

# designingways

ISSUE 284

WINDOW TREATMENTS

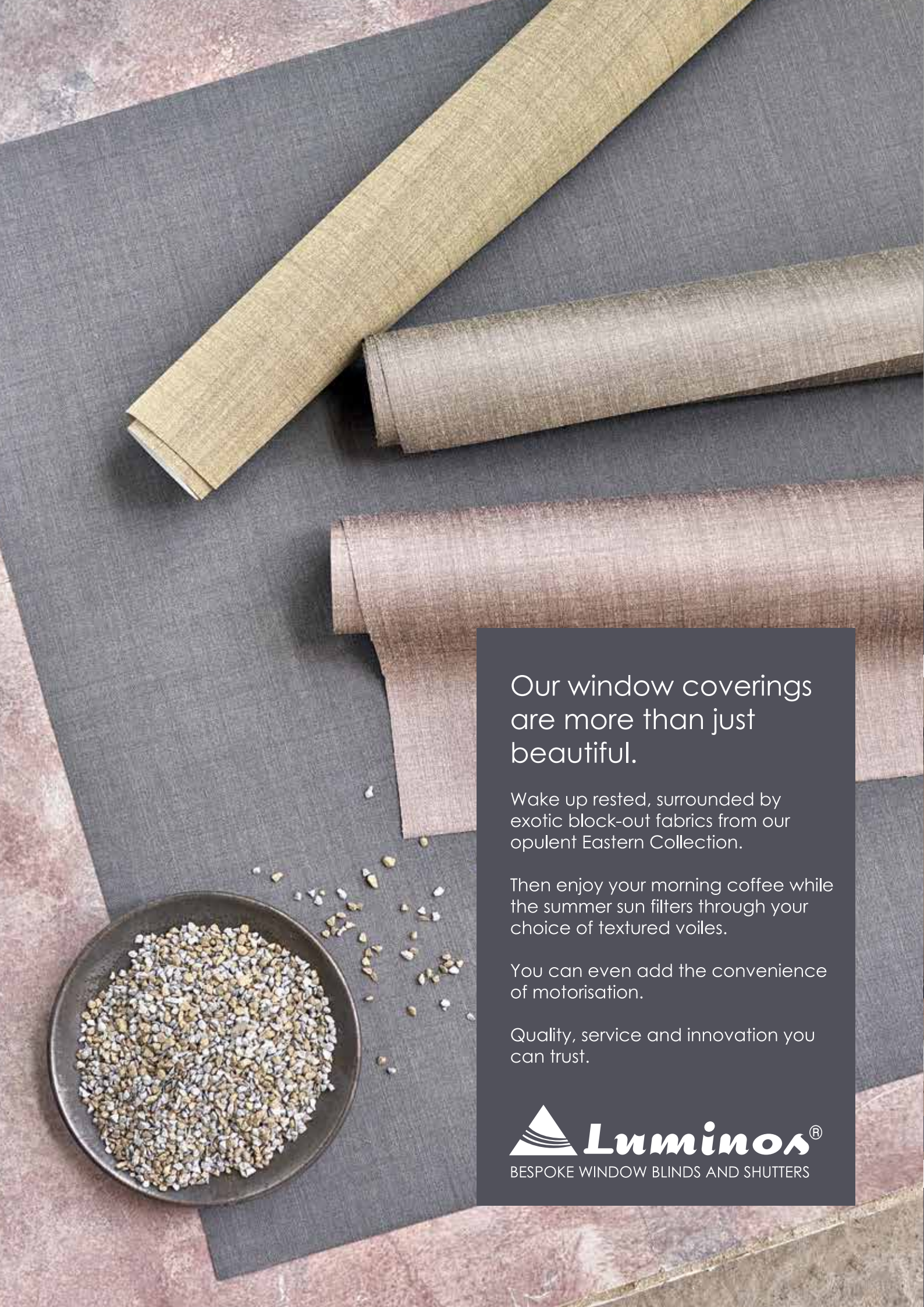
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## New dynamic duo to direct Africa's biggest design and décor show

The brilliant minds of Alan Hayward and Garreth van Niekerk will catapult Decorex Africa, the continent's most significant design and décor show, to even greater prominence in 2025. Sharing a vision for showcasing the continent's design innovation, they have been announced by show organisers RX Africa as the joint new Executive Creative Directors of Decorex Cape Town and Joburg, from 5 to 8 June and 24 to 27 July 2025 respectively.

Hayward and Van Niekerk's approach is rooted in spotlighting the creative ingenuity of the continent through immersive exhibitions, international partnerships and inspiring collaborations that connect African talent to global audiences and South Africa's powerful industry players. With this proactive and connected pair at the helm, Decorex Africa 2025 is poised to become not only a showcase of African talent but a transformative hub for design innovation, collaboration and inspiration for the future.

Says RX Africa's Managing Director, Carol Weaving, 'Garreth and Alan are bringing fresh vision and energy to our team, setting the stage for an incredible year in 2025.'



As for their event plans, Van Niekerk states: 'We don't want to give away too much too soon, but visitors to both shows can expect all-new African Design pavilions and exhibitions, gathering top-tier works from around the world in curated "Best Of's" that are about creating spaces that foster cross-continental dialogue. We're also looking toward virtual spaces that consider the interiors of the online worlds we occupy, capturing the ever-evolving influence of digital art and design and how they influence our in-real-life experience. New literary, cultural and horticultural programming that emphasises how sustainable design practices are redefining our relationship with nature will also be a highlight of our plans for the new shows.'

In the latter half of 2024, Hayward and Van Niekerk travelled the continent for Capitec handmadeAFRICA, their latest project which has its next pop-up in Johannesburg from 29 to 30 November 2024. They experienced the extraordinary emergence of a new wave of African designers, and their aim is to locate Decorex Africa within this context.


'We were able to engage with designers who are reinvigorating the global design conversation with work that is fresh, fun and fabulous. So for Decorex Africa 2025 we want to bring some of that to local audiences, who are hungry for fresh ideas and perspectives from Africa in how they imagine their spaces and find inspiration,' says Hayward.

'With our work founding multi-brand collective retailer Always Welcome and working closely with so many of South Africa's leading designers over many years, we also want to find ways to reconnect design disciplines at Decorex,

blurring the lines of what design can be. This can recapture the powerful narrative of design as a cultural bridge that explores and elevates African craftsmanship.'

Hayward co-founded Always Welcome with Van Niekerk, and leverages his creative insight and business acumen as Marketing and Programmes Director of the Inside Out Centre for the Arts in Johannesburg and Lead Buyer and Operations Director for Capitec handmadeAFRICA. With a background in economics, politics, and a SAMA-nominated music career, he brings a dynamic, multi-faceted approach to Decorex Africa.

Van Niekerk has been named one of GQ's 'Creatives to Watch' and described by the Sunday Times as a 'creative force'. He is a retailer, best-selling author and award-winning curator with an extensive background in journalism at publications like Mail & Guardian, City Press, House and Leisure and several others. As Creative Director of Capitec handmadeAFRICA, his efforts have brought the work of hundreds of designers across the continent into the homes of local and global audiences, blending established icons with emerging talents in immersive online spaces, and tactile physical shopping and exhibition experiences.

Van Niekerk and Hayward's expertise across design, art and commerce sets out to celebrate African creativity on an international stage, connecting it with diverse audiences and celebrating its role as a driver of contemporary design innovation. Without a doubt, Decorex Africa 2025 is going to be stellar. 

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## Flourish by Caron

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and Elegance

**F**lourish by Caron is a luxury design studio founded by local artist and teacher, Caron Andrews, whose collections blend sophisticated design with a personal, heartfelt touch. The studio offers a variety of homeware and gifting products, from elegant textile items to stationery, all created using Caron's original watercolour artwork and design. All her products are produced locally, using sustainable materials.

At the heart of Flourish by Caron is the Origins Collection, a line inspired by Caron's own family roots and created as a tribute to her grandparents. "This collection is more than just a beautiful assortment of items; it is the embodiment of 'roots and wings' and a celebration of tradition, family, and the bonds that connect generations." This collection features the African Hoopoe and the vibrant Coral Tree, creating items that feel both timeless and personal, and an aesthetic that is unique and bold.

Now on display at the Zorora showroom, the Origins Collection scatter cushions highlight the elegance and

intention behind Caron's designs. The rich and vibrant tones bringing a grounded sense of warmth and familiarity, making each cushion a conversation piece.

Flourish by Caron also offers a wider range of other unique collections, each crafted from personal experience and passion to tell a story. These collections include: the Garden Collection, the Beach House Collection and the Harvest Collection, all celebrating the abundant

variety and beauty that we find in nature.

For those seeking functional art with a personal connection, Flourish by Caron offers more than just products – it brings beauty into our world which can be used practically in our daily lives.

Visit [flourishbycaron.com](http://flourishbycaron.com) to explore the full Origins Collection and other unique gifting and homeware options. [dw](#)

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## Stienie Greyling from Designing Ways magazine interviewed Bryan Dillon, Lead Designer, ZORORA SOFAS.

**B**ryan Dillon, Lead Design Engineer at Zorora, has spent the past three years passionately steering the company's design vision. With a commitment to quality and innovation, Bryan has been a driving force behind Zorora's signature blend of style, comfort, and artistry, infusing each piece with a distinctive presence. His work embodies Zorora's dedication to sustainability and ethical sourcing, leading a team that crafts timeless, beautifully made pieces that transform any space. Bryan's role has not only cemented Zorora's reputation but also fuels the brand's continuous journey of creative expression and growth.

**Q1: Can you tell Designing Ways readers a bit more about your products, what makes them exceptional and different.**

At Zorora, our sofas embody a seamless blend of meticulous craftsmanship, premium materials, and thoughtful design, setting them apart in the landscape of modern furniture. We aim not only to create visually stunning pieces but also to design sofas that enhance everyday living with exceptional comfort, durability, and a touch of local artistry. Every sofa is crafted locally, allowing us to maintain high quality throughout every step of the process, support local industry, and use locally sourced materials.

What truly sets our products apart is this union of quality and accessibility. We strive to make luxury-level furniture more attainable, offering beautifully crafted, resilient sofas at an accessible

price. Our designs focus on clean, contemporary lines, ensuring each piece complements a variety of spaces—whether it's a cosy living room or an elegant office lounge. This versatility is at the heart of Zorora Connect, our initiative to collaborate directly with designers, architects, and business partners. Through Zorora Connect, we provide custom options that meet their distinct needs, crafting pieces that feel both bespoke and within reach.

**Q2: What will you never compromise on with your business.**

At Zorora, we hold fast to three core commitments: our people, the planet, and ethical standards. We have immense respect for our skilled team, who bring our designs to life. Their expertise is the heart of our products, and we prioritise their well-being and growth. Equally important is our dedication to environmental responsibility. We strive to reduce our footprint through sustainable practices, careful material selection, and minimising waste. Lastly, we draw a firm line when it comes to animal welfare. Cruelty has no place in our supply chain, and we're committed to ensuring that our materials are ethically sourced. These values shape every decision we make, and we believe that quality, beauty, and sustainability can - and should - coexist in every product we create.

**Q3: How is your company addressing sustainability.**



At Zorora, sustainability is more than a goal - it's our responsibility," says Bryan Dillon. "Every piece we create respects the planet, from eco-friendly materials to ethical production". Sustainability is at the core of Zorora's values. We carefully select eco-friendly materials, prioritise local sourcing, and actively work to reduce waste across our processes. By keeping production local, we lower our carbon footprint while supporting the community. Our commitment also extends to animal welfare, ensuring no cruelty is involved in our supply chain. Through these measures, we're creating furniture that doesn't just look good but also respects the planet and ethical standards.

**Q4: What do you find the most interesting aspect of the business.**

One of the most fascinating aspects of our business is seeing beautiful products evolve from concept to reality. Each sofa starts as an idea and, through the skill of our team, becomes a piece that enhances people's spaces. Working closely with designers, especially through Zorora



Connect, is incredibly rewarding as we bring their unique visions to life. This bespoke offering allows us to explore new design possibilities and build partnerships that make every project distinctive, adding fresh layers of creativity to our work.

**Q5: Which product is your favourite of all the products that your company manufactures?**

The Mea family of sofas is definitely my favourite. With its solid wood base and unmatched comfort, it embodies the best of Zorora's design philosophy. The Mea four-seater or Loveseat paired with

a matching Ottoman is truly iconic, showcasing the quality craftsmanship and style we're proud of. It is the perfect balance of elegance and relaxation, offering a piece that is as functional as it is beautiful. The Mea collection represents what we strive for at Zorora: exceptional design, comfort, and timeless appeal.

**Q6: Where do you get your inspiration from.**

At Zorora, inspiration is born from a fusion of in-house creativity and dynamic collaborations with the design community. Our design process is a thoughtful journey, one that explores both local artistry and

global aesthetics, capturing the essence of emerging trends to infuse fresh ideas into our collections. We believe in staying at the forefront by understanding the nuances of international style while preserving our distinctive local identity. Partnering with designers and industry leaders is integral to our ethos; their insights shape exclusive and open-edition pieces that resonate with their creative vision. This harmony of internal innovation and collaborative design gives Zorora's collections a refined distinction, ensuring they remain responsive to the ever-evolving design landscape.

dw

[www.zororasofas.co.za](http://www.zororasofas.co.za)





## IID Business Feature:

### Introducing the Kim Williams Design Studio

Top Interior designer Kim Williams has long been celebrated for her unique approach which blends creativity, behavioural insights, and design strategies. Recently, the Cape Town-based designer took a bold step forward by opening her first showroom, Kim Williams Designs. We spoke with her about how this move has expanded her business and opened up new opportunities for her brand.

#### Creating an immersive space

For Kim, opening a showroom is more than just a business expansion; it reflects her mission to shape how people experience spaces and positively impact lives. It's a space that invites clients to engage in the design process, deepening their understanding of art and design while enriching their lives. "I wanted to create a place where clients could not only see our work but fully experience it

- immersing themselves in the textures, colours, and forms of our rich heritage," says Kim Williams.

The new showroom allows visitors to interact with every element of her creations, whether it is the bespoke furniture, artisanal lighting, or the much-anticipated Rakgadi Interior Range - a collaboration with renowned designer Jessica Jane. The space allows clients to envision how the pieces, from luxurious cushions to soon - to - be - released wallpapers, can come together to tell a story in their own home - one that blends culture and contemporary design.

#### Boosting business through personal connection

By offering a visually stimulating, personal experience, Kim has attracted a wider audience and gained the loyalty of existing clients.

The personal connection created in the showroom has major benefits, with clients engaging with the work on a more intimate level. "We've seen how the showroom has allowed our clients to better understand our vision, and this engagement not only strengthens our relationships but also builds trust in the brand," she adds.

When clients walk through the studio doors, they are greeted with a curated space that speaks to the Kim Williams commitment to quality, attention to detail, and passion for storytelling through



design. By experiencing the collection in person, clients can more easily envision how these items will transform their own spaces, making the decision to invest in bespoke designs a more seamless one.

#### A hub for celebrating South African craftsmanship

The physical presence of a studio has also opened new avenues for partnerships and collaborations, further solidifying Kim's position in the design world. The space is more than just a gallery; it is a destination for design enthusiasts - a place where people come to be inspired, connect, learn and celebrate South African talent.

The expansion is a testament to the incredible skill of local artisans, many of whom contribute to the Rakgadi Interior Range and other bespoke items on display. This commitment to supporting local artisans adds an extra layer of meaning to the showroom.

*"Clients aren't just purchasing luxury furniture and décor; they're investing in the preservation of South African heritage and craftsmanship, and for me this is one of the most rewarding aspects of having a physical space. It allows us to shine a spotlight on the artisans who help bring my designs to life, providing a platform where their talent can be celebrated," she explains.*

The showroom has set her apart from competitors, giving her business a tangible edge in an industry where the physical connection to design often gets

lost in the digital age. As Kim looks to the future, she's excited about the potential the showroom holds for both her brand and the community. "I can't wait to see how this space will grow and evolve as new design themes and talent emerge," she concludes.

