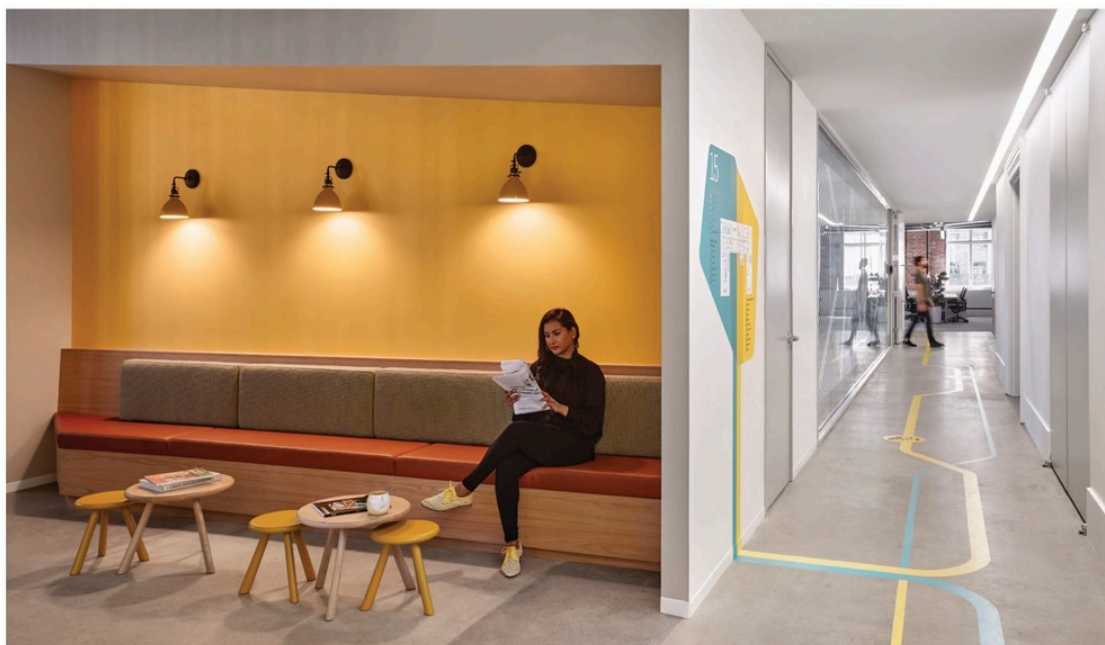
The design of LiveRamp's offices juxtaposes contemporary accents and bold graphics with the rawness of the building's original infrastructure. The company's playful spirit is evident in its mix of comfortable nooks, vibrant colors, and vintage chandeliers.

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Potted plants and draperies add a homelike feel in The Ramp, a casual meeting space and happy-hour venue (above). For the directionally challenged, explicit wayfinding graphics on the floors and walls make circulation a cinch within the U-shaped office (top right and bottom). The Standard Oil Building's interior brick warms every workspace (opposite).



**LIVERAMP**Interior Designer **Studio O+A**Client **LiveRamp**Where **San Francisco**What **21,000 square feet**
across one floor

Identity resolution service and data onboarding company LiveRamp got its start on the 15th floor of San Francisco's nearly century-old Standard Oil Building—where tenants include e-commerce giant Groupon—but over the last four years has expanded its headquarters to the 16th floor, and now the 17th. Behind the design of each of these growth spurts is San Francisco-based Studio O+A. The challenge with the latest renovation was to continue the original aesthetic, but also completely reimagine the office for a more mature business. "A lot of start-ups don't know what they need," explains O+A design director Joseph Rodriguez. "The directive is just 'Go!'"

Now that has changed. "The design has certainly evolved over the years along with the growth journey of our company," says Mileska Chetty, LiveRamp's director of workspace and projects. "Each floor was designed to speak to the other, but it was important that we could pull them all together in a way that is scalable enough to keep each floor fresh and engaging. It was also central to push the boundaries with O+A in terms of the vibrant colors that truly represented us."

O+A worked closely with LiveRamp to select hues and textures reflective of the company's lively spirit and inclusive workforce. The branding arm of the interior design firm also made sure bold graphics were a key part of the overall scheme. "We were told, 'If there's more than one white wall in a space, we need to fix that,'" Rodriguez recalls. "It's not often you have a client that loves color and funkiness."

The U-shaped footprint of LiveRamp's office—which inhabits the 1922 tower and a later addition—consistently made wayfinding a challenge. "Everyone gets lost," Rodriguez says of the space prior to the recent renovation. Color became a fix for that as well. O+A's orientation solutions included an intuitive color scheme tied to the circadian rhythms of the day. The east wing of the office, where the sun rises, was cast in warm tones from yellows to soft reds. The west wing, on the other hand, where the sun sets, features cool colors like teal. For those with no sense of geographical or solar direction, floor and wall graphics make the way forward playfully literal. "This showcased our company culture by creating a vibrant and logical

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FEATURE



On the west side of the building, a cool evening palette prevails, as in this café-like common area (above). Graphics were not a factor on O+A's first two floors for LiveRamp. Now they are essential to the look and lively feel of the space (opposite).

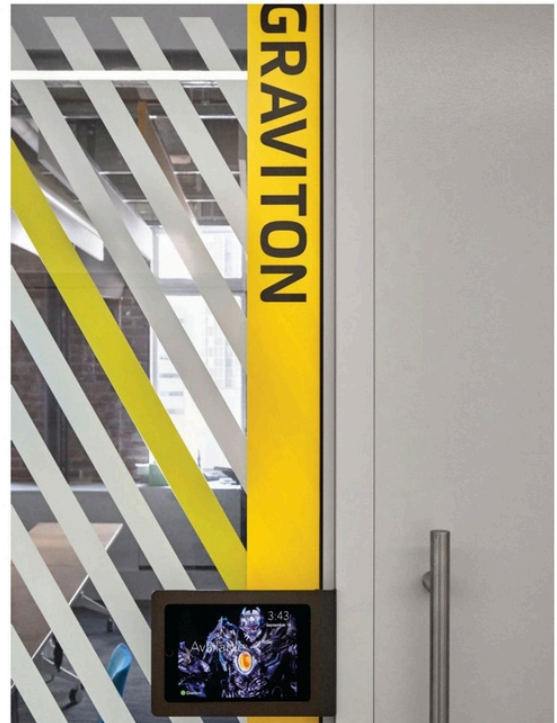
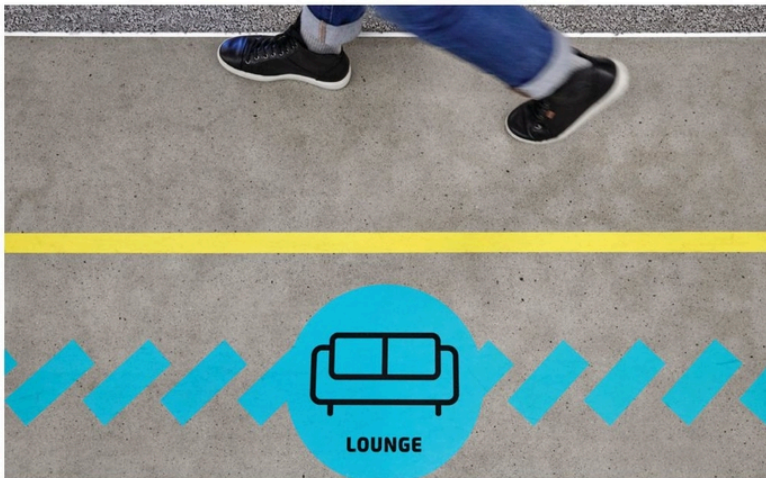
wayfinding system across three floors," Chetty says.

As a tech firm, LiveRamp was designed from the beginning to have an open floor plan, phone rooms, war rooms, and lots of social and collaborative spaces. To accommodate a constantly growing staff, the latest renovation refreshed common areas, and the newest floor added support spaces like a large training room and several conference rooms. The highest floor has become home to the main reception area. Previously a gathering space on a lower floor, "The Ramp" now has more square footage and hosts after-work events like happy hours.

Given the long work hours, it was imperative that the space be comfortable, with touches that include vintage chandeliers, potted plants, and drapery. "It's a fine balance between a homelike feel and refinement," Rodriguez says. The seating, tables, desks, carpet, and all-LED lighting are unique to each of the spaces—from a café-like work area to a relaxed lounge—and a favorite part of this job for the designers. "Furniture selection is fun when the client

says, 'I don't want it to be boring.'" A watermelon-toned nook mingles with plush sofas, plaid upholstery, and felt fixtures.

The historic building, once the tallest in San Francisco and today housing some of the city's leading tech firms, provided its own welcome aesthetic. Each excavation uncovered more of the structure's original fabric, in addition to the already-exposed brick walls—a kind of "ghosting," according to Rodriguez. "You've got to celebrate that in older buildings." LiveRamp has other reasons to celebrate its distinctive home, which at once grounded the fledgling business and allowed it to blossom. **e**



Project Credits

Interior designer Studio O+A
Studio O+A project team Joseph Rodriguez, Kaylen Parker, Paulina McFarland, Emily Cano
Contractor Principal Builders
Engineering CMI
Graphics Martin Sign
Other AVI-SPL (A/V)

Selected Sources

Paint PPG, Sherwin-Williams
Laminate Formica, Pionite
Hard flooring Junkers
Carpet/carpet tile Interface, Shaw, Mannington
Recessed lighting Delta
Task lighting Finelite
Pendants/chandeliers Stickbulb, Muuto, Rich Brilliant Willing
Other decorative Lumini
Hardware BEST
Furniture consultant MG West
Workstations Steelcase
Workstation/task seating Senator Group
Conference seating Andreu World, Davis, Senator Group

Lounge/reception seating Allermuir, Naughtone, BluDot, Andreu World
Cafeteria/dining seating BluDot
Other seating +Halle, Hem, Arper
Upholstery Maharam, Tiger Leather, Camira
Conference tables Coalesce
Cafeteria/dining tables OFS
Training tables OFS
Side tables Hem, Corral, Naughtone, Schoolhouse Electric, BluDot
Other tables Custom millwork and specialty finishes, PAW
Shelving Hem
Architectural/custom woodworking Ohio (conference room credenzas)
Planters, accessories Assorted from CB2, Urban Outfitters, West Elm, Kettal
Signage (fabricator) Martin Sign

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MATRIX

Innovative Materials

The newest materials bring warmth to high-traffic interiors. Fabrics, flooring, and laminates allow designers to transform spaces like never before, while offering performance features that allow for ease of use and maintenance. Colors and patterns abound, these products are sure to enliven any setting from the workplace to healthcare environments.



Designtex: Woolish Collection
designtex.com

The fabrics in this new collection from Designtex are constructed from 85 percent recycled polyester and reach 400,000 double rubs. Available in 25 two-tone colors, it's shown here (top) in the Tomato hue.



Crossville: Cursive Collection
crossvilleinc.com

This collection of porcelain wall tiles comes in eclectic shapes and coordinating corner options, ideal for interior walls in commercial and residential settings. Available in nine colors that range from light to dark.



Mannington Commercial: The Hocus Collection
manningtoncommercial.com

Designed in partnership with artist Larry Bell, this collection of three modular carpet styles reflects Bell's exploration of light. Each colorway features neutrals alongside airy shades of color, available in two formats.



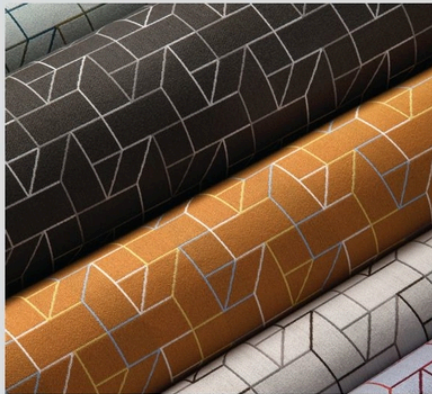
Chemetal: Classic Metals Collection
chemetal.com

With more than 50 design options, these high-pressure laminates or solid anodized aluminum metals from Chemetal are ideal for inlays or strips. A range of brushed and polished finishes are available.