The Kim Williams Design Showroom is located at 10 Bella Rosa Street, Highstreet, Tygervally, Durbanville. Trading hours are Mondays to Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Experience the transformative power of mindful design. To make an appointment contact the showroom on +27 (0) 21 903 2423.

Kim Williams Design Studio partners include over 40 curated collaborations formed over the last twenty years:

Woodbenders, Robin Sprong Custom Wall Coverings, Studio Masson, Molebatsi by Jessica Jane, Willowlamp

Lighting, Wunders, Max on Top, Entrawood Office Furniture, Blum, PG Bison, Stonehenge. Phoenix Signage, Good Wood Guys, Renouve Studio, Flow Bathrooms, Locks and Levers, Lights by Linea, K Light, Cement Mixx, Airloom, Plasterter, Lunawood, Cosentino SA, Rubio Monocoat, Midas Paintsmiths, Vogue Doors, Hertex, Home Fabrics, Stuart Graham Fabrics, Loomcraft Fabrics, The Linen Drawer, Silkhouse, Cedarbrook, U & G Fabrics, Eshanima Fabrics, Lunawood, Coote & Wench Lighting, Geberit, Blutide, Hans Grohe, Franke, Tableview Glass and Aluminium, Wireworks, Global Stream Flooring including: COMA, Numi, Bonsai.

For more information, please visit [www.kimwilliams.co.za](http://www.kimwilliams.co.za) or email [admin@kimwilliams.co.za](mailto:admin@kimwilliams.co.za). dw

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- Free Marketing. Share content in our newsletter: Fridays for the following week's Social Media platforms, 15th of the month for the following month's content. Contact [national@iidprofessions.org.za](mailto:national@iidprofessions.org.za) for more information.
- IID Events and Networking. Great opportunity for you to stay visible, exchange ideas and rub shoulders with some of the leaders in the profession.

- Discounted Rates for Design Shows and Workshops, and Relationships with media partners with International presence. The IID is a member of Ico-D (The International Council of Design) which enables the IID to act as a formal contact point between the South African Interior Design Professions and the international design community.
- SAQA & CPD Points. All IID professional members must also engage in continuing professional development (CPD). The purpose of CPD is to ensure professional members maintain the highest possible standards of practice through their commitment to continued learning.
- Being recognised by SAQA means the IID has recognition as a trusted professional body through an Act of Parliament, part of a National database of professional bodies that uphold high standards of competence and ethics, registration of professional designations on the most comprehensive National database of learner achievements, and exposure to best practice through access to fora that improve the functions of professional bodies.



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## KSA update, November 2024.

**A**t the recent KSA Cape Town industry showcase we had the honour of presenting a collaborative CPD talk between the KSA, IID and SACAP. The talk was in the form of a panel discussion and highlighted the issues of disputes and conflict resolution between the build environment players. The panel was facilitated by Stephanie Forbes, National Manager of the KSA. Speaking on behalf of interior design professionals was Temi Stallings, and on behalf of architectural professionals, Enrica van der Linden.

The premise of the talk was that as industry players in the built environment, the sub-contractor, interior designer and architect have lost the ability to work together with synergy and respect for one another's skillsets and professionalism. The advent of COVID exacerbated this. How do we return to a space of mutual respect and cooperation to ensure the completion of successful projects where all parties get paid.

We started looking at the main frustrations experienced by the sub-contractor. We focused specifically on the kitchens and cabinetry sub-contractor. Key to this was the JBCC contract, the pressure it puts on small businesses financially with the requirements for guarantees, the lack of deposits and final retentions. Key also was the amount of administrative micromanaging needed to ensure contractual compliance, and the special terms of contract often imposed by the main contractor that negate any protection the contract gives the sub-contractor.

The second major concern was about materials and how materials are often misspecified to be applied outside their acceptable tolerances. Lack of knowledge about material specifications and industry best practice often leads to misunderstandings and unrealistic expectations on site. The use of terms like 'like or similar' in tenders and contracts was also highlighted as it often ended with inferior materials being used versus what was specified leading to poorer quality goods and finishes.



The final concern raised was unrealistic expectations, and how often to save money a sub-contractor is appointed on price and not ability. When the sub-contractor delivers goods to their capability and in line with the price, and then the main contractor and industry professional is not happy, but in reality, they have received what they paid for and what that company is capable of delivering. The unrealistic expectations also apply to installation timelines. When sites are running behind it is often requested that the kitchen be installed when the site is still wet or when there are still many other contractors on site. This inevitably compromises the goods and leads to damage for which the subby is held accountable.

Enrica then highlighted some of the frustrations she experienced that make working as a team difficult. First of these

was the poor sharing of information. Sub-contractors with a special skillset are often reluctant to share their knowledge or techniques, which makes it hard for the architect to learn about their practices and what they need. She then spoke about the lack of client unity and how this can disrupt a site – when the various partners on site are not united and are sending different messages from one party to another. She also addressed our inability to communicate with one another, as each sector has its own on lingua franca and often this use of industry jargon can leave other parties in the dark or frustrated.

The concerns from an interior design perspective were highlighted by Temi. Her first was the fact that interior designers and bespoke item experts like kitchen manufacturers are often brought in too late in the project, and

have designs handed to them rather than the parties collaborating to ensure the very best use of materials and space, and implementation of ergonomics is applied. She also expressed frustration that subbies are often resistant to making changes once on site even if these are in the best interest of the client's needs.

We often find that there is an overlapping of skills when these three players work together. Temi felt strongly that instead of this having to lead to a power struggle of who knows best, we need to find a path of mutual respect for one another's expertise and use everyone's input come up with the best solution. Her final concern was the delivery of poor quality. That there is often a lack of attention to fine detail and cleaning when a subby hands over a site which is frustrating, and if time was taken to address these small issues, handover of a site would be a lot easier.

The team then discussed what could be done to address some of these issues to alleviate frustration from all sides and to create a better working environment and result. Pivotal was mutual respect and getting rid of ego. While there may be varying formal qualifications between the parties, this does not necessarily make one more knowledgeable than the other. Experience in the field of expertise must be listened to and collaborative work is key.

Improved communications between all parties will also help – ensuring all on site discussions, phone calls or informal WhatsApps are recorded formally on email, double checking that all instructions are understood in the same way by all parties will also ensure that misunderstandings, not understanding terminologies or lack of listening will not derail the proceedings. Sharing of documentation and being open and honest about contracts and details will also help. It was also suggested that technology like cloud-based document sharing forums should be embraced.

Clearly defining roles and responsibilities from the onset will also ensure that everyone knows where the job starts and ends, and no one will step on one another's toes.

When it comes to contracts it would be helpful if sub-contractors like

kitchen companies are appointed as nominated or direct sub-contractors. This will give them the access to the principal agent and / or client which will make communications a lot easier. Professionals were also encouraged to apply the spirit of the contract rather than the letter of the contract. While all contractors must be held to terms it may not be necessary to put them under such strain that they liquidate, and jobs are lost. Humanity and fair understanding should be applied.

When it comes to materials, professionals were encouraged to engage more with material reps and to take up offers on training from experts on materials, their application and tolerances. Better knowledge and understanding on what can and cannot be done with a material will help. They were also asked to use the term 'like or similar' with more clarity ensuring it is clear that this does not mean a material that looks similar but should be a material of comparable quality with similar tolerances and warranties.

It was also agreed that trying to make up timelines by brining on speciality items like kitchens and cabinetry before the site is ready will only lead to more delays and greater repercussions on the goods' longevity and a greater chance of damages. Sub-contractors should be empowered to decline to start work on a wet site while too many contractors still at work, risking the goods integrity.

It was also agreed that while saving money on a project is advantageous, appointing a company that is not skilled or experienced enough to complete the work then complaining they have under delivered is not constructive. Research should be done on the company's capabilities, particularly when working with high end materials to ensure their design, manufacturing and installation skills can deliver to expectations.

It was agreed that if professionals understood that on site design changes will lead to an extension of up to two weeks per change, then these can be accepted. This is because remanufacturing of items and adapting for onsite changes goes to the back of the subby's production line (they are often doing five to ten other kitchens at



the same time). Changes should be well documented and communicated, and timeline extensions communicated to all parties including the client.

Good quality control can be better ensured with regular site meetings and hands on site supervision. Appointing the right company for the job with experience and a track record will also help.

Quick and effective handing over and snagging can be achieved if the ongoing quality control is done, and if the client and professional take the time to do one comprehensive snag list instead of an ongoing line of small snags – ongoing snagging leads to more site errors. The subby must also ensure that snags get priority. The sooner the snag is corrected the sooner the job can be signed off. In doing snagging, it is vital all parties realise that kitchens and cabinetry are bespoke or special-order items in the eyes of the Consumer Protection Act, and are not covered in the same way as over the counter goods. It is also important that the client and professional know what the industry acceptable tolerances are and compare the workmanship to that of the subby's showroom, should they have one.

In summing up, the panel were in agreement that in overview the most important thing we can do to improve things between the various on-site parties is to bring back objectivity, realism, humanity and fairness. All these with good communication and an outlook of collaboration without ego will go a long way to better how we all work together and help ensure a space of equals not combatants.

[www.ksa.co.za](http://www.ksa.co.za)



## El Departamento designs 'Nude Library',

Nude Project's new  
permanent Store at  
La Roca Village

**L**a Roca Village welcomes the first permanent store of streetwear brand Nude Project, designed by architecture and interior design studio El Departamento. This new 100-square-metre space breathes both the brand's essence and the atmosphere of its privileged setting, creating an environment that explores the intersections between design, art, and community.



### A space inspired by La Roca Village's spirit

Drawing inspiration from La Roca Village's distinctive character, which evokes a late 19th and early 20th-century Catalan village, El Departamento has envisioned a space that integrates seamlessly into this vibrant environment, with its streets, main square, theatre, and commercial promenade. To complete this narrative, studio co-founders Alberto Eltini and Marina Martín have materialised what was missing: a bookstore as a new cultural landmark.

This is how 'Nude Library' was born, a space where the DJ booth reflects the brand's connection with art and music, while an imposing six-metre-high wooden bookshelf symbolises the creative and cultural inspiration that defines its identity. This central axis combines visual and material references that link architecture with culture and the creative community, reinforcing Nude Project's philosophy: "By Artists, For Artists."

### Brand community at the heart of design

El Departamento has leveraged the space's six-metre ceiling height to erect an imposing wooden bookshelf that spans the main wall and integrates a DJ booth at its centre, organically uniting the architectural structure with the brand's









artistic essence. This vertical element not only organises the space but also creates a visual impact that invites exploration and delivers an immersive experience.

To optimise the 100 square metres available, the studio has structured the space across two levels. At the rear, they designed a mezzanine for storage, creating an engaging interplay of heights that adds dynamism to the customer journey. This architectural detail, addressing both functionality and aesthetics, intensifies the store's verticality and establishes the bookshelf as the protagonist element.

Contrasting with the bookshelf's sobriety, the fitting room area features Nude Project's signature baby blue, with rounded forms and soft textures that generate a welcoming and balanced atmosphere.

'Nude Library' marks El Departamento's eighth retail project for Nude Project, joining existing spaces in Madrid, Barcelona, Lisbon, Valencia, Ibiza, Bilbao, and Milan. The creative collaboration between the studio and the brand will continue with an upcoming opening in Amsterdam, further consolidating the brand's European expansion and reaffirming a shared vision where retail and culture converge in each new space.

[www.eldepartamento.net](http://www.eldepartamento.net)



## Window Treatments





## Window Treatments

by Stienie Greyling

**T**hink of windows as a canvas. Through shapes, lines, colours, opacities, textures, movement and materials, the sky is the limit.

The window treatment trends of 2024 marry form and function seamlessly, showcasing a blend of classic elegance and cutting-edge technology. Window coverings have evolved beyond mere functionality to become fashion focal points of design schemes.

### Pantone's Colour of the Year: Peach Fuzz.

Peach Fuzz is becoming a hot commodity for blinds and curtains. This colour infuses interiors with warmth

and a fresh, uplifting vibe. This soft, inviting colour offers a modern twist on traditional design, bringing a pop of colour that's comforting and chic.

### Bold Patterns and Colours.

Bold patterns and colours in window treatments are defining for those looking to make a statement in their living space. This trend presents vibrant colours and dynamic designs, transforming blinds and curtains into focal points of any room.

Embracing bold patterns and colours allow homeowners to express their unique style and add personality to their décor. Integrating bold window treatments



is a powerful way to refresh a home's aesthetic, proving that daring choices in décor can create visually stunning and memorable environments.

### Sustainable Materials.

As environmental consciousness continues to grow, more homeowners are consciously choosing to use sustainable materials for their window treatments.

Popular materials include bamboo, hemp and organic cotton. These natural materials exude a unique charm and reduce the ecological footprint of window coverings.

### Natural Fibre Woven Shades.

Woven shades have become a go-to for design influences because of their wonderful texture and ability to coordinate with other natural materials in a room, like wood furniture and flooring. Handcrafted from organic materials like grass, reeds and bamboo, woven shades are truly the most unique window treatment on the market, offering unmatched texture at the window.

### Double Layers

The double-layered look is often seen in hotels, but can work in homes too. Double layered curtains give a space a richer, cosier feel. To add more dimension and personality to a room, mix and match patterns and colours.

Experts suggest layering a lighter, more subtle colour or print closest to a window and an older pattern and heavier-duty fabric overtop. This will allow to close both layers for ultimate light, sound and air blockage, or open just the heavier layer to let some light in while still having privacy.

### Wood Blinds and Shutters.

Wood blinds and shutters are at the forefront of this year's window treatments trends. They are celebrated for their ability to infuse interiors with warmth and a sense of natural beauty. The organic texture and rich, varied tones of wood can transform any room, whether it's the confined space of an apartment or a bigger room in a house.

Beyond their aesthetic appeal, wood blinds and shutters are gaining recognition of their sustainability. Choose products made from responsibly sourced wood that contributes to a healthier

environment and supports sustainable forestry practices. The trend of wood blinds underscores a growing desire for home décor choices that are both beautiful and environmentally conscious.

### Sheer Curtains.

In a shift away from heavy drapery, the streamlined and softer appearance of sheer window treatments is becoming popular.

Sheer curtains are versatile enough to be used in both traditional and modern settings and can be combined with heavier blinds for a layered look. Similar to café curtains, sheer drapery is an elegant way to create a sense of privacy while still filtering light through the fabric.

For 2024, various weaving adds interesting patterns to the classic sheer white curtain. Some sheer drapes and

curtains may have a secondary fabric behind for a fuller design. When it comes to roman shades, there can also be ripples, panels, or pleating for extra texture.

### Smart Home Integrations.

Embrace convenience and innovation with motorised window treatments.

Smart window treatments elevate a home's functionality. These home upgrades will add convenience, improve home energy efficiency and increase home value. Motorised window treatments are also the perfect solution for oversized or hard-to-reach windows.

Not only are motorised window treatments convenient, they are cordless, offering enhanced safety compared to traditional corded blinds and shades. They are ideal choices for households with pets and young children.





## Day & Night Blinds

### The Ultimate Guide

Our Day & Night blinds offer unparalleled functionality and style. Join the countless homeowners across South Africa who have already made the switch to Vision Blinds, Allusion Blinds, and Double Roller Blinds.

#### Understanding Day & Night Blinds: Explaining the Concept and Functionality:

Day & Night Blinds, as the name suggests, is a smart and stylish window treatment option that seamlessly transitions between two functions: providing a clear view during the day while ensuring privacy at night. This innovative design allows you to enjoy

the scenic beauty outside during daylight hours while maintaining a cosy and secure environment once darkness falls.