Bentley: Rough Idea Shear Carpet Tile
bentleymills.com

Developed specifically for high-traffic applications, this 24-inch square carpet tile features a transitional pattern and tailored accent yarns. The four standard colorways are suited to a range of commercial interiors.



Luum: Vector Upholstery Fabric
luumtextiles.com

From the Second Sight collection, this upholstery fabric features a small-scale geometric pattern that takes its cues from contemporary architecture. Bleach cleanable, this fabric is ideal in workplace or hospitality environments.



Wolf-Gordon: Kabuto Wallcovering
wolfgordon.com

This new wallcovering from Wolf-Gordon appears to have layers worn away by time, revealing uneven patches of shine underneath. With industrial metals serving as inspiration, colorways include pops of orange.



Cosentino: Dektan Liquid Collection
cosentino.com

Designed in collaboration with Anna Murray and Grace Winteringham of Patternity, this line of state-of-the-art surface materials is inspired by the fluidity of liquid and features three new colors.



Carnegie: Viewpoint Upholstery Collection
carnegiefabrics.com

Designed to enliven commercial environments, this collection features a range of multicolored and textured fabrics. Each piece boasts a performance or solution element that distinguishes it from traditional upholstery textiles.



MDC Interior Solutions: Dimension Walls
mdcwall.com

These three-dimensional thermoplastic sheets give designers the flexibility to create installations that are durable without sacrificing style. Available in a range of textures and finishes, the new square option is seen here.



Formica: Natural Gray Felt Laminate
formica.com

From the SurfaceSet 2020 collection, this optical solid is reminiscent of felt. With a unique paper finish that combines the visual and tactile, this laminate brings a fresh look to hospitality and office spaces.



J+J Flooring Group: Metamorphic Modular Carpet Tile
jjflooringgroup.com

This modular carpet tile mimics the rich textural variations found in rock formations that have been weathered by time and nature. It features a multilevel loop construction for an exceptional depth of tonal color.



ATI Decorative Laminates: MirroFlex Lite Ceiling Tiles
atilaminates.com

These new ceiling tiles have the same durability as the original, but now come in an ultrathin .013-inch-thick version, making them even easier to cut and install. Available in 18 finishes.



Móz Designs: Laser-Cut Metal Room Dividers
mozdesigns.com

Móz Designs crafted these metal room dividers with a playful geometric pattern. They discreetly section off some areas of the interior, while still allowing abundant natural light to disperse throughout the space.



Mohawk Group: Owls Collection
mohawkgroup.com

Inspired by the plumage of owls, this new collection features mottled shades of black, brown, tan, and gray. The carpet planks are available in two unique patterns, Flight and Feather.



Edelman Leather: Whole Grain Leather Collection
edelmanleather.com

The leather in this line has a robust grain, with a classic palette of neutral tones and rich new shades added to bring contemporary appeal to this classic material.



Foster by Visual Magnetics: Magnetic Dry Erase Wallcovering
foster.visualmagnetics.com

This high-performance surface is 100 percent PVC free, and transforms any wall into the perfect spot for adding notes or sketches. Available in a range of colors and designs to suit any workplace.

contract

MATRIX



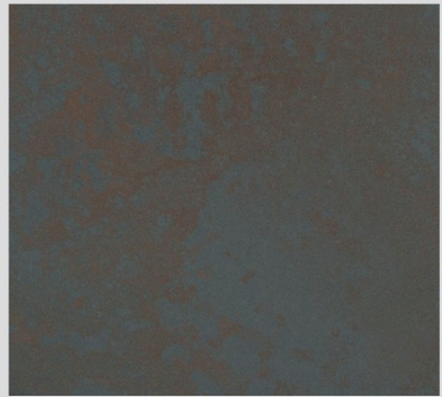
Patcraft: Dichroic Collection
patcraft.com

Crafted from recycled content, this nonwoven composite flooring collection mimics the subtle variation of a felted texture to create ombre effects. It is ideal for color blocking and zoning spaces within commercial interiors.



Eldorado Stone: RoughCut Stone Profile
eldoradostone.com

RoughCut from Eldorado Stone mimics limestone, with embedded fossilized artifacts and a roughly cleaved face. The versatile color palette complements traditional or contemporary interiors and includes blond, russet, and cool gray hues.



Caesarstone: Oxidian Quartz Surface
caesarstoneus.com

One of four new darker shades, Oxidian has a dark gray metal base with a textured matte finish. The surface is marked with an oxidized effect distributed unevenly just like rust.



Cambria: Buxton Quartz Surface
cambriausa.com

One of 20 new designs introduced in celebration of Cambria's 20th anniversary this year, Buxton features a grainy concrete foundation intermixed with daubs of gray and cream. White speckles lighten this quartz surface.



Nemo Tile + Stone: Cadence Collection
nemotile.com

With muted hues and texturing, this collection brings a richness to the kitchen or bathroom. Available in 10 colorways, each wall tile has a semigloss finish for just a hint of shine.



Walker Zanger: Marble Luxe Collection
walkerzanger.com

Updating the look of classic marble with crisp colors and patterns, these tiles are offered in a premium size. The minimal thickness allows for easier installation and thinner grout lines.



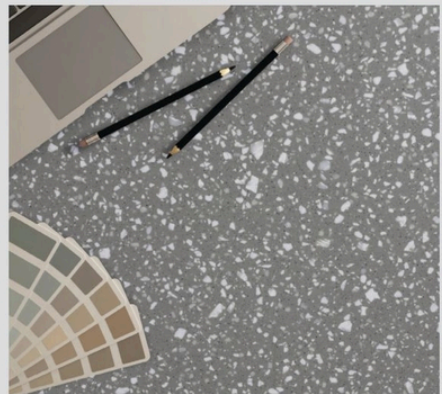
Wilsonart: Wetwall Panels
wilsonart.com

Mimicking the look of wood and large marble slabs, the tongue-and-groove system of these high-pressure laminates allows for easy installation and hidden seams. They are ideal for both wet and dry room applications.



Valley Forge Fabrics: Quickship Upholstery Vol. I Collection
valleyforge.com

Each of the five patterns in this new collection is made from fibers from an estimated 11 recycled plastic bottles per yard on average—a win for consumers and the planet.



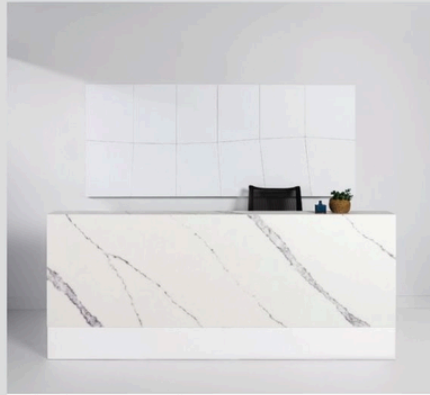
LG Hausys: HI-MACS Terrazzo Collection
lghausysusa.com

Drawing inspiration from both the cobblestone streets of Europe and industrial concrete, this surfacing collection features distinctive designs with extra-large acrylic marbled chips. Now with 10 new colors available to suit any space.



Callidus Guild: Matte Wallpaper Collection
callidusguild.com

A modern interpretation of ancient materials, this collection features four designs that are meant to evoke exterior walls along the Mediterranean Sea, bleached by the sun and eroded by salt air.



3form: Stone Resin Panels
3-form.com

Crafted from resin, these lightweight panels from 3form mimic the look of stone's natural veining patterns. Easy to install, they are suited for a variety of vertical and horizontal interior applications.



CertainTeed: PLAZA Acoustic Panels
certainteed.com

These new large-format panels from CertainTeed utilize honeycomb construction to provide superior acoustic performance. With a drywall grid and torsion spring suspension, this system is point-accessible and quick to install.



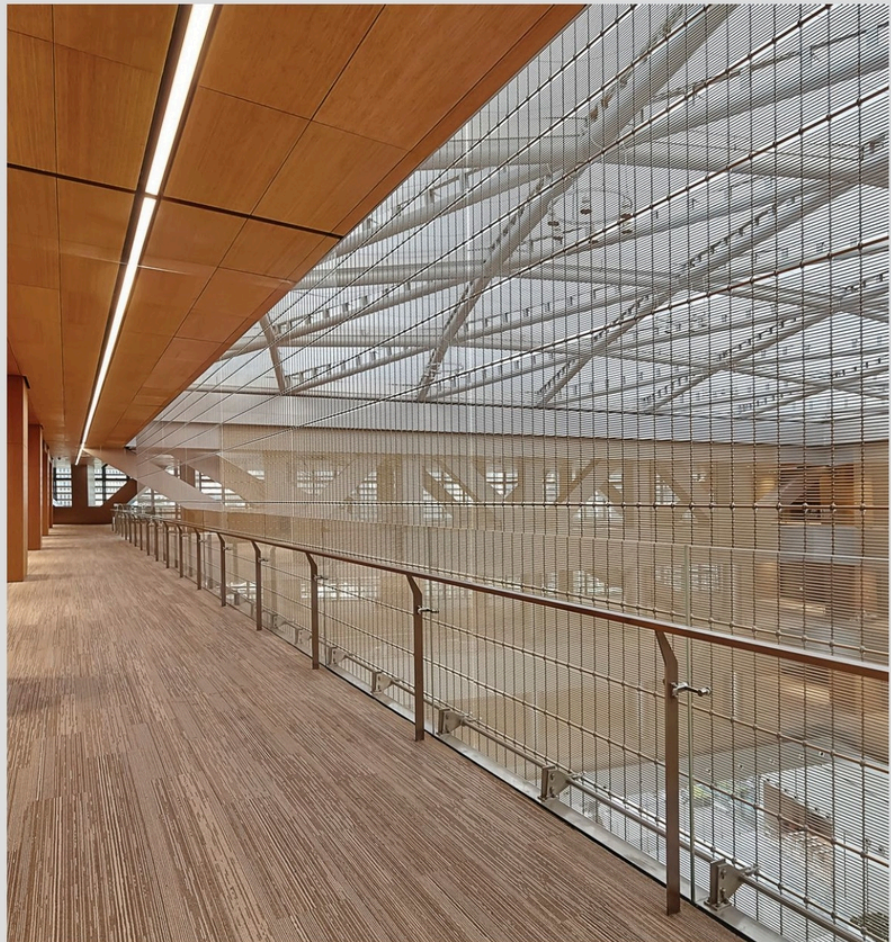
Baresque: Zintra Acoustic Textures Panels
baresque.com.au

These three-dimensional reliefs from Zintra create dimension and acoustic refraction on walls, with each carefully cut shape projected from the surface. They are ideal in noisy education settings or workspaces.



Kirei: EchoPanel Tartan Tiles
kireiusa.com

Made from recycled materials, these modular acoustic tiles give added sound absorption to walls and ceilings. They are mounted using a standard construction adhesive, designed to stick to any flat surface.



GKD Metal Fabrics: Custom Mesh Fabric
gkdmetailfabrics.com

This custom mesh fabric contains gold-anodized aluminum wires and tubes interwoven with alternating spacings in three-wire warp groups made of untreated stainless steel. It makes a dramatic design statement while still allowing transparency.

contract

MATRIX

Light Show

These fixtures not only provide illumination but also offer acoustic solutions, a must-have in today's work and education spaces. Indoor and outdoor options are equally stylish and can be combined. With smaller versions of our favorite lamps, it's easy to take perfect lighting anywhere.



Rich Brilliant Willing: Dimple Sconce
richbrilliantwilling.com

This compact sconce is named for the domed diffuser embedded into its circular face, which casts a soft glow. Durable and damp-rated, it is suitable for indoor or outdoor use.



Cerno: Merus Sconce
cernogroup.com

Crafted of Cerno's signature solid wood and brushed aluminum, the Merus sconce boasts a sleek profile ideal in contemporary bathrooms. The integrated light source emits a smooth glow that warms interiors.