The mechanism behind these blinds is elegantly simple. By adjusting the blind slats or panels, either manually or through motorised controls, you can effortlessly switch between the "view" mode, where light filters through and offers an unobstructed view, and the "privacy" mode, where the blinds provide a barrier against prying eyes without compromising on style or functionality.

#### The Benefits of Day & Night Blinds: Privacy, Natural Light Control, Space, and Style

#### Investing in Day/Night Blinds brings a myriad of benefits to your home:

**Privacy:** With the ability to control the level of visibility from both inside and outside, Day & Night Blinds offer unparalleled privacy, allowing you to enjoy your personal space without compromising on natural light.

**Natural Light Control:** Say goodbye to harsh glares and excessive sunlight. These blinds empower you to regulate the amount of light entering your room, creating a comfortable and soothing ambience throughout the day.

**Space:** With two functions rolled into one product, Day & Night Blinds reduce the amount of space in your room that

your window covering absorbs. This allows you to make maximum use of your space and walls for furniture and other décor.

**Style:** Elevate the aesthetic appeal of your interiors with our range of chic and contemporary designs. Whether you prefer the sleek elegance of Vision Blinds, the ethereal beauty of Allusion Blinds, or the versatility of Double Roller Blinds, we have the perfect solution to complement your decor style.

#### Product Spotlight: Vision Blinds, Allusion Blinds, and Double Roller Blinds – Features and Design Options

##### Vision Blinds:

Vision Blinds (also known as Zebra Blinds) offer an ideal balance between style, privacy and light control in a fashionable manner and combine the functionality of traditional blinds with the aesthetic appeal of sheer fabric.

A Vision Blind features two layers of translucent and opaque horizontal striped fabric. A single control allows the front layer to move independently of the back so that the stripes glide between each other creating an open and closed effect, with limitless light control. With a wide range of fabric choices and customisable options, you can create a look that is uniquely yours.

#### Allusion Blinds:

If you are looking to create an instant impact in your home with something a little different then Allusion Blinds would be a perfect choice. Suitable for all window types, Allusion Blinds really come into their own in larger windows and folding doors where their unique flowing fabric vanes allow you to enjoy both light and privacy.

With Allusion Blinds, you can easily switch between enjoying outside views and controlling privacy and light by tilting the vanes. Plus, their standout feature allows you to walk through them even when fully drawn, adding convenience to their charm. This makes our Allusion Blinds an ideal choice for bedrooms, living rooms, and dining areas.

#### Double Roller Blinds:

Double Roller Blinds enclosed in one neat cassette system with a minimal footprint in your window reveal. Featuring two layers of fabric – one sheer and one opaque – these blinds allow you to switch between light filtering and blackout options with ease, giving you complete control over your environment.

The blinds, controlled separately, offer a screen fabric to allow daytime views and privacy and a full block-out for full night control and privacy. Versatile and practical, Double Roller Blinds offer the ultimate flexibility with one neat solution.

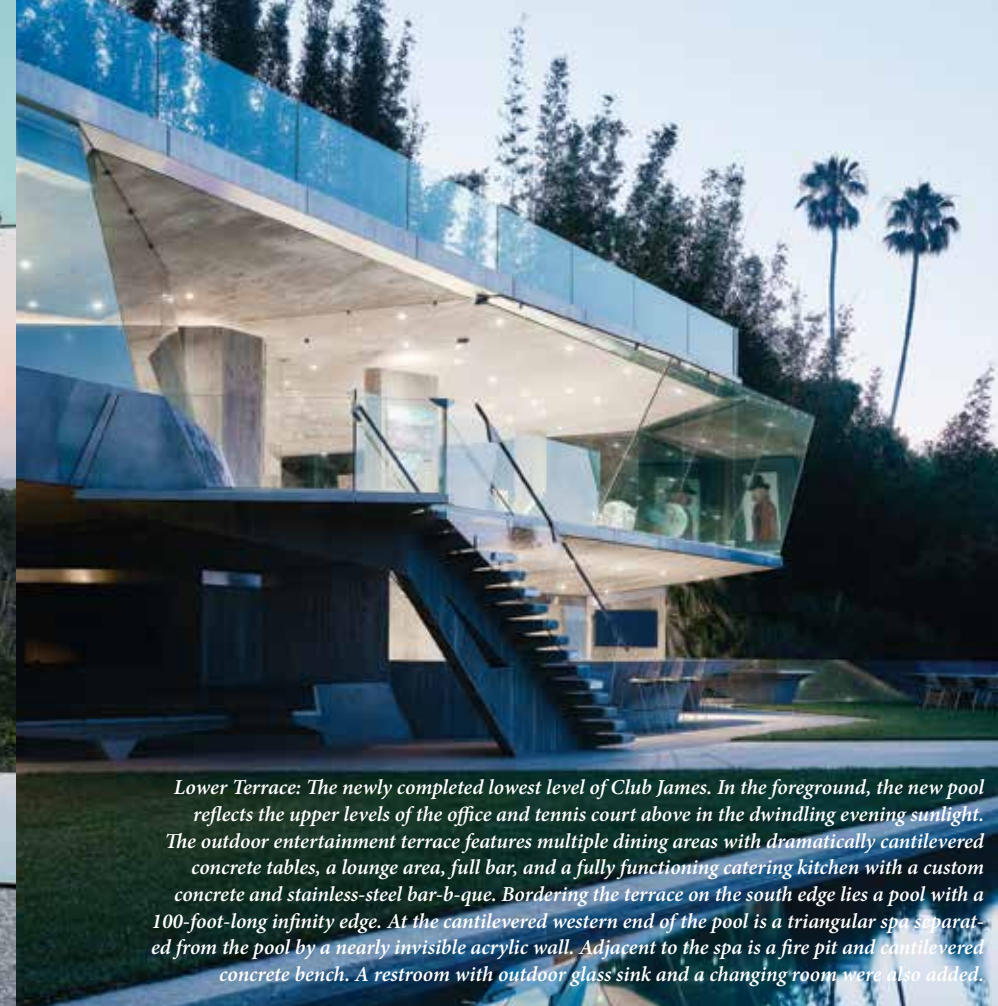
[www.blinddesigns.co.za](http://www.blinddesigns.co.za)







*Club James Office: Looking out through the canted frameless glass enclosure of Goldstein's office at dawn, the dynamic angles and minimal custom fittings create a crystalline form that pushes out into the space over the terrace and pool. Featuring the "Tetra Chair" by Jude Chaaban and Aya Elmokadam.*



*Lower Terrace: The newly completed lowest level of Club James. In the foreground, the new pool reflects the upper levels of the office and tennis court above in the dwindling evening sunlight. The outdoor entertainment terrace features multiple dining areas with dramatically cantilevered concrete tables, a lounge area, full bar, and a fully functioning catering kitchen with a custom concrete and stainless-steel bar-b-que. Bordering the terrace on the south edge lies a pool with a 100-foot-long infinity edge. At the cantilevered western end of the pool is a triangular spa separated from the pool by a nearly invisible acrylic wall. Adjacent to the spa is a fire pit and cantilevered concrete bench. A restroom with outdoor glass sink and a changing room were also added.*

## Honouring Architectural Lineage: Conner + Perry Architects Usher in a New Phase for an LA Landmark

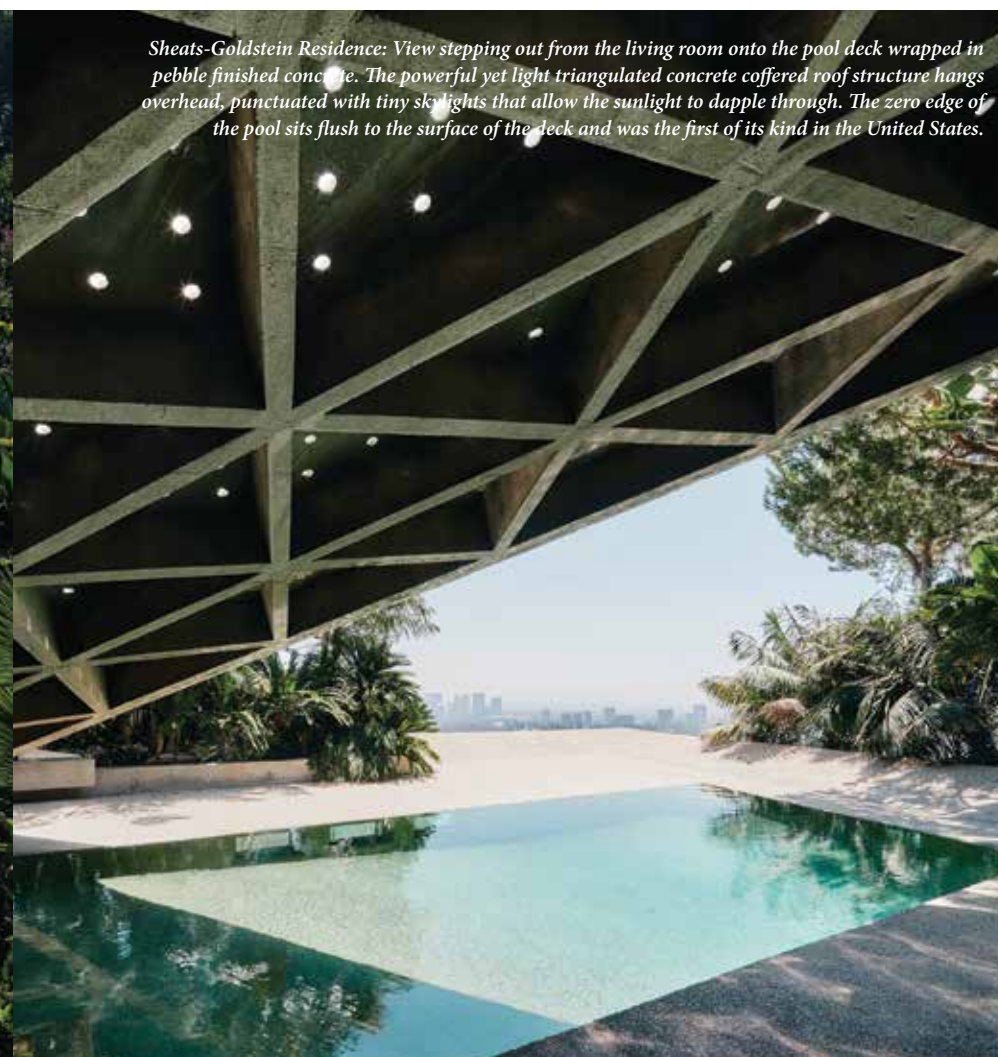
Los Angeles, United States

Los Angeles-based Conner + Perry Architects, the current architects of record for the Sheats-Goldstein Residence and Estate, unveil the property's newly completed annex, Club James. Originally envisioned by renowned mid-century architect John Lautner and estate owner James Goldstein, the development and completion of the accessory entertainment facility above a fully collaborative effort between Goldstein and three design teams that spans nearly fifty years.

As one of Los Angeles's most famous mid-century homes, the Sheats-Goldstein Residence is nearly as iconic as the Hollywood sign itself, having been featured countless times in film, television, fashion, and music videos, and widely revered in architecture and design circles. With a long and complex construction history that initially began in 1962 between John Lautner and the Sheats family, and later with Lautner and current owner James Goldstein, the famed Beverly Hills enclave has been expanded upon and enhanced



*Club James: The newly completed accessory complex, Club James, emerges from the lush jungle landscape, its crystalline geometries playing against the surrounding wild flora and bright blue southern California skies. The infinity tennis court roof sits above the canted glass enclosure of the office, which floats effortlessly above the lower terrace and pool.*



*Sheats-Goldstein Residence: View stepping out from the living room onto the pool deck wrapped in pebble finished concrete. The powerful yet light triangulated concrete coffered roof structure hangs overhead, punctuated with tiny skylights that allow the sunlight to dapple through. The zero edge of the pool sits flush to the surface of the deck and was the first of its kind in the United States.*

numerous times throughout the last seven decades in collaboration with three different architectural teams. Kristopher Conner and James Perry, of Conner + Perry Architects, have collaborated with Goldstein on the design and have overseen subsequent additions since 2015. Prior to that, the duo worked as Project Architects with Duncan Nicholson, Lautner's apprentice and associate, who continued work at the property following Lautner's death in 1994.

The newest work on the property, Club James, is located adjacent to the original residence. It was determined, due to the intensive nature of construction required for the planned hillside tennis court, that the office and a new entertainment space should be located beneath the new structure.

While Lautner's original master plan can still be seen in the wood and cardboard model hanging in the house today, the current design for Club James was initially a collaboration between Goldstein and Nicholson, and later Conner + Perry Architects. Construction first started in the early 2000s and, as the project continued, the programme expanded and evolved to include an entertainment space, VIP room and library, offices for Goldstein and his assistants, a movie screening room, an outdoor terrace with dining and kitchen facilities, and a pool and spa. The current team's latest design for the outdoor terrace, which includes the main stair, restroom, kitchen and BBQ zones, dining tables, locker room, and pool, was completed in 2023.

*"The most rewarding aspect of this project is working with a client and patron like Jim who enjoys the process as much as the outcome and has the perseverance to pursue an architecture that will stand the test of time," notes James Perry.*

*"It was a huge responsibility and an honour to take over the reins of this project and to be included in the lineage of amazing designers involved in the development and expansion of the property over the decades," adds Kristopher Conner. "It is a delicate balance to preserve and respect the genius of the original residence while developing designs that are in dialogue with it. We look at our work as an evolution of the visual language established by Lautner. The DNA of the house is there, but the expression is adapted to the environment and functions of the new spaces."*



Beyond cultivating these new and ever-changing designs, Conner + Perry Architects also oversee maintenance and restoration work on the original Sheats-Goldstein Residence, as well as repairs and upgrades to the James Turrell Skyspace installation “Above Horizon.” Just like Nicholson before them, Conner and Perry’s designs aim to honour Lautner and Goldstein’s architectural legacy by keeping with the tenets of the philosophy of organic architecture, adapting core ideas to meet new functions, inventing new details and forms, and creating spaces that celebrate freedom in the human spirit.

*“The thing that differentiates this property from many other significant mid-century homes in LA is that it is not a static museum frozen in time or a private retreat,” says Perry. “It is full of life, with tours, and shoots, and events, all of which expose the public to this unique work of art; and it is alive in that it is continuously*

*progressing and improving, with a lineage of three generations of architects and a team of consultants and trades people who make it all possible.”*

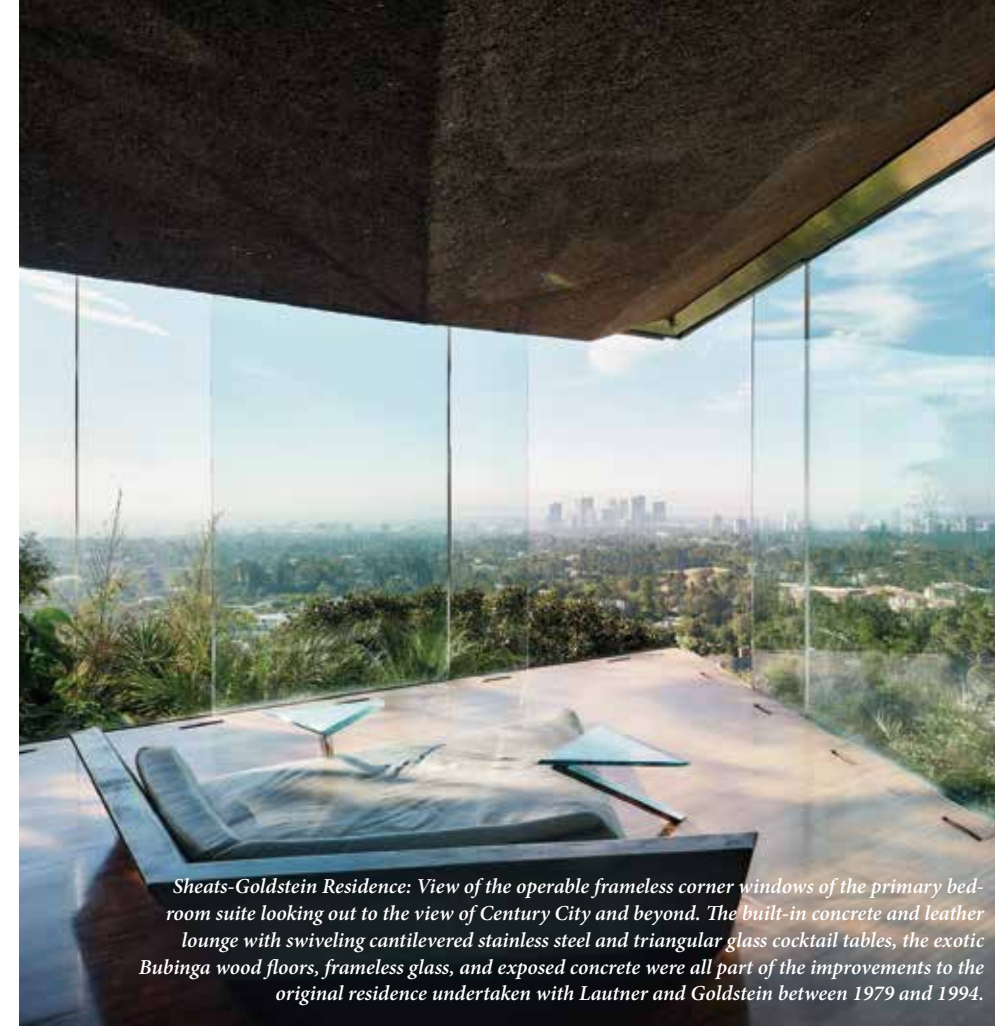
In fact, in a remarkable act of philanthropy, Goldstein has bequeathed the entire property, as well as his extensive fashion and art collections, to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), ensuring that this architectural treasure and cultural mainstay will be preserved, shared with the public, and serve to inspire future generations of designers.

*“John Lautner’s work is a radical advancement in his teacher Frank Lloyd Wright’s search for a uniquely American architectural language; it is somehow both of its time and timeless, an expression of boundless optimism and freedom, an attempt to reconnect us to nature through an embrace of technological advancement with a deep appreciation of human craft,” concludes Conner. “The Sheats-Goldstein residence is one of the best*

*examples of these pursuits, as Lautner was given the opportunity, the time, and the means to perfect the home over years of collaboration with Goldstein. James and I have had the privilege of continuing Lautner and Goldstein’s work, while making our own unique contributions to the property’s legacy.”*

#### Sheats-Goldstein Estate Design + Development Timeline

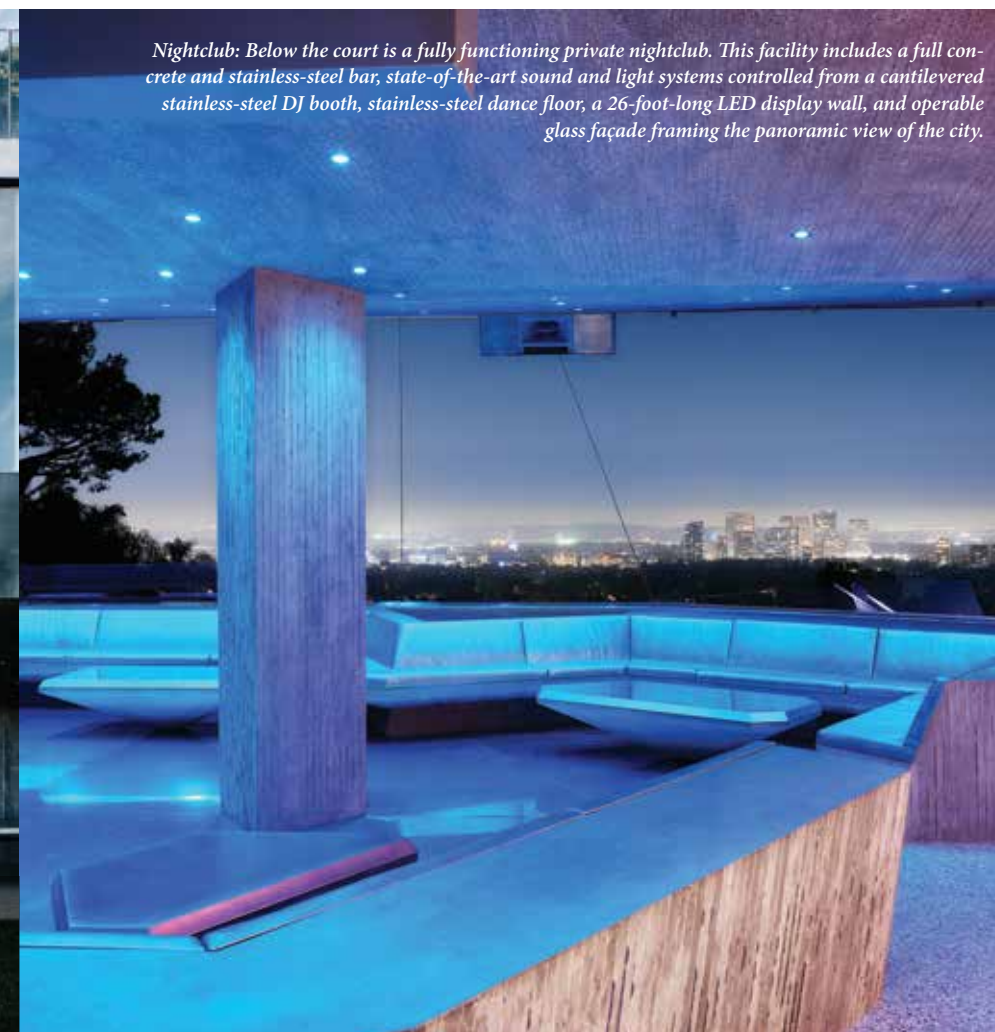
- 1962 – 1963, JOHN LAUTNER: Paul and Helen Sheats commission and complete construction of the original Sheats Residence with John Lautner for their family of 5.
- 1972: James Goldstein purchases the property.
- 1979 – 1994, JOHN LAUTNER: Goldstein hires Lautner to revisit the house and begin a series of renovations that they would term “perfecting” the house; to bring the construction more in line with Lautner’s original vision for the architecture and to collaborate on new improvements with Goldstein.



*Sheats-Goldstein Residence: View of the operable frameless corner windows of the primary bedroom suite looking out to the view of Century City and beyond. The built-in concrete and leather lounge with swiveling cantilevered stainless steel and triangular glass cocktail tables, the exotic Bubinga wood floors, frameless glass, and exposed concrete were all part of the improvements to the original residence undertaken with Lautner and Goldstein between 1979 and 1994.*




*Lower Terrace Stair: Elevation view of the main entertainment terrace cantilevered concrete stair; with a bar and lounge area behind, and leading up to the office and nightclub second level. The stair is an excellent example of the intense collaborative design process between the architects and owner James Goldstein: after the lounge area was completed Goldstein requested that the stair be redesigned to preserve the views as much as possible. In response Conner + Perry cantilevered the entire structure from a single point, and following Goldstein’s suggestion added the triangular opening in the stair stringer, a detail which references similar motifs found in the original Lautner-designed residence.*



*Nightclub: Below the court is a fully functioning private nightclub. This facility includes a full concrete and stainless-steel bar, state-of-the-art sound and light systems controlled from a cantilevered stainless-steel DJ booth, stainless-steel dance floor, a 26-foot-long LED display wall, and operable glass façade framing the panoramic view of the city.*

- 1994 – 2015, DUNCAN NICHOLSON: John Lautner’s associate, Duncan Nicholson, forms Nicholson Architects and continues to evolve the designs in conjunction with James Goldstein, overseeing the completion of the Nightclub, Offices, and Tennis Court portions of the project, as well as completing the James Turrell Skyspace “Above Horizon.”
- 2015 And Beyond, CONNER + PERRY ARCHITECTS: Architects Kristopher Conner and James Perry, who had been working on the Goldstein property under Nicholson since 2007, found their eponymous firm Conner + Perry Architects, and take the reigns as the architects of record for the property. The firm’s future work will include the next phases of development at the estate, including a theater and a guest house. In 2016, James Goldstein bequeathed the entire property, as well as his extensive fashion and art collections, to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA).

#### Technical sheet

- **Client/Homeowner:** James F. Goldstein
- **Architect (Current):** Conner + Perry Architects
- **Architect (Past):** Nicholson Architects
- **Architect (Original):** Lautner Associates
- **Structural Engineer:** Andrew Nasser, Omnispan Corporation
- **Civil Engineer:** CRC Enterprises
- **Soils Engineer:** Robertson Geological Inc
- **Geologist:** Irvine Geotechnical Inc
- **Mechanical Engineer:** The Sullivan Partnership Inc
- **Landscape Engineer:** Eric Nagelmann
- **Lighting Designer:** SJ Lighting
- **Sound Consultant:** Sound Investment AV
- **General Contractor (Current):** Empire Group Fine Construction Inc
- **General Contractor (Previous):** Ostermann Construction
- **Metal Fabricator:** Breakform Design
- **Glass Contractor:** Giroux Glass Inc
- **Tennis Court Contractor:** Zaino Tennis Courts Inc
- **Electrician:** Erik Rettedal
- **Upholstery:** Gina Berschneider, Inc
- **Photography:** Joe Fletcher 

[www.conner-perry.com](http://www.conner-perry.com)



## Coulisse Campus Phase One Complete: A Mile- stone in Innovation

CEO Christiaan Roetgering  
Unveils the Vision Behind  
the New Logistics Centre  
and Future Phases

**T**he Coulisse Campus, an ambitious project designed to unite the best people, place, and products in one location, has reached a significant milestone with the completion of Phase One. Christiaan Roetgering, CEO of Coulisse, shares the inspiration and vision behind this transformative project.

### The Vision

In 2016, Christiaan and Maurice Roetgering conceived the idea of building a campus. Their goal was to create a dynamic environment fostering creativity, productivity, and well-being.



“The Coulisse Campus is more than just a workplace,” Christiaan explains. “It’s a community where innovation thrives and our team feels inspired and motivated every day.”

### Inspiration from Marrakech

The design of the new Coulisse logistics centre draws inspiration from the Yves Saint Laurent Museum in Marrakech. During a visit, Christiaan was captivated by its unique architecture, designed by Studio KO. The museum’s façade features an intricate lattice of bricks forming cube-like structures reminiscent of woven fabric textures, while the interior features smooth, luxurious surfaces evoking the feel of a couture jacket lining. This blend of artistry and functionality influenced the Coulisse campus design, resulting in a space that epitomises sophistication and creativity.

### Phases of Development

The campus development is planned in three phases. Phase One, now complete, includes a new logistics centre with offices for the warehouse and customer service teams. Phase Two will expand the logistics centre with a fully automated warehouse, childcare facilities, and sports amenities for employees. Phase Three will relocate the remaining company departments, including management, IT, finance, marketing, engineering, and sales teams, as well as the smart experience centre, to the new campus.

### Architectural Collaboration

The architectural design of the Coulisse Campus is the result of a unique collaboration between the renowned Italian firm Piuarch and Erwin Kleinsman Architects. Christiaan shares the serendipitous story of how the partnership with Piuarch began: “I had a chance

encounter with Francesco Fresa, Piuarch’s partner and co-founder, at an open house during the Milan design furniture fair in 2018. We ended up talking for hours, forming an instant connection.”

Erwin Kleinsman Architects, Coulisse’s trusted partners since 2000, brought their deep understanding of the company’s style to the project. The collaborative process explored various options for materials and building shapes, ultimately settling on brick as the main material to reflect the history of the 19th-century textile industry while creating a unique blend of traditional and modern design elements.

### Official Opening and Future Plans

On September 14, 2024, Coulisse celebrated the official opening of its new logistics centre, marking the completion of Phase One. The event honoured the company’s journey and the legacy of the Roetgering family, particularly Truus Roetgering, whose vision and values have deeply influenced the business.

Looking ahead, Phases Two and Three will further transform the campus. Phase Two will introduce a cutting-edge, fully automated warehouse with RFID technology, capable of storing up to 120,000 rolls of fabric. Phase Three, planned for completion over the next decade, will bring all Coulisse departments together on the campus.

Christiaan reflects on the future with excitement: “The completion of Phase One is just the beginning. Our goal is to create a campus that reflects our values—timeless, functional, and beautiful. Phases Two and Three will not only transform our operations but further solidify Coulisse as a leader in the window covering industry. We’re just getting started on this incredible journey.”

[www.coulisse.com](http://www.coulisse.com)



## Wall Décor





## Wall Décor Ideas

by Stienie Greyling

There are a few different ways to look at a blank wall. It could be a source of dread or an empty canvas, beckoning for expressive wall décor ideas.

This year will see a surge in art on walls focussing on the theme of nature as people reconnect with their surroundings. This blooming trend manifests itself through illustrations and photographic prints featuring flora, fauna and landscapes.

An oversized painting or photograph will draw attention and set the tone in a tiny space. Hang a black-and-white photo in a minimalist bedroom or add colour with a vibrant abstract piece.

Curate a gallery wall as a great way to showcase a family interest, display souvenirs and give a room some colour. But there's a trick to a successful gallery wall, and it comes down to planning. Make sure there is enough hierarchy in colour or size where a viewer's eyes can clearly understand what should be highlighted versus what is a filler.

With a bright sofa, patterned rug, or intricate lighting, perhaps the best plan of action is to install mouldings or frames on a wall. Mouldings or frames instead of things, can be just as effective as defining a space and allow the eye to breathe.

Because mirrors reflect light, they can make a small area feel and look bigger as well as brighter, while also acting as statement pieces. Hanging a big mirror proportional to the surrounding furniture, above a cupboard or bookshelf is usually the best option. One can also make a gallery wall out of mirrors, but just make sure they all share a component to make everything match.

A crisp white wall will always be in style. White walls can be the perfect backdrop for new art, accessories and whatever is needed to make a home trendy. It is important to keep trends to furnishings and accessories.

Gone are the days of light and bright painted walls in small spaces. Adding organic wood on all walls in small spaces used to be frowned upon because it made the room feel small, but for a cosy feel, install wood siding in spaces big and small.



Whether they are on the floors, walls or countertops, colourful tiles are trending as a way to create a vintage aesthetic in any space. Shades of green, pink and purple are popular choices, especially in bathrooms or kitchens.

Statement tiles are used a lot more in showers. Using a statement or accent tile in a shower can help to break up the uninteresting wall area, especially as the size of showers and wet areas continue to grow.

Wallpaper has definitely made a comeback. Colourful wallpapers on walls in hallways will be a trend. Hallways and corridors can be difficult to fill with pictures, so colourful wallpaper works perfectly.

Accent walls are not only still in style in 2024, but also continue to be a cornerstone of contemporary interior design.

The ever evolving world of interior design sees trends come and go with the tide, leaving homeowners and decorators constantly wondering what the next big thing will be. The modern accent wall holds a special place among the myriad trends that have risen, fallen and sometimes risen again. Originally



popularised to add depth, colour and personality to rooms, accent walls have been both celebrated and criticised.

The concept of an accent wall is not new; it dates back several decades. Traditionally, an accent wall was simply a wall in a room painted a different colour that the others to create a focal point. Over time, however, this idea has evolved significantly. Today, accent walls can be enhanced by various materials, textures and patterns, making them a design

option. The modern accent wall could feature anything from wallpaper and murals to reclaimed wood and high-tech LED installations.