Lumicor: Cova Collection
lumicor.com

This new lighting collection features flush mount ceiling fixtures, with four base shapes and eight sizes to complement any style of interior. Users can also nest fixtures and create large-scale custom installations.



Luxxbox: Blade Acoustic Light
luxxbox.com

Available with or without LED illumination, Blade reduces up to 80% of reverberated noise in open space for increased comfort and concentration. Available in a variety of sizes for optimal customization.



Marset: FollowMe Lamp
marset.com

This portable lamp with a tilting shade, varying light intensity, and wood handle makes it easy to take your lighting anywhere. With several new colors available, it is a perfect option for every room.



Robin Baron Design: Edge Sconce
robinbarondesign.com

The hexagonal shade on this wall sconce is made of glass rods and panes, giving it a contemporary glamour. Available in five standard metal finishes and a range of glass options.



Vibia: Pin Wall Light
vibia.com

The sculptural Pin provides a soft glow, or serves as a focused reading light with a diffuser that rotates to direct illumination precisely where needed. Available in four styles and two matte finishes.



Hightower: Atlas Pendant
hightoweraccess.com

With a frosted opal glass bulb, the new Atlas pendant emits a diffused glow. The wireless, full-range dimming switch allows users to choose lighting to suit any setting or event.



Artemide: Tempio Table Lamp
artemide.net

Designed by Atelier Oi, this table lamp has clean lines and a simple structure that resembles a Japanese temple. Crafted of aluminum in a soft metallic bronze, its understated elegance enhances any interior.



Landscape Forms: Motive Pendant
landscapeforms.com

The round luminaire of the Motive pendant is housed in sleek cast aluminum for a modern industrial look. The LED cartridge features weatherproof quick disconnect to provide ease of installation and serviceability.



Louis Poulsen: AJ Mini Table Lamp
louispoulsen.com

In honor of the 60th anniversary of the opening of Arne Jacobsen's SAS Royal Hotel, Louis Poulsen is re-introducing the lamp in the original size the architect created for the hotel. Available in 14 colorways.



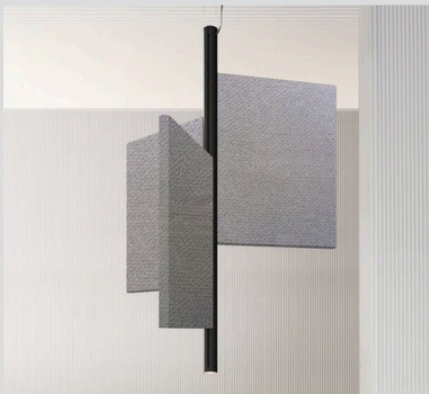
Bover: Tanit Table Lamp
bover.es

The light from this rechargeable lamp by Bover is diffused through a screen woven by hand with cotton thread. Compact and easy to transport, this piece is ideal for use on the patio or terrace.



Vitra: Lampe de Bureau
vitra.com

Designed by Jean Prouvé, the small lamp is crafted from bent sheet steel. The powder-coated finish comes in several colors, which are derived from the original hues used by Prouvé.



Luceplan: Trypta Suspension Lamp
luceplan.com

With three equidistant panels arranged along the axis of a cylindrical body, the Trypta provides ample illumination while also offering excellent sound-absorbing performance. Panels are available in three colors and six sizes.



Versteel: Maker Floor Lamp
versteel.com

With studio steel fabrication and hardwood accents, this floor lamp from Versteel has artisanal appeal, particularly the rustic pendant light shade. Clear matte, clear gloss, and alternate wood finishes are available.



Room & Board Business Interiors: Gatsby Table Lamp
roomandboard.com

This table lamp features polished crystal and elegant brass accents with knurled edges. The sophisticated silk dupioni shades completes the Art Deco look, bringing a glamorous touch to any room.

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MATRIX

**USA: BeveLED Mini Cylinder Lights**

usallighting.com

These cylinders are an ideal solution for open or unfinished ceilings where recessed lighting is not an option. Offered in a variety of finishes, they can be used as bold accents or subtle design elements.

**Lightology: Pipeline Vanity Light**

lightology.com

Lightology presents this sleek fixture by PureEdge Lighting, inspired by today's open ceiling lofts. Available in several finish options, lengths, and color temperatures, this lighting can suit bathrooms of any size or style.

**Sonneman: Leaf Sconce**

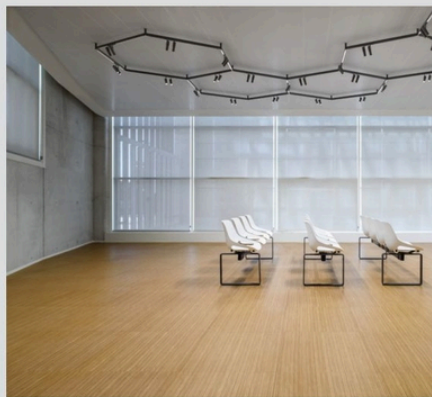
sonnemanawayoflight.com

This sconce has an organic feel, with soft LED illumination transmitted through its leaf-shaped shades. It produces a warm, radiant glow, and is available in a satin white or black finish.

**Bec Brittain: Gemini Collection**

becbrittain.com

Playing with the idea of the twin, Bec Brittain created these limited-edition, two-of-a-kind light fixtures. Each piece is unique, and is made by hand using elements like hand-blown glass, carved beads, and leather.

**FLOS Architectural: Diversion Lighting System**

arch.flosusa.com

This innovative system allows for the creation of linear, geometric, or angular combinations. From a single joint piece up to eight profiles can be connected and positioned in 360-degree orientations.

**Koncept: Splitty Floor Lamp**

koncept.com

This floor fixture performs as an ambient light and a functional task lamp. A USB port located discreetly on the lower body allows users to charge most phones or tablets.

**Juniper: Flutes Lighting System**

juniper-design.com

This modular lighting system features extrusions that can be combined to form pendants, chandeliers, and wall-mounted arrangements. Clients can also create bespoke installations to be used in any space.