- Create a stunning focal point in a living room with a wooden accent wall. Choose from a wide range of finishes, from dark walnut to white oak to match the interior décor.
- The bedroom is a sanctuary, a modern accent wall behind the bed can elevate its aesthetic. Select peel-and-stick planks for a hassle-free installation process that delivers a high-end result.
- Incorporate an accent wall into a kitchen to define the eating area or highlight a wall splashback.

Painting an entire space one vivid colour will be all the rage in the coming year. We will also see a resurgence of tapestry covering a wall space on the rise. With many different styles, colours and size, these versatile fabrics can be designed to fit any style or space.

Checkerboard is back and ready for a 21st century spin. From full walls of checkers to colourful accessories, this pattern will continue to be on the rise and be seen throughout every room of the home.

Shiny metallic will be in this year, especially silver tones like mirrored kitchen wall splashbacks. Not only will this trend be seen in home design, but fashion as well.

As the attraction to various animals and insets grows, so will an interest in framed insect displays. Hanging these wonderful, remarkable creatures, especially box framed butterflies, on display on walls creates a way to get an up-close look at these fascinating insects.

dw





## Amazing, charming and embracing through wallpaper

WallPepper®/Group  
presents the new  
collection

With the new catalogue, WallPepper®/Group tells its way of living, portraying and projecting contemporary interior design through wall decoration. In addition, the 2024 catalogue is a celebratory volume, commemorating the brand's first 10 years. Ten years of technical and artistic explorations, that led to the creation of extremely high quality wallpapers, tailor-made using eco-friendly and certified materials, studied and developed for specific functions.

The new volume opens with a special section dedicated to this anniversary:



*Autumn leaves by Simona Meraviglia*



*Argento fior di seta by Pietro Privitera*



*Bereza by WallPepper® Creative Team*



*Maya by WallPepper® Creative Team*



*Gravures by Barbara Maldini*



*Deja vu by Simona Meraviglia*

collaborating with ten artists very close to the brand, WallPepper®/Group created an exclusive wallpaper collection, where the authors interpreted the universe of meanings that, in their own opinion, communicates the spirit of the brand at its best. The artworks they created, playing with the graphic identity of the company, the logo and its colours, truly are real visual quotes of the brand itself.

The 2024 collection consists of almost 100 unpublished, original and impressive graphics, adding up to a rich variety of WallPepper®/Group proposals. Every image represents a thrilling chapter of this new volume, narrated in its possible setting, with all the available colour variations and close-ups on details.

Each graphic is tailored and proportioned according to the dimensions of the surface to be decorated, ensuring a

perfect adjustment. Besides the available ones, colours can be personalised depending on specific needs and projects. If necessary, the drawing itself can be customised. This way, wallpaper becomes a highly versatile design element, assuring for each context a custom-made result.

The 2024 catalogue, just like every annual appointment signed by WallPepper®/Group, comes as a combination of extraordinary pictures,

which can transform nature, colours, architectures, landscapes, fantasy and dreams in decoration and embrace everyday spaces, creating atmospheres and sceneries that adjust to environment's personality and function. The new collection also expands the Kids selection with unique and surprising creations designed to decorate children's spaces. [dw](#)

[www.wallpeppergroup.com](http://www.wallpeppergroup.com)



*Agartha by Alessandro Scanziani©*



*Ovidio by Barbara Mancini*



*Lisbeth by Simona Meraviglia*



*Capriccio by Barbara Mancini*



*Rugiada by WallPepper® Creative Team*



*Shanmai by Alessandro Scanziani*



*Silvestre by Simona Meraviglia*



*Spatula by WallPepper® Creative Team*



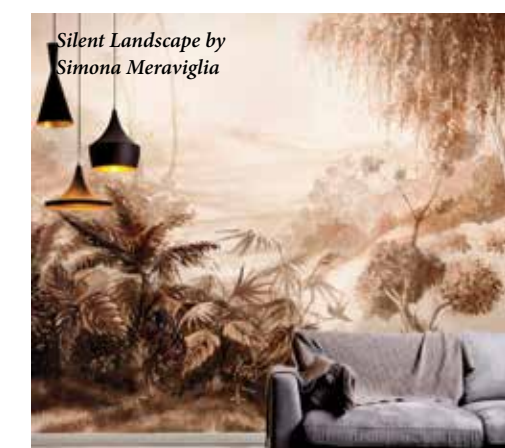
*Tessin by WallPepper® Creative Team*



*Plumage by WallPepper® Creative Team*



*Settimana Bianca by WallPepper Creative Team*



*Silent Landscape by Simona Meraviglia*



## Paint to go

by Plascon

Climatic conditions in South Africa vary dramatically, from a Mediterranean climate in the country's southwestern corner, to temperate conditions on the interior plateau, to subtropical in the northeast and desert-like in the northwest. These varying conditions make a difference to how paintwork endures.

The rule of thumb is to paint in the dry season: summer in the Cape (roughly October to May) and winter in Gauteng (April to October). In KwaZulu-Natal the summer humidity makes autumn and winter more suitable times to paint. It is important to understand this when planning renovations and maintenance schedules.

Plascon imparts practical and sensible advice to those planning on painting exteriors, namely, that it is best to hold out for that temperate weather – that sweet spot between anything too extreme in terms of heat, cold, wind, rain and storms.

While it may seem like stating the obvious, it is important to sidestep inclement days from a painting perspective. Wind speed presents a challenge if painting a high rise building; similarly, it makes no sense to paint during periods of seasonal rain, unless you're prepared for the breaks caused by wet weather.

The best modus operandi is for any exterior or weather-exposed painting project to be tackled in moderately warm winter. When it is icy cold, your paint will have its work cut out attempting to adhere

to a surface in the way that the technical folk intended; plus, damp from rain and morning dew could cause an undesirable bubble effect.

There are coatings that can help mitigate against some of these factors. Plascon Professional Elastoshield, a flexible, durable and all-round weather-proofing water-based coating, is just one example of the direction in which the high-tech paint industry is moving.

Special features include interlocking microfibres to cover hairline cracks; a high-build film that protects and weatherproofs exterior walls; a highly elastic coat to withstand repeated weather-dependent contractions and expansions; better-than-average flexibility and elongation when temperatures are cool; and crack resistance at temperatures as low as -5 °C.

This product, while not designed for application over a damp area, is an all-rounder for suitably primed new and previously painted plaster, concrete, exposed plastered walls, window sills, small ledges and the tops of plaster mouldings, plus exposed weather-facing or fair-faced brick walls.

From the Premium Range, select either Plascon Micatex with Weathertough™, for its in-built crack filler and the way its formulation offers sturdy protection across the majority of weather conditions; or Plascon Wall & All, which resists dirt and provides the type of exceptional durability that will help save homeowners the costs of any near-future repaints.

And, while a superior paint product will do the necessary over and above what's generally expected, planning any painting project with the weather in mind remains a sensible approach.

So before you begin, ask yourself – and your maintenance team – these important questions. Are we experiencing abnormally high temperatures and/or levels of humidity? If so, rather postpone. Is the weather pleasingly mild? If so, go for it!

For more information on Plascon products, visit [www.plascon.co.za](http://www.plascon.co.za) or email [advice@plascon.co.za](mailto:advice@plascon.co.za) for paint advice.

[www.plascon.co.za](http://www.plascon.co.za)



Next, Albed's collection of flush hinged doors, has been expanded with a new version featuring rounded corners: 'Next Round' designed by architect Simone Micheli. Next has always been one of the most appreciated and adaptable solutions in the Albed catalog, ideal both for quietly integrating with architecture and for giving life to more aesthetic solutions, thanks to the wide range of finishes - from wood essences to lacquers and glass - and decorations - boiserie and silk-screening. Always coplanar to the wall, and seamless on both sides too, Next is available full-height and with custom width.

The collection also allows the addition of magnetic locks, soundproofing, fireproofing, draught excluders and safety glass, including the double one, to further improve acoustic and thermal insulation between spaces and optimise its placement

in projects. The new Next Round version, designed by Simone Micheli, maintains all the distinctive features of the collection, but with a softer design and a decorative, contemporary aesthetic. The radiusing of the upper corners is possible thanks to the installation of a curved aluminum profile in the wall or plasterboard. Thanks to a barely noticeable graphic sign, Next Round is thus transformed and proposes a concept halfway between a door and an arch.

"There is a slogan that can sum up my creative thinking and that fits well with the door product," says Simone Micheli, "Translating the complexity of our present into simplicity. The door system emphasises the beauty of surfaces, to realise that there is no need for the superfluous."

[www.albed.it](http://www.albed.it)







inky panoramas in intense tones populate scenarios that are now rarefied and now more photographic.

Similarly, the Alkimia studio signed the Atelier collection for SpaghettiWall, inspired by prints for the textile world. From floral scenes of Renaissance extraction to toile de Jouy, the subjects of this collection are rethought with unexpected colour combinations or digital distortions that transform nature into abstract art.

For living, bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, spa and wellness spaces, up to use in the naval sector or in public places such as restaurants, hotels, and bars: SpaghettiWall wallpapers are printed on technical substrates suitable for almost any situation and can undergo surface treatments so as to be easily washable and even more resistant. dw

[www.spaghettiwall.it](http://www.spaghettiwall.it)



## SpaghettiWall graphics tell of autumn atmosphere

**A**utumn, quiet poetry: between the pages of the SpaghettiWall wallpaper catalogue, the new season is a tale of burnt tones, antique gold, silky greys, shades of brown and orange. An eclectic proposal, which brings art to the surface (not only walls, but also ceilings and furniture door coverings) through the use of graphics adapted from time to time to the interior, and created with the contribution of artists and illustrators, photographers and designers.

Mirages and Visions are two collections designed by the creative team of SpaghettiWall that describe the slow and meditative atmospheres of autumn, between decisive brush strokes and panoramas filtered by a light mist. Natural elements persist, but with tonal shifts: bouquets as if blurred by an old roll of film, solitary flowers in macro-scale,





## FORWOOD

## Beautiful wood protection

The Duram FORWOOD range of varnishes, preservatives and self-priming topcoats have been specially formulated to protect and beautify interior and exterior wood. These hardwearing products have properties that align well with the unique characteristics of wood, providing excellent adhesion and flexibility to accommodate the natural expansion of wood. With UV- and weather-protection, they protect against water penetration, rot and decay. Transparent coatings shield wood for longer while enhancing the natural beauty and grain of wood. Solid colours provide excellent opacity to revitalise imperfect wood with an innovative direct-to-wood paint and primer that is optimised for colour tinting.

For a hardwearing oil-based urethane, the new Duram Varnish is designed for both interior and exterior wood. This scratch-resistant varnish has been QUV tested for UV- and weather-resistance, protecting wood for longer while enhancing the natural beauty and grain of wood. Providing excellent adhesion to hardwood and softwood, this flexible varnish resists cracking and peeling and protects against water penetration, rot, decay and insect attack. With high transparency, Duram Varnish is available in attractive finishes and natural wood shades such as Clear, Imbuia, Mahogany, Meranti, Oak and Teak.

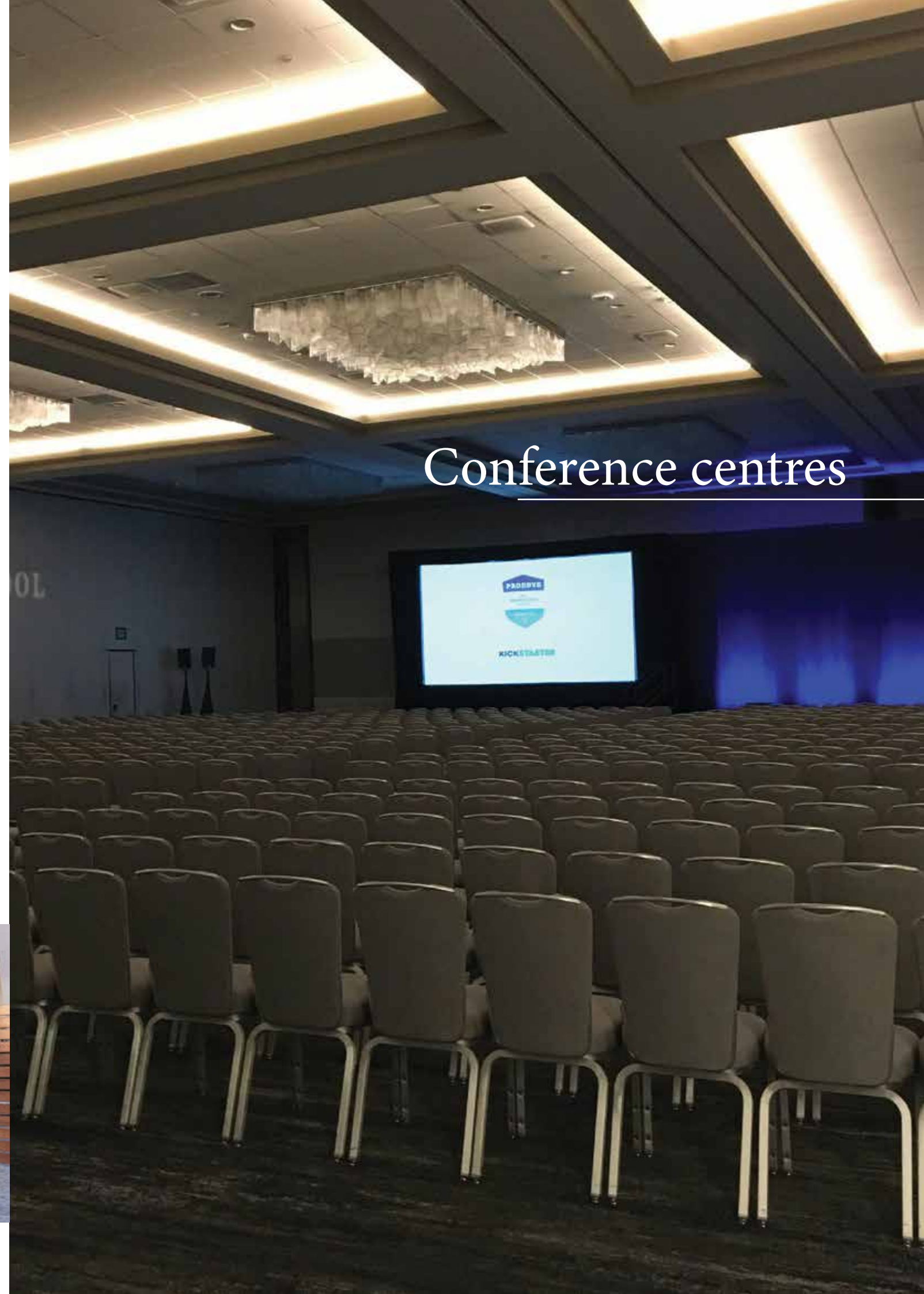
For a more natural finish, Duram Woodseal is a penetrating linseed oil-

based wood preservative that feeds, nourishes and enhances your interior and exterior wood. The active ingredient protects against water penetration, rot, decay and insect attack, with UV- and weather-protection that withstands fluctuating temperatures. It provides a rich, oiled look on hardwood and softwood, replacing oils lost with weathering preventing it from fading and discolouring. Available in a natural suede finish in various high-transparency wood shades, it does not form a surface film so it will not crack, peel or chip.

Duram OneForWood is an innovative paint and primer for direct application to bare and previously painted or varnished wood and MDF. Its flexible nature accommodates the natural expansion of wood to resist cracking and peeling. With excellent adhesion, it is designed to penetrate the wood fibres to anchor the paint and has been QUV tested for UV- and weather-protection to ensure a non-yellowing and fade-resistant finish. OneForWood is formulated to block wood tannin bleed, reduce water absorption and protect against rot and decay. Available in a hard-wearing, luxury, smooth, satin finish that is optimised for colour tinting, it provides excellent opacity to revitalise imperfect wood.