**LightArt: Acoustic Shade Fixture**

lightart.com

With a solid-state LED system and a double layer of material that maximizes the acoustic value of the fixture, this is an ideal piece for offices or schools. Available in five standard sizes.



Pablo Designs: Bola Sphere Table Light
pablodesigns.com

This striking light fuses an opal glass sphere with a mirrored disc base, to create the illusion of a floating orb. Available in three globe sizes and three base finishes.



Kettal: Half Dome Lamp
kettal.com

Designed by Naoto Fukasawa, the shape and illumination from this new lamp by Kettal calls to mind the moon in the night sky. Available in two versions and 34 aluminum colors.



PELLE: Be Patient Pendant
pelledesigns.com

Spanning six feet in length, this polished aluminum pendant has an impressive scale. The wiring of the light source is hidden within the main structure to assimilate a diffused, upward light.



ANP Lighting: D616 Deep Bowl Shade Fixture
anplighting.com

This fixture from ANP Lighting has a modern industrial look that complements a range of hospitality settings. With a dimmable LED, the light is shown here with a raw copper color finish.



Workstead: Block Sconce
workstead.com

From the Archetype collection, this sconce emits a delicate light and incorporates a sequence of interlocking Cubist forms. Ideal as an accent light, this piece is available in three finishes.



Foscarini: Beep Wall Lamp
foscarini.com

This lamp from Foscarini projects soft light that reflects on the wall and ceiling. Beep rotates by 360 degrees on its base, permitting adjustment of the direction and quantity of light.



Fermob: Mini Balad Lamp
fermobusa.com

This mini lamp from Fermob was made exclusively for the contract market, ideal for outdoor hospitality settings. The light is rechargeable so it's easy to transport, and has three color temperatures.



Teknion: Complements Desk Lamp
teknion.com

This lamp's integrated LED light source has a 50,000-hour lifespan, and it can be operated quickly with a touch to any part of the base and stem. Available in two base styles.

contract

MATRIX

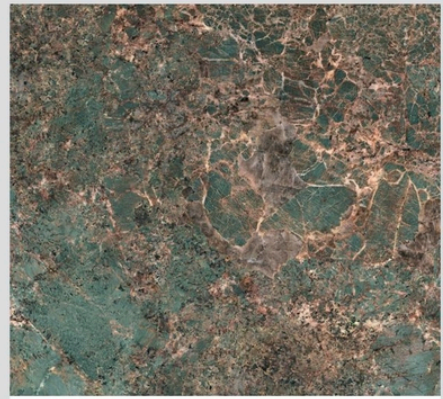
Tile & Stone Preview

Manufacturers from Ceramics of Italy, Tile Council of North America, Tile of Spain, and others are developing tile and stone that offer durability, versatility, and style, with new additions featuring mixed color palettes, natural-wood looks, and large-scale patterns. Here are our top picks from Cersaie 2019 in Bologna, Italy, and Cevisama 2020 in Valencia, Spain—in addition to a preview of selections set to debut at Coverings 2020, April 20–23, in New Orleans.



Atlas Concorde: Blaze Floor Tiles
atlasconcorde.com

Inspired by oxidized metal, Blaze features an iridescent finish that gives the illusion of rust. The porcelain floor tiles come in three colors: Aluminum, Iron, and Corten.



Fiandre: Maximum Marmi Collection
irisceramicagroup.com

Fiandre, part of the Iris Ceramica Group, debuts new colors and finishes in the Maximum Marmi porcelain collection: Agata, Amazonite (shown), White Beauty, Grey Beauty, Calacatta Bellissimo, Arabescato Orobianco, and Rock Salt.



Realonda: Hex Nouveau Tiles
en.realonda.com

The mix of bright colors and a hexagonal format characterize this ceramic design, part of Realonda's Ceramic Jewelry Collection. Available in floor and wall tile options, it can be used for indoor or outdoor applications.



Mirage: Lemmy Collection
mirage.it

Lemmy's brushed surface gleams like oxidized metal, revealing scratches and imperfections that mark the passage of time. The collection includes six neutral colors and three contemporary shades.



Alaplana: Tapiso Wall Tiles
nuevaalaplana.es

Offering a clean, chic natural-wood look, these slatted wall tiles—part of Alaplana's Woods collection—are available in three colors: natural, beige, and gray.



Refin: Fornace Floor Tiles
refin-ceramic-tiles.com

Suitable for commercial use in restaurants, hotels, offices, and more, these porcelain floor tiles offer a modern twist on the ancient tradition of terra-cotta, with large-format sizes and a trendy color palette.



Caesar: Anima Ever Porcelain Stoneware
caesar.it

A modern interpretation of marble, this porcelain stoneware is available in six effects—Invisible Light, Luxury Arabesque, Apuan Gold, Supreme White, Sage Green, and Royal Onyx—two thicknesses, and six formats.



Emilceramica: Dimore Porcelain Tile
emilgroup.it

This porcelain tile collection features the natural warmth, veins, and knots of hardwood enhanced by a set of eight geometric decors: Cubo, Diamante, Enigma, Foglie, Petali, Riflesso, Riquadro, and Ventaglio.



Del Conca: Timeline Collection
delconca.com

This cement-look porcelain tile includes soft and neutral colors, providing a minimalist backdrop for interior and exterior spaces. A decor option, Seventy-Nine merges the effects of an Italian fresco painting with those of a carpet.



Baldocer: Titanium Tiles
baldocer.com

Baldocer's Titanium offers a modern marble look in two colorways—Titanium Black Pulido and Titanium White Pulido—and four format options.



Azulev: Tanzania Tiles
azulevgrupo.com

Evoking the energy and strength of tropical woods, Tanzania includes wall tile, SlimRect, and porcelain wall and floor tile formats that offer grain variability capable of adapting to any interior or exterior space.



Marca Corona: Paprika Collection
marcacorona.it

Featuring six colors and four geometric effects, this cement-look collection boasts expressive graphics and striking combinations inspired by the Memphis style—a radical design movement that swept through Milan in the 1980s.