Please visit our website or your local hardware store for more information. [dw](http://www.duram.co.za)

[www.duram.co.za](http://www.duram.co.za)



## Conference centres



## Conference Centres

by Stienie Greyling

With an interesting few years under our belts, we know the events and conferences industry has had a rollercoaster of a time.

The last few years have been interesting, to say the least. From the strangeness and unpredictability of the COVID pandemic, to new and innovative technologies, the events and conferences industry has undergone a period of rapid change, and 2024 appears to be right on schedule to continue this trend.

The utilisation of innovative event technology, including artificial intelligence (AI), augmented reality (AR), and virtual reality (VR), has become increasingly popular with the events and conferences industry.

Artificial intelligence (AI) was one of the hottest topics in the industry last year, and with good reason. The rise of

generative AI tools like Chat GPT has provided event planners and marketing personal new ways to automate time-consuming tasks and focus on more creative and strategic endeavours.

In 2024, we will see more experimentation with AI across the industry. Chat GPT and other generative AI tools will become more sophisticated and proficient in helping to develop event and campaign contents.

Hotel group sales managers can use AI to bring in more business travellers by using predictive analytics to forecast future demand for group sales, target potential business travellers, and anticipate changes in demand.

The hospitality sector has faced ongoing staffing shortages in recent years, while marketing and event teams have been asked to do more with fewer resources or

less budget. In 2024 technology will be an important solution to these changes.

Technology improves collaboration between event organisers, suppliers and venues. For example, venue diagramming tools can help event teams share design room layouts and seating designs with a chosen venue in real-time, improving communication and helps build closer working relations on both sides.

### Designing the ultimate conference room setup.

In the quest to design the ultimate conference room technology trends setup, it is important to consider the multifaceted needs for modern meetings. The evolution from traditional to hybrid meeting formats demand a space that seamlessly accommodates in-person and remote participants. This shift is reflected

in the choice of room solutions and the ethos of creating inclusive and productive environments.

### To achieve this, several key components should be considered.

- **High-quality video conferencing systems:** Connect remote participants with crystal-clear video and audio, making it feel like everyone is in the same room.
- **Adaptive sound systems:** Smart audio setups that adjust to room occupancy and minimise background noise for clear communication.
- **Smart room controls:** Systems to manage lighting, temperature and AV from one panel or device, creating a comfortable, focused environment.

- **Digital whiteboards and interactive displays:** Enable engaging presentations and collaborative sessions where all team members can contribute in real time.
- **Seamlessly connectivity options:** Features like wireless charging, strong Wi-Fi, and ample power outlets to keep devices connected and charged.
- **Flexible furniture and layouts:** Modular furniture and moveable partitions allow the space to adapt to various meeting types and sizes.
- **Intelligent room booking systems:** Streamline conference space management, to prevent double bookings and enhance room usage efficiency.
- **Virtual reality (VR) and augmented (AR) capabilities:** Offer immersive

presentations and simulations, boosting understanding and engagements.

These components combine to create a conference room setup that meets the diverse demands of contemporary meetings, reflecting the dynamic nature of today's business landscape. [dw](#)







*Sade*



*The Aurelia*



*7600*



*Tuscany Ruched*



*Arch*



*African Diamond*

## Enhance the Way You Work. Sit in Comfort.

Elevate your workspace and experience quality and comfort, proudly made in South Africa, with every Izitulo Seating's office chair. Join us in celebrating hardworking South Africans with the perfect blend of quality and local craftsmanship.

Izitulo's Seating office furniture was recently featured at the South African Future Trust

Summit at the Sandton Convention Center. We furnished various spaces within the venue, featuring our sleek, newly-launched Zuri office chair in the Standard Bank Business Hub, Jardine tub chairs featured on the main stage during panel discussions. Izitulo Seating offers comfortable and stylish chairs, while complementing the interior of any conference or office space. Partnering

with Izitulo Seating as your manufacturing partner gives you the confidence of choice in creating a conference or office space that perfectly suits your brand, bringing sophistication and functionality.

The Jardine and Smart is a perfect addition to our office range, boasting a modern aesthetic and sleek lines. The Zuri, along with our Sade and Aurelia ranges, are a new generation of office chairs inspired by the timeless qualities of mid-century design

and interiors. Made from a sturdy wooden shell with customisable wood finishes and upholstery from leather to fabric, accompanied by a variety of bases - creating a matching interior has never been easier. Pictured above is the Zuri with navy leather and white finishes featured at the Standard Bank Business Hub. Also featured is our Zuri accompanied by our Office Table in black powder-coated steel, smooth black leather upholstery and aluminium swivel base.

*The Zuri*



*The Zuri with our Office Table*



*Smart Range*



[www.izituloseating.co.za](http://www.izituloseating.co.za)

[sales@izituloseating.co.za](mailto:sales@izituloseating.co.za)

14 Ophir-Booysens Street,  
Johannesburg, South Africa



**IZITULO**  
SEATING



## On The Terrace



Liu Jo Living's signature interior design project in a private villa in Lussy-sur-Morges, Switzerland

**L**ussy-sur-Morges. Not the centre of the world but in the heart of Canton Vaud, in the district of Morges, Switzerland. Here, in a private villa, the total look by Liu Jo Living is the real star. An interior design project curated by Margot Guzik, which houses a selection of the latest Liu Jo Living collections inside.

Revolutionising the concept of a garden area with a swimming pool that frames the entire building is the Ensemble Caillou seating system in its outdoor version. A concept declined in four elements that live together linked by a subtle balance: the carpet, made of heat-resistant polyester fibre, insulates the flooring and allows for maximum comfort at all times, while the base of Ensemble Caillou is finished with a technical fabric designed to adhere perfectly to the Pad, transforming it into a comfortable backrest, with the cushion support, which recalls the shape of a stone. Available in sixteen fabric variations and thanks to the practicality of its easily removable covers, it becomes an ideal piece of furniture for reinventing spaces dedicated to relaxation in all seasons of the year.

The project also continues in indoor environments enriched with products











rooms in the home for Liu Jo Living is as simple as a change of clothes.

Each product can be configured in many versions and, precisely in the removable covers lies one of the main features of the brand's entrepreneurial philosophy: to adapt to changes, of style and season, with the character and personality of those who are invited to inhabit these places themselves, in full respect of the environment and with a view to sustainability. The first details that stand out in this Swiss residence are the lamps, arranged in various places in the house. Next to the **Warmover Lounge sofa**, chosen to illuminate moments of daily conviviality, the **Caillou table lamps** give a design idea for home living. Characterised by an enveloping, warm light coming from a light hat that directs the beam, in its different intensities it creates a unique atmosphere in which traditional craftsmanship and fashion overtones coexist in harmony.

The **Caillou** tray, in its aesthetics and functionality, is also an important accessory for a versatile living area. A multitasking object that, in the overlapping of two elements, one smaller and one larger, reveals its dual nature: indoor and outdoor. Both, in fact, can be treated with a specific lacquer that keeps the main characteristics unchanged, even in the case of prolonged outdoor exposure, or are available in the natural essence, wood, for indoor use.

Mastering every room of the private villa in Lussy-sur-Morges is the exclusive total look by **Liu Jo Living**, which combines design and functionality to create unique and personalized spaces. [dw](http://www.liujoliving.com/en)

[www.liujoliving.com/en](http://www.liujoliving.com/en)



that, by their nature, adapt to the changing seasons and styles of spaces.

**Warmover Lounge**, the modular sofa designed by **Simone Cagnazzo**, was chosen for a bright and welcoming living room with a large living area. A central element of the living dimension, with its clean and elegant lines, **Warmover Lounge** easily separates and reconverts. In addition to being completely disassemblable, the recycling of this sofa is also guaranteed by the absence of glues or chemical additives used in the manufacturing processes of the individual components.

**Warmover Lounge** is perfect for reinterpreting and making the most of the available square footage.

Completing the outfit of the living area are the **Warmover coffee tables** in canaletto walnut, with a solid and elegant design for resting, without getting up from the sofa, the objects of a break, for all intents and purposes, pleasant and comfortable.

But **Liu Jo Living** is not limited to the big furniture items: the details also make a difference. Home accessories, such as pillows, blankets and rugs, come in many fabric and colour variations to create a unique and personalised atmosphere. Thinking about consistency between







## Reclaimed is a gorgeous celebration of upcycled art and collage

**S**PH Fine Art Fairs & Events is proud to announce the opening of its latest exhibition, Reclaimed, an inspiring showcase of collage artworks created from recycled and repurposed materials. The exhibition will open on 29 November 2024 and run until 29 January 2025, at the Gorgeous George Hotel in the heart of Cape Town's CBD.

Visitors can expect to see a diverse array of 40 unique works, chosen from over 100 submissions, including sculptures made from wood and metal, layered fabric collages, paper collages and installations created from natural materials sourced from the environment. Selected participating artists include Siyabonga Mlambi, Dave Robertson, Jane Barnes, Karina van den Heever, Lauren Shantall, Susan Proctor Hume, Jan Vingerhoets and others.







'As the founder of SPH, I have always been committed to providing a space where artists can come together in a supportive, non-competitive environment,' says Hume, who is both participating artist and the curator of the exhibition.

'From our first event at The Hyde Hotel in Sea Point, my aim has been to connect like-minded artists, curators and creatives in a way that fosters collaboration. With Reclaimed, we are taking this mission even further by highlighting the beauty of upcycling and the potential of reclaimed materials in the creative process,' she says.

The theme of Reclaimed reflects SPH's longstanding commitment to sustainability, upcycling and recycling - whether through clothing, furniture or art materials. This exhibition is dedicated to artists who create with resourcefulness. It is also an homage to the conscientious ethos of Gorgeous George, a venue that stands out for its commitment to being earth-friendly and creatively vibrant.

'We are honoured to partner with Gorgeous George Hotel, a member of the elite international Design Hotels group, known for its evolving art collection valued in the millions of US dollars. The entire hotel is a work of art, including its stunning rooftop bar and restaurant, Gigi. Gorgeous George are generously

sponsoring the venue and opening event,' says Hume.

Marketing expert Terrence Pearce from Gorgeous George has been instrumental in bringing this event to life, ensuring the message of sustainability and artistic innovation reaches a wide audience. The hotel's professional team is highly skilled in installing and presenting art, providing state-of-the-art hanging systems and lighting. The venue plays regular host to a range of art exhibitions and is looking forward to opening its latest show, which will run for two months over Cape Town's high season.



Reclaimed is open to members of the public and guests of Gorgeous George, and entrance is free. All artwork is for sale.

#### Event Details

- **Opening night:** 29 November 2024 from 18h00 onwards
- **Exhibition dates:** 29 November 29 2024 – January 29 2025
- **Venue:** Gorgeous George Hotel, 118 St Georges Mall, Cape Town City Centre
- **Opening hours:** 09h00-22h00 daily (except if a private function is booked)

For more information follow [@sphfineartfairscapetown](#) and [@gorgeousgeorgecpt/](#) on Instagram.

#### Contact Information

For media inquiries or more information about the exhibition, please contact:

- **Susan Proctor Hume**
- **Email:** [theaffordablefineartfair@gmail.com](mailto:theaffordablefineartfair@gmail.com)
- **Phone:** +27832681933 [dw](#)



## Day One Winners of WAF2024 International Architectural Awards Announced

Singapore, Singapore

The first award winners of the 2024 World Architecture Festival have been announced, following Day One of live presentations at Marina Bay Sands in Singapore, in which the first half of 470 shortlisted projects were presented by practices from around the world.

Amongst today's category award winners of the world's largest international live-judged architectural event are Grimshaw Architects, fjstudio, Renzo Piano Building Workshop and EAA-Emre Arolat Architecture. Five of the 20 category winners announced today are projects located in Australia, while four winning projects are in Canada, three located in Turkey and two in the host country of Singapore.

### Category Award Winners: COMPLETED BUILDINGS

#### Civic and Community:

- National Star Observatory in Cyprus by Kyriakos Tsolakis Architects
- Nokha Village Community Centre in India by Sanjay Puri Architects was highly commended.

#### Creative Re-use:

- Pumphouse in Canada by 5468796 Architecture
- Bait Mohammed Bin Khalifa in the United Arab Emirates by X Architects and Kaarestan Event Space in Iran by Persian Garden Studio were both highly commended.

#### Culture:

- Istanbul Modern (Istanbul Museum of Modern Art) in Turkey by Renzo Piano Building Workshop
- Seddülbahir Fortress in Turkey by KOOP Architects, AOMTD (Arzu Ozsavasci Architecture) was highly commended.



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
QR3D by Park + Associates  
Photo credit: Derek Swalwell



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
Ararat House by SJB  
Photo credit: Martina Gemmola



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
Kaarestan Event Space by Persian Garden Studio  
Photo credit: BLUIX STUDIO And DEED STUDIO



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
Bait Mohammed Bin Khalifa by X Architects  
Photo credit: Fernando Guerra



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
London Square, Bermondsey by Allford Hall Monaghan Morris  
Photo credit: Tim Soar Photography



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
Češča Vas Pool Complex by ENOTA  
Photo credit: Miran Kambič



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
St. Patricks College - Scientia Building by BYN  
Photo credit: Tom Roe

### House & Villa (Urban) supported by GROHE:

- Arthur Residence in Canada by 5468796 Architecture

### House & Villa (Rural/Coastal) supported by GROHE:

- Touching Eden House in Singapore by Wallflower Architecture + Design
- Village House in Brazil by Studio MK27 and OH HO Residence in India by Play Architecture were both highly commended.

### Housing supported by GROHE:

- Nightingale Village in Australia by Architecture architecture, Austin Maynard Architects, Breathe, Clare Cousins Architects, Hayball, Kennedy Nolan
- London Square, Bermondsey in the United Kingdom by Allford

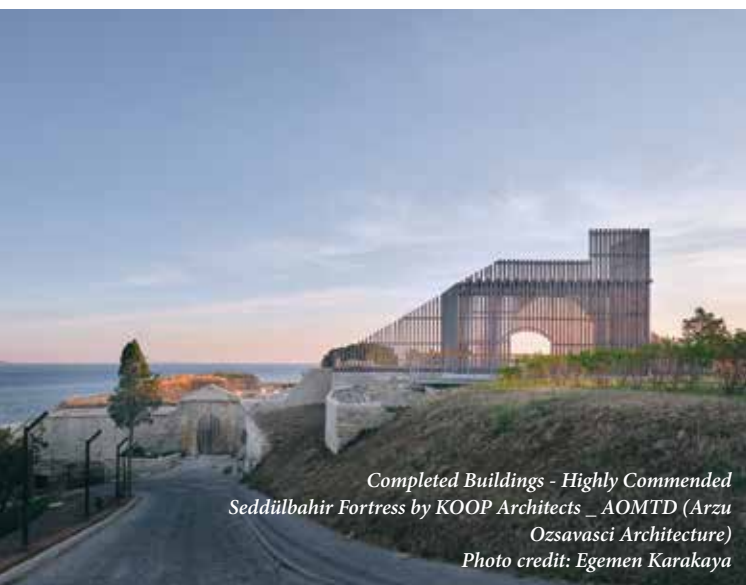




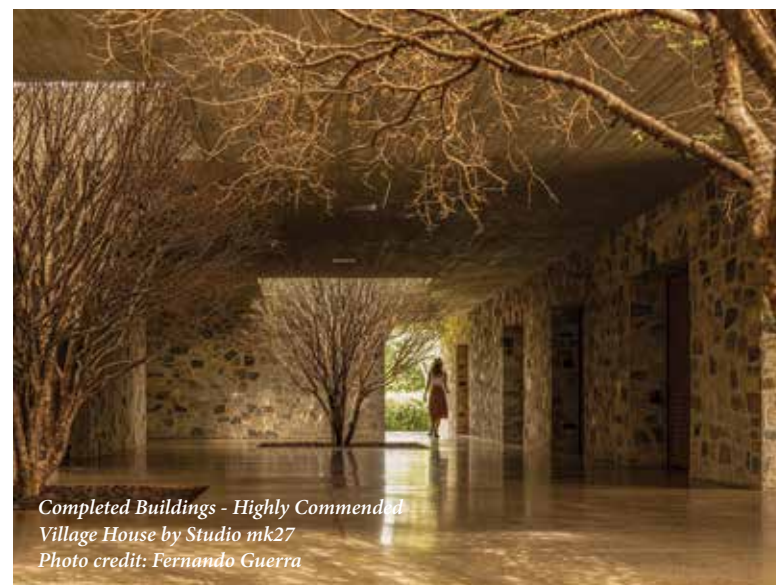
Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
Nokha Village Community Centre by Sanjay Puri Architects  
Photo credit: Vinay Panjwani



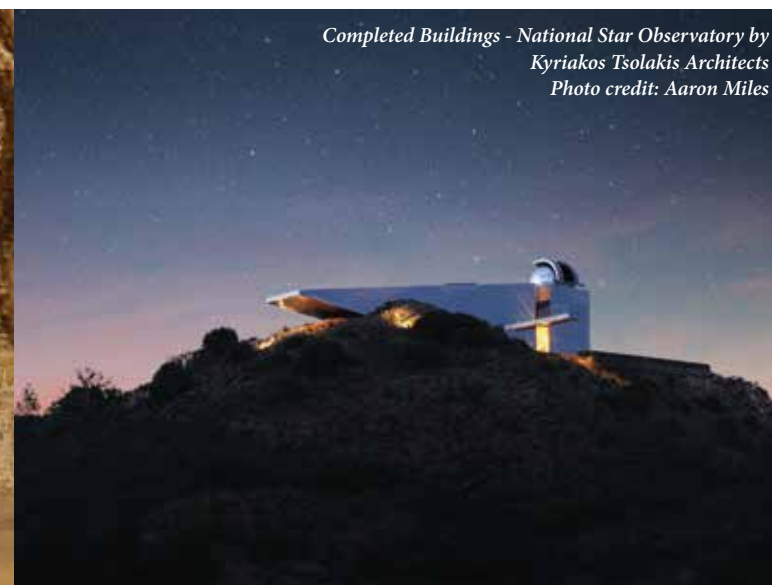
Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
OH HO Residence by Play Architecture  
Photo credit: Archana Vikram



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
Seddülbahir Fortress by KOOP Architects \_ AOMTD (Arzu Ozsavasci Architecture)  
Photo credit: Egemen Karakaya



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
Village House by Studio mk27  
Photo credit: Fernando Guerra



Completed Buildings - National Star Observatory by  
Kyriakos Tsolakis Architects  
Photo credit: Aaron Miles



Completed Buildings - Highly Commended  
The Black and White Building by Waugh Thistleton Architects  
Photo credit: Jake Curtis



Completed Buildings - Kalyon Karapınar 1.350 MWp SPP – Central Control  
Building by Bilgin Architects  
Photo credit: Egemen Karakaya



Completed Buildings - Nightingale Village by Architecture  
architecture, Austin Maynard Architects, Breathe, Clare  
Cousins Architects, Hayball, Kennedy Nolan  
Photo credit: Tom Ross

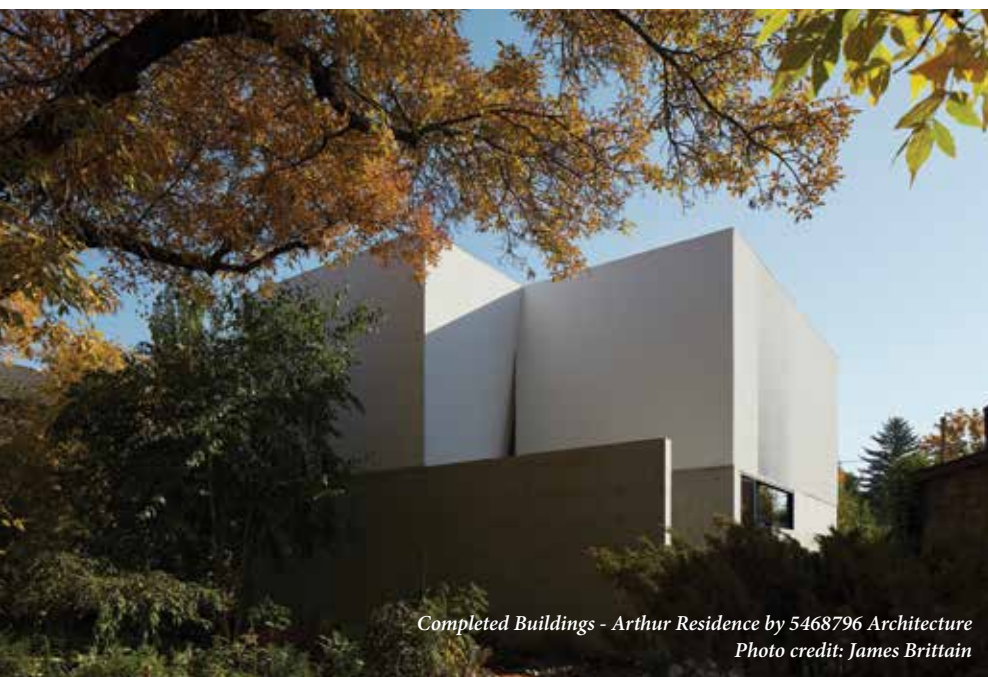




Completed Buildings - Parramatta Aquatic Centre by Grimshaw and ABA with McGregor Coxall  
Photo credit: Peter Bennetts



Completed Buildings - Touching Eden House by Wallflower Architecture + Design  
Photo credit: Finbarr Fallon



Completed Buildings - Arthur Residence by 5468796 Architecture  
Photo credit: James Brittain

Hall Monaghan Morris was highly commended.

#### Office:

- Forskaren in Sweden by 3XN
- The Black and White Building located in the United Kingdom by Waugh Thistleton Architects was highly commended.

#### Production, Energy and Logistics:

- Kalyon Karapınar 1.350 MWp SPP – Central Control Building in Turkey by Bilgin Architects

#### School:

- Darlington Public School in Australia by fjstudio
- St Patrick's College: Scientia Building in Australia by BVN was highly commended.

#### Sport:

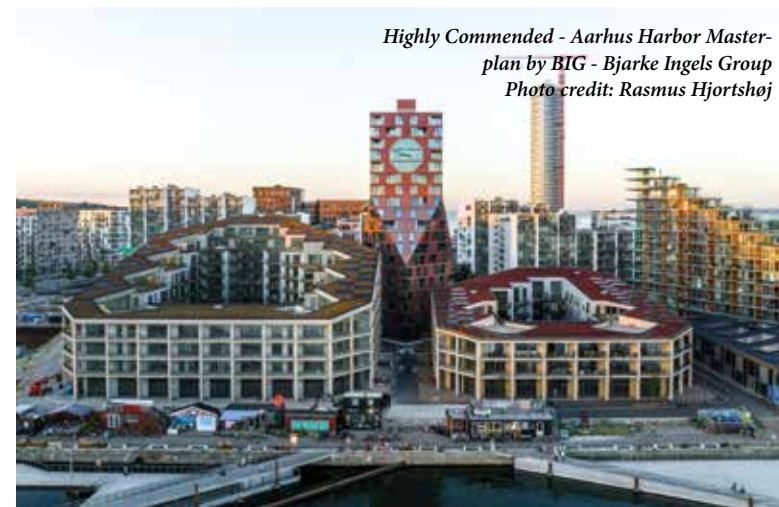
- Parramatta Aquatic Centre in Australia by Grimshaw and ABA with McGregor Coxall
- Češča Vas Pool Complex in Slovenia by ENOTA was highly commended.
- Judges of today's Completed Buildings categories celebrated: "seamless integration of landscape and architecture" as well as "innovative inclusive and sustainable design practices" and "playful use of light and shadows".

#### Category Award Winners: FUTURE PROJECTS

- Competition Entries: Retal Mosque in Saudi Arabia by Pace
- Auckland Stadium at Quay Park in New Zealand by HKS was highly commended.
- Civic: Küçükçekmece Djemevi in Turkey by EAA-Emre Arolat Architecture
- Eden Project Dundee in Scotland by Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios and Nicoll Russell Studios was highly commended.
- Infrastructure: Chaarkhaan Bridge in Iran by Bonsar Architects
- Leisure-led Development: Unity Arena in Norway by Rodeo Architects
- The Minerva by Woods Bagot located in Australia was highly commended.
- Masterplanning: The Greenline Project Master Plan in Australia



Completed Buildings - Darlington Public School by fjstudio  
Photo credit: Brett Boardman



Highly Commended - Aarhus Harbor Masterplan by BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group  
Photo credit: Rasmus Hjørtshøj



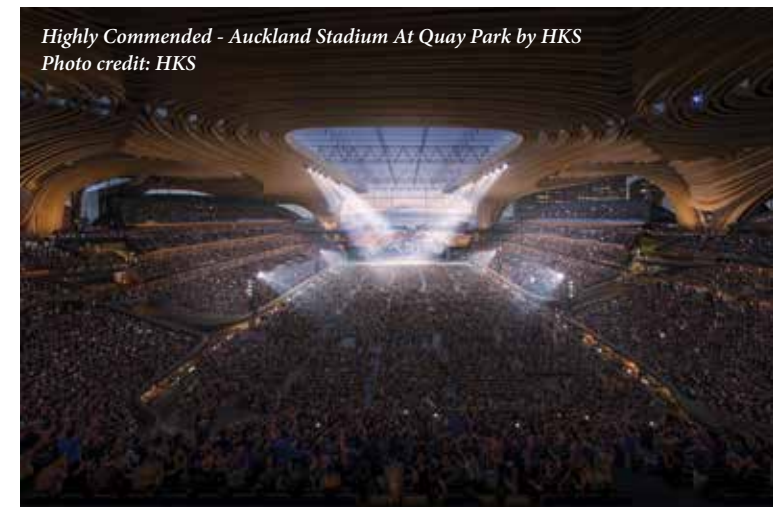
Completed Buildings - Istanbul Modern by Renzo Piano Building Workshop  
Photo credit: Cemal Emden



Highly Commended - Eden Project Dundee by Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios and Nicoll Russell Studios  
Photo credit: FCBStudiosPhoto credit: Cemal Emden



Completed Buildings - Forskaren by 3XN  
Photo credit: Marcus Stork



Highly Commended - Auckland Stadium At Quay Park by HKS  
Photo credit: HKS



Completed Buildings - Pumphouse by 5468796 Architecture  
Photo credit: James Brittain



## AWARDS

by ASPECT Studios, TCL, City of Melbourne

- Aarhus Harbor Masterplan in Denmark by BIG - Bjarke Ingels Group and Knowledge Economic City in Saudi Arabia by DLR Group were both highly commended.
- Office: Institut Thoracique de Montréal – Breathing life into an abandoned urban hospital in Canada by NEUF architect(e)s
- Edge Shoreditch in the United Kingdom by Allford Hall Monaghan Morris was highly commended.
- Sport: Coronation Park Sports & Recreation Centre in Canada by hcma & Dub Architects in conjunction with FaulknerBrowns Architects
- Judges of today's Future Projects categories commented on: "the well-considered sequence of extensions to existing buildings" and reflected on the "seamless integration of multiple programmatic elements" and "sensitive and humble interventions".

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Highly Commended - Edge Shoreditch by Allford Hall Monaghan Morris  
Photo credit: Secchi Smith



Highly Commended - Minerva by Woods Bagot  
Photo credit: Woods Bagot



Highly Commended - Knowledge Economic City by DLR Group  
Photo credit: DLR Group



Chaarkhaan Bridge by Bonsar Architects  
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Coronation Park Sports & Recreation Centre by hcma & Dub Architects in conjunction with FaulknerBrowns Architects  
Photo credit: VISMO, courtesy of hcma + Dub Architects



Institut Thoracique de Montréal – Breathing life into an abandoned urban hospital by NEUF architect(e)s  
Photo credit: NEUF architect(e)s



## AWARDS

- Judges of today's Future Projects categories commented on: "the well-considered sequence of extensions to existing buildings" and reflected on the "seamless integration of multiple programmatic elements" and "sensitive and humble interventions".

### Category Award Winners: INSIDE

- Hotels: Fasano Itaim in Brazil by Studio MK27
- The Blue by Just Inn in Taiwan by Tszwai So was highly commended.
- Workplace (Large): CSL Global Headquarters and Centre for Research & Development in Australia by Cox Architecture
- Google Flour Mills in Ireland by Henry J Lyons was highly commended.
- Workplace (Small): Penn Color Technology Center in Singapore by DP Design
- CFE in France by LOCAL was highly commended.
- Judges of today's Inside categories reflected on the projects delivering: "elegant and long lasting additions to the local and international market" and "smart spatial connections, and use of central stairs to connect all interior spaces". dw

[www.worldarchitecturefestival.com](http://www.worldarchitecturefestival.com)



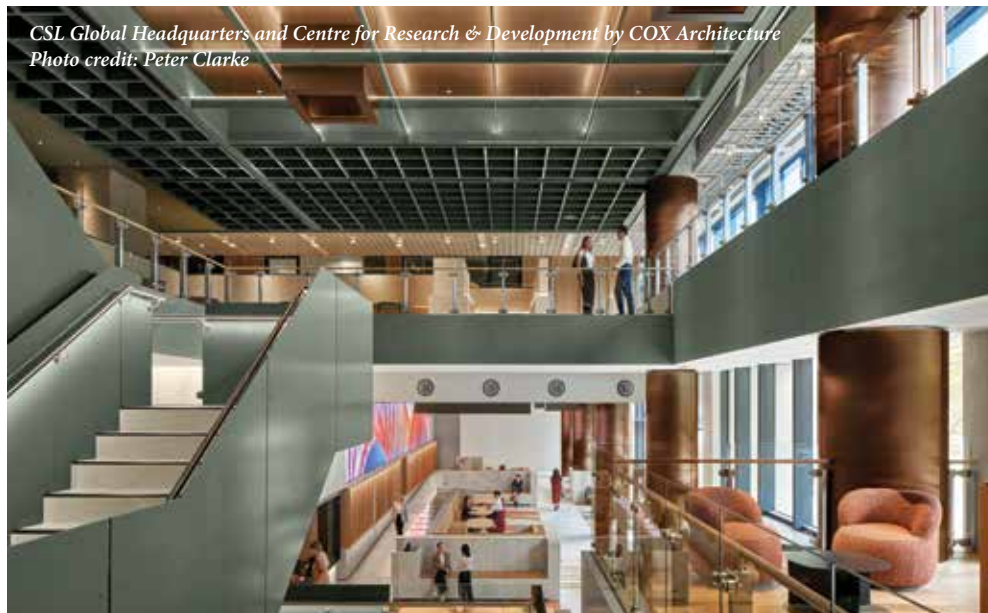
*The Greenline Project Master Plan by ASPECT Studios, TCL, City of Melbourne  
Photo credit: ASPECT x TCL, City of Melbourne*



*Retal Mosque by Pace  
Photo credit: Pace*



*Unity Arena by Rodeo Architects  
Photo credit: Rodeo Architects*



*CSL Global Headquarters and Centre for Research & Development by COX Architecture  
Photo credit: Peter Clarke*