Cerámica Vilar Álbano: Biselado Tiles
ceramicavilar.com

A departure from neutral and monotone palettes of years past, Cerámica Vilar Álbano's Biselado tiles offer bold, decorative dimensions with bright color options like Fuego, Oasis, and Aqua Blue.



Sant'Agostino: Akoya Porcelain Stoneware
ceramicasantagostino.it

Capturing the beauty of akoya pearls, these tiles can be installed on floors and walls in commercial interiors and feature a polished Krystal finish that gives the porcelain a luxurious shine.



Colorker: Mistery Tiles
colorker.com

With Mistery, Colorker adds a Marquina black to its range of polished items. The white details contrast with the black base, creating a unique piece with a strong personality.

contract

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Decocer: Arnold Wall Tiles
decocer.com

Decocer's Arnold ceramic tiles provide a glossy, decorative dimension and a fun color palette offering a playful twist on classic subway tile.



Emotion Ceramics: New Metal Porcelain Tile
emotionceramics.es

Evoking sophistication and creativity, New Metal is a porcelain tile available in oxide (shown), pearl, and gray, with a glossy effect.



Cevica: Chintz Tiles
cevica.es

Inspired by chintz—a patterned fabric imported from India and popular in England and France in the 17th century—this floor and wall tile collection consists of eight solid colors and eight decors.



Wide & Style ABK: Capsule Collections
abk.it

Wide & Style ABK introduces four capsule collections—Brera, Art Shapes, Rainbow, and Nuovi Mondi—exploring the endless possibilities of digital printing, featuring bright colors, geometric shapes, and photo-realistic graphics.



Azteca: Bay Collection
azteca.es

Inspired by authentic Azul Bahia marble from Brazil, this collection consists of three colors—blue, which represents the marble as it is found in nature, as well as silver and gray neutrals—each with a subtle shine effect.



American Olean: Rochester Collection
americanolean.com

A blend of two popular natural stones, limestone and pulpis marble, the Rochester collection features chiseled edges for an authentic look and three versatile color choices: white, gray, and beige.



Marazzi: Artezen Tiles
marazziusa.com

Artezen was inspired by handmade ceramics with its undulating surface and translucent glaze. It is available in three neutral colors and two geometric shapes—Hex and Picket—as well as more traditional mosaic shapes.



Ceramica Fioranese: Sound of Marbles Collection
fioranese.it

Created in partnership with Modenese design studio Neropaco, Sound of Marbles is available in two decor options—FioMood Nero and FioMood Verde—each featuring six different patterns.



Crossville: Cursive Porcelain Wall Tile Collection
crossvilleinc.com

This unique product line is notable for its range of eclectic shapes—including rectangles, squares, triangles, circles, and demilunes—and nine adventurous color options, each featuring a watercolor effect.



Peronda: FS Blume Tiles
peronda.com

A collaboration with designer and interior architect Francisco Segarra, this floral-inspired collection is available in four colors: black, blue, sage, and white.



Metropolitan Ceramics: METRO Pavers
metroceramics.com

METRO Pavers are engineered to withstand heavy traffic and industrial applications like brewing and food processing. They are slip-resistant and can withstand extreme temperatures, spills, and impact.



Vitacer: Forge
vitaceres.com

Vitacer's Forge offers a concrete and stone-look tile that enriches environments with a chic aesthetic while opening the door to endless unique style options.



Portobello America: Krea Deep Sea Wall Tile
portobelloamerica.com

Part of the Tile Council of North America, Portobello America offers Krea Deep Sea, a simple, opaque wall tile. The flat and textured fields offered in a mix of hues, tones, and moods allow combinations for all environments.



Interceramic USA: Cortina Rectified Floor Tiles
interceramicusa.com

Part of the Tile Council of North America, Interceramic USA offers on-trend geometric floor tiles, like those in the Cortina Rectified series, allowing for more interesting layouts than simple grids and running bonds.



Island Stone: Patina Glass Tile Collection
islandstone.com

This collection radiates old-world beauty with a modern subway tile format in a color palette that ranges from neutral to blue and includes a spectrum of reflection, from a subtle glow to a dark mirror.



Del Conca USA: Onice Fantastico Porcelain Stoneware
delconca.com

Part of the Tile Council of North America, Del Conca offers traditional-inspired ceramic materials, such as this emulated marble, that have been modernized to adapt to today's contemporary styles.



Lunada Bay Tile: Graphite Ceramic Tiles
lunadabaytile.com

A new ceramic tile series, Graphite, features the company's Black Iron with Aggregate finish that evokes the look of charcoal pencil, adding a sense of grounding to a space.

contract

DESIGNERS SELECT

Creating Community

Designers share their go-to products for amenity spaces

Charlton Hutton



Associate Director of Design
M Moser Associates
New York

COR: Cordia Lounge Chair

cor.de



"In terms of quality and comfort, nothing is better. I love this chair; I can say that 10 times. The material is high-quality, durable, and it's a chair I can do work in but also curl up and take a nap in."

Blå Station: BOB

blastation.com



"I love this piece not only because it's modular and can transform from a sofa to a serpentine element, but also because it can be subdivided into myriad different settings. One of the best modular designs I've ever seen, complete with power, work surfaces, and great finish options. The furniture options can make this fun and playful, but also sophisticated."

Naava: Green Walls

naava.io



"As we are seeing a demand for biophilic design, this wall unit allows us to bring in greenery that is self-sufficient (caretakers come with the walls!). The Naava walls provide additional work space (you can have a writable surface on one side), are movable (the walls come on casters), and are soil free (so no bugs!)."

Kimberley O'Dowd, AIA, LEED AP



Director of Projects
Blitz
San Francisco

Bevi: Water Dispenser

bevi.co



"The footprint and clean lines of Bevi make it easy to integrate into any size pantry. It has multiple options and is fun to use and customize. The bonus is the environmental savings of plastic bottles and single-use drinks."

Muuto: Outline Highback Work

muuto.com



"I love a library space, but it can be challenging if you can't really focus. The Muuto Outline Highback Work lets you really focus on a task with the semiprivate sides, while the integrated plug option can provide light and charging. Plus, I have a penchant for sitting cross-legged and you can comfortably do that in this chair."

Ketra: S38 Lamp

ketra.com



"Lighting is such an important element in a space and can influence the mood and well-being of the inhabitants. Tying in circadian lighting patterns has a positive effect on staff wellness. Being able to tune lighting for a task's specific function makes a huge difference to the space performance. Plus, the ability to set the lights to 'party' mode is everyone's favorite way of transforming an all-hands area from lunch to happy hour."

Barbara Parker



Co-Founder
Parker-Torres Design
Boston

Boss Design: Cocoon Seat

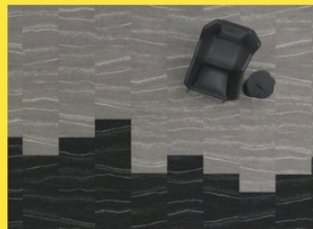
bossdesign.com



"The all-encompassing, freestanding Cocoon seat provides power outlets for guest connectivity, foam to help reduce ambient noise, and a high back and sides for visual privacy within larger office settings. They provide a comfortable, intimate seating group that allows for privacy while remaining open enough to invite collaboration and socializing. They are also easily customizable with different configurations, providing options for integrated power and media."

Shaw Contract: Noble Materials Collection

shawcontract.com



"Shaw's carpet tile has varying patterns that coordinate, with subtle changes that allow for more interest while threading the same design intent throughout. Carpet tile is easily replaced as needed, which is ideal for high-traffic office environments."

Mockett: Levity Tasklamp

mockett.com



"The cool Mockett Levity Tasklamp is a hidden element that discreetly provides USB/power elements to these tables. The lamp's sleek and low profile combines great functionality with a sophisticated aesthetic."

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ARA LAMP BY RODOLFO AGRELLA | PHOTO: IKON PRODUCTIONS | AD: FORCEMAJEURE

EXHIBITION

ahead of her time

Bard Graduate Center highlights Eileen Gray, one of the few women to practice architecture and design professionally before World War II.

Eileen Gray (right) designed Boudoir de Monte Carlo, shown at the 14th Salon des Artistes Décorateurs (far right). The Coiffeuse aluminium et liège, or dressing cabinet in aluminum and cork (below left), and the Fauteuil Bibendum, or Bibendum chair (below middle), are two of her recognizable designs. Designed in 1923, the floor lamp (below right) is crafted of lacquer, wood, and a painted parchment shade.



Opening Feb. 29, 2020, in collaboration with Centre National d'Art et du Culture Georges Pompidou, Bard Graduate Center in New York will present the first in-depth exhibition in the United States on the work of modernist architect and designer Eileen Gray (1878–1976). Featuring nearly 200 works, some of which have never been publicly exhibited, as well as new research exploring Gray's career as not just an architect and designer but also a painter and photographer, the exhibition represents one of the most thorough depictions of her life to date.

"Eileen Gray was one of the most prolific, versatile, and innovative designers of the 20th century," says Nina Stritzler-Levine, gallery director and director of curatorial affairs at Bard Graduate Center. "A polymath of great skill, she worked across disciplines seemingly with considerable ease. Gray was an artist,

artisan, designer, architect, businesswoman, and gallerist. Today, when women are increasingly recognized for contributing to these fields, it is important to recognize this woman pioneer for the totality of her contributions."

The Eileen Gray exhibition is organized into five different thematic sections that mark critical stages of her career. "The Early Years" utilizes a range of photographs, documents, and texts to explain her early life and schooling in London, her transition to Paris, and her multifaceted career. Moving into "Galerie Jean Désert, Paris," the exhibition focuses on Gray's time owning Galerie Jean Désert (a male pseudonym due to the fact that it was unacceptable for a woman to be the proprietor of this type of establishment at the time) in Paris, during which she completed many of her most important interiors.

Shifting into "Collaboration with Jean Badovici," we explore her time collaborating with the French-Romanian architect Jean Badovici, who was her partner in advancing modern architecture. "Villa E-1027 (1926–29)" is dedicated solely to her iconic E-1027 villa, which is depicted through photographs, film, a model, and original rugs and lighting. And the final section, "Architectural and Interior Projects," traces the trajectory of her architectural practice through projects including Tempe à Pailla (1931–34), the Camping Tent (1931), the Parisian interiors of her apartment on rue Bonaparte (1930), and others.

While well-known for E-1027, Gray is generally not recognized for the full scope of her work. This show will give an expansive look at her life and projects, including her painting and photography, which were generally private practices for the designer. The exhibition catalog will include 47 different entries about architecture, including her residential work, urban projects, social architecture, and exhibition architecture. It will also feature 43 of her photographs of a range of subjects, from industrial buildings to landscapes.

"I hope the exhibition will make people think about what it means to design for the needs of all people," Stritzler-Levine says. "Early in her career, Gray designed for the luxury market. By the end of the 1920s, she had developed a design conscience. She was interested in responding to the issues of minimal housing and developing more flexible domestic spaces. I hope visitors will feel inspired to think about and try to solve the enormous societal needs and challenges of today. Gray might not immediately come to mind when we think of the issues prevalent in contemporary design discourse, but few women of her generation accomplished as much as she did." —MEGHAN DWYER

PHOTOGRAPHY: BEERANCE ABBOTT (PORTRAIT); CENTRE POMPIDOU, MNAM-CCI, DIET, INNH-OP, JEAN-CLAUDE PLANCHET (CABINET); CHRISTIAN BARAJA, VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, KATHERINE WETZEL (LIGHT)



Mohawk Group

[GO.MOHAWKGROUP.COM/OWLSCOLLECTION](https://www.mohawkgroup.com/owlscollection)

Designed by Jason F. McLennan in collaboration with Mohawk Group, the Owls Collection captures the exquisite essence of these North American birds of prey through color and patterning. The Living Product carpet plank system is manufactured at Mohawk Group's Living Site facility in Glasgow, Virginia.

Product Shown: Feather | 947 Snowy, Flight | 947 Snowy

WOOL STRUCTURE