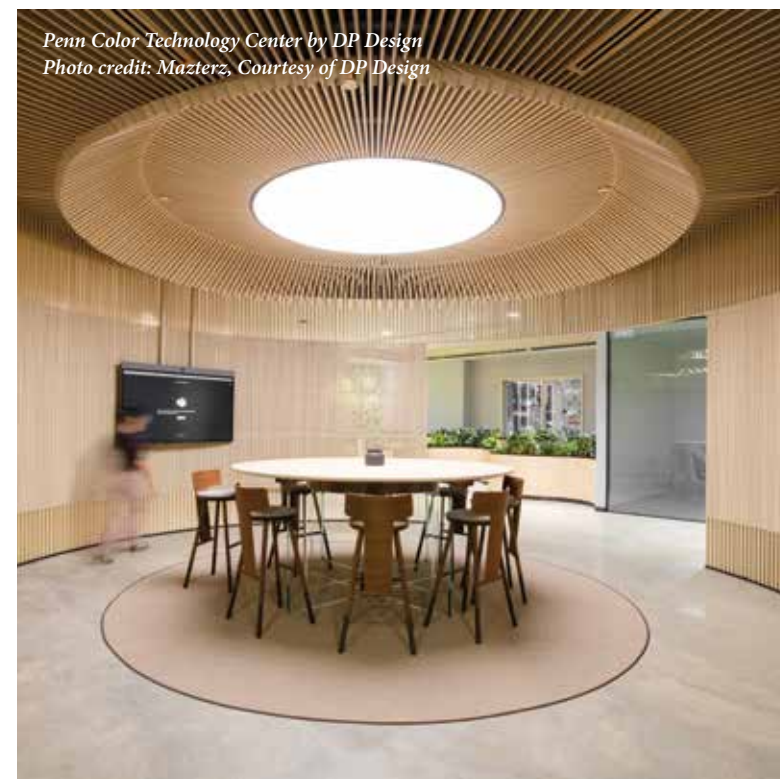
*Highly Commended - Google Flour Mills by Henry J Lyons  
Photo credit: Donal Murphy*



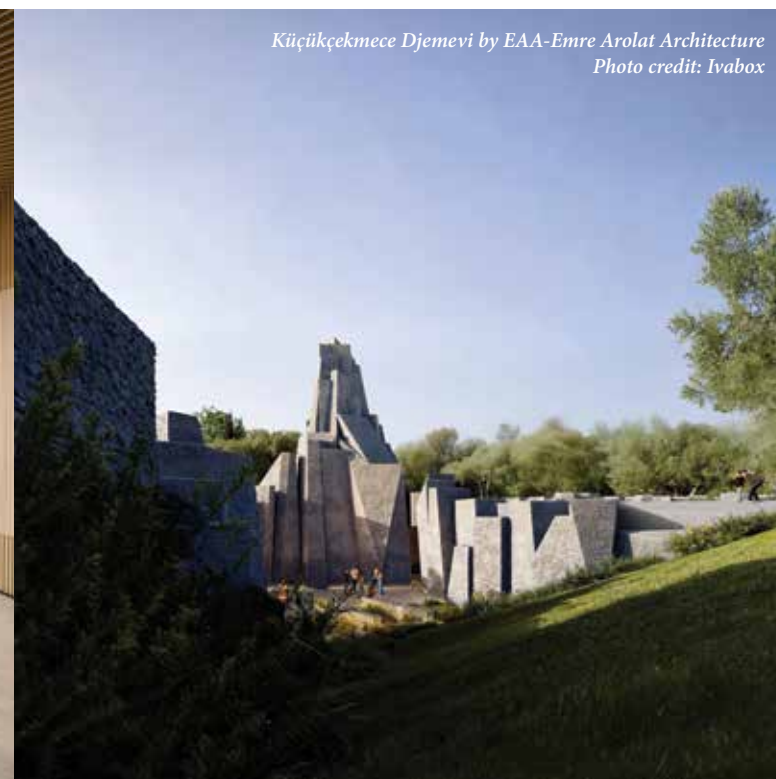
*Fasano Itaim by Studio MK27  
Photo credit: Fran Parente*



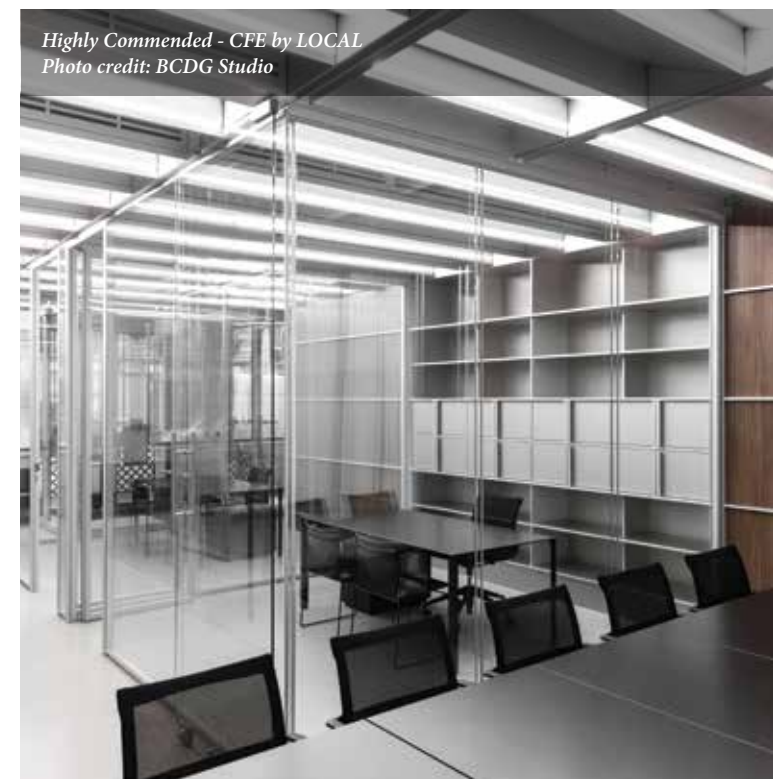
*Highly Commended - The Blue by Just Inn by Tszwai So  
Photo credit: Yu Zhi Lin*



*Penn Color Technology Center by DP Design  
Photo credit: Mazterz, Courtesy of DP Design*



*Küçükçekmece Djemevi by EAA-Emre Arolat Architecture  
Photo credit: Ivabox*



*Highly Commended - CFE by LOCAL  
Photo credit: BCDG Studio*



# Reimagining an inner-city office campus

Cape Town, South Africa





## Reimagining an inner-city office campus

Cape Town, South Africa

**dhk** Interior Design has successfully completed the refurbishment of a new campus for Good Hope Studies, an internationally accredited English language school located in the Cape Town city centre. The project exemplifies how workspaces in an existing, bustling inner-city older building can be reimagined to create a dynamic learning environment to facilitate contemporary learning.

The new facility, covering approximately 1 200m<sup>2</sup>, has been completely redesigned to ensure optimal comfort for students. The campus was previously used as a tenanted commercial office. The space has been redesigned to include 11 classrooms, a library, study break areas, a prayer room and a deli that caters for people with diverse dietary needs. dhki started work on the project in July 2024 and students moved into the new premises in late September.

This is the third educational-focused project for dhki, who has previously designed the MySpace residences in Stellenbosch, and a new academic learning centre for Bishops Diocesan College in Rondebosch.











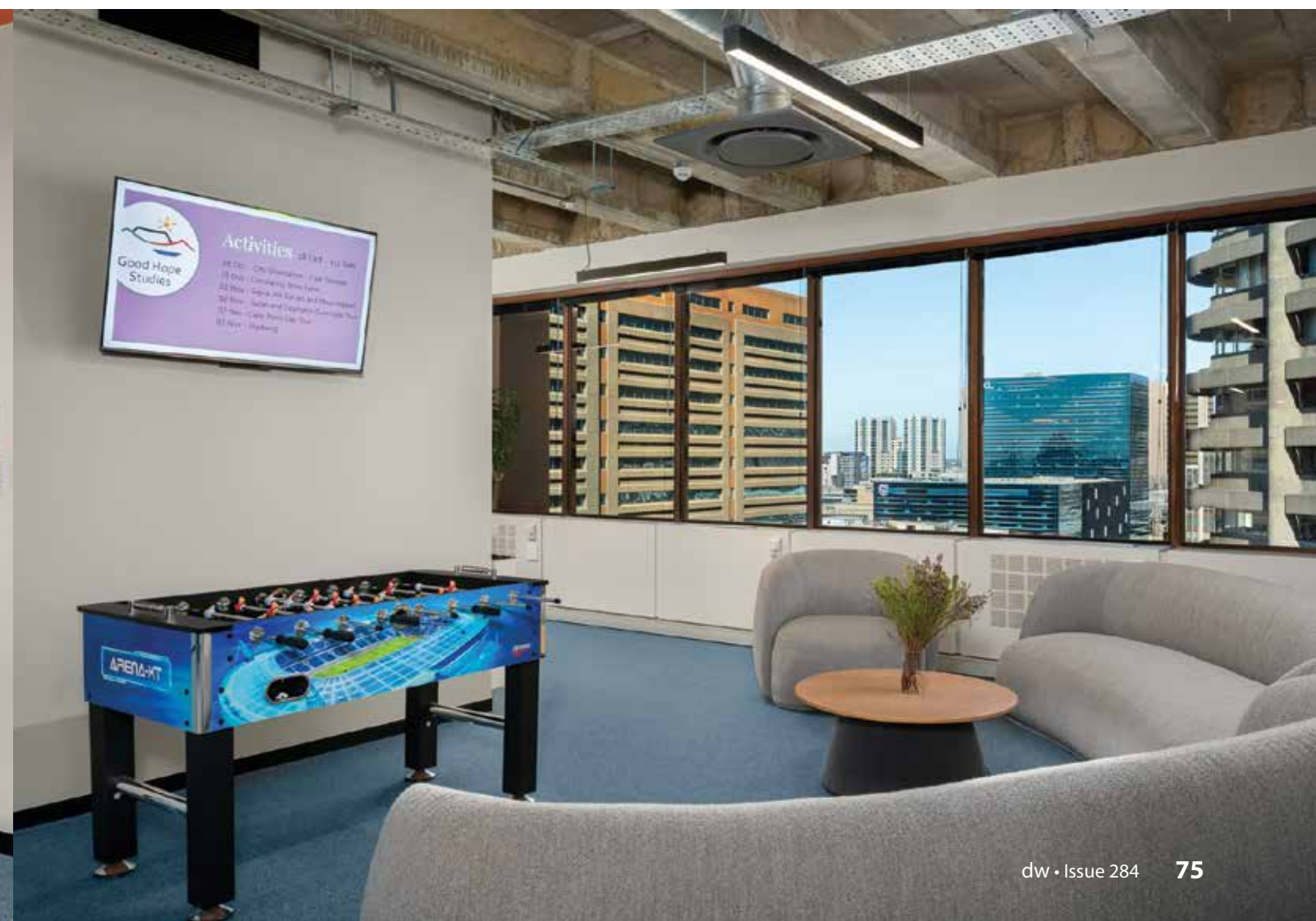
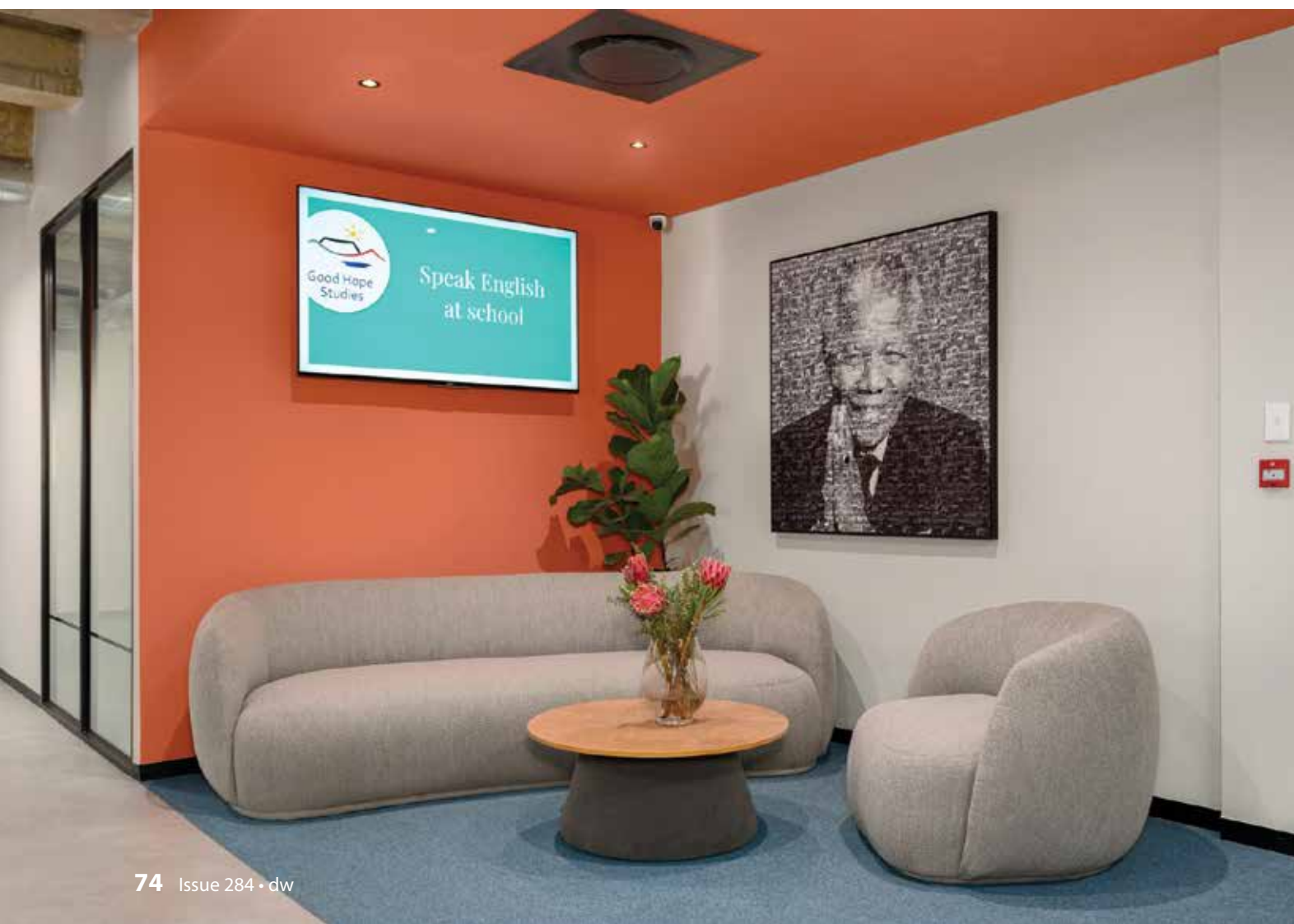
The brief was to create a school campus that embodied the spirit of Cape Town. Good Hope Studies focuses on providing a relaxed, fun learning environment for foreign students. The goal was to create a contemporary educational space that also showcased Cape Town's unique character and that would be instantly recognisable to international students.

dhki Director Lisa Bridgeford explains: "We've been deliberate in selecting materials, colours, and graphics to reflect the vibrancy and diversity of Cape Town's CBD. Our design incorporates elements that refer to the cityscapes of Cape Town, the harbour and the fauna and flora of Table Mountain. These elements are translated into the forms, shapes and colours you see in the final design."

Good Hope Studies was established in 1995, with its first branch opening in Newlands, Cape Town. Soon after, a second branch followed in the Cape Town City Centre at St Georges Mall. After years of growth and success, the founders acquired new premises at 2 Long Street to relocate the city centre branch.

dhki was appointed to the project after successful response to a request for proposal (RFP). Alexander Kratochwil, Director for Good Hope Studies, noted: "We wanted a designer who could make our students feel at home in their learning environment while far from their own homes. dhki's design proposals reflected our full vision for the project, and their implementation on time and on budget has been a real asset to our expansion."

[www.dhk.co.za](http://www.dhk.co.za)







# Four Houses Pinares

Valle de Bravo, Mexico





# Four Houses Pinares

Valle de Bravo, Mexico

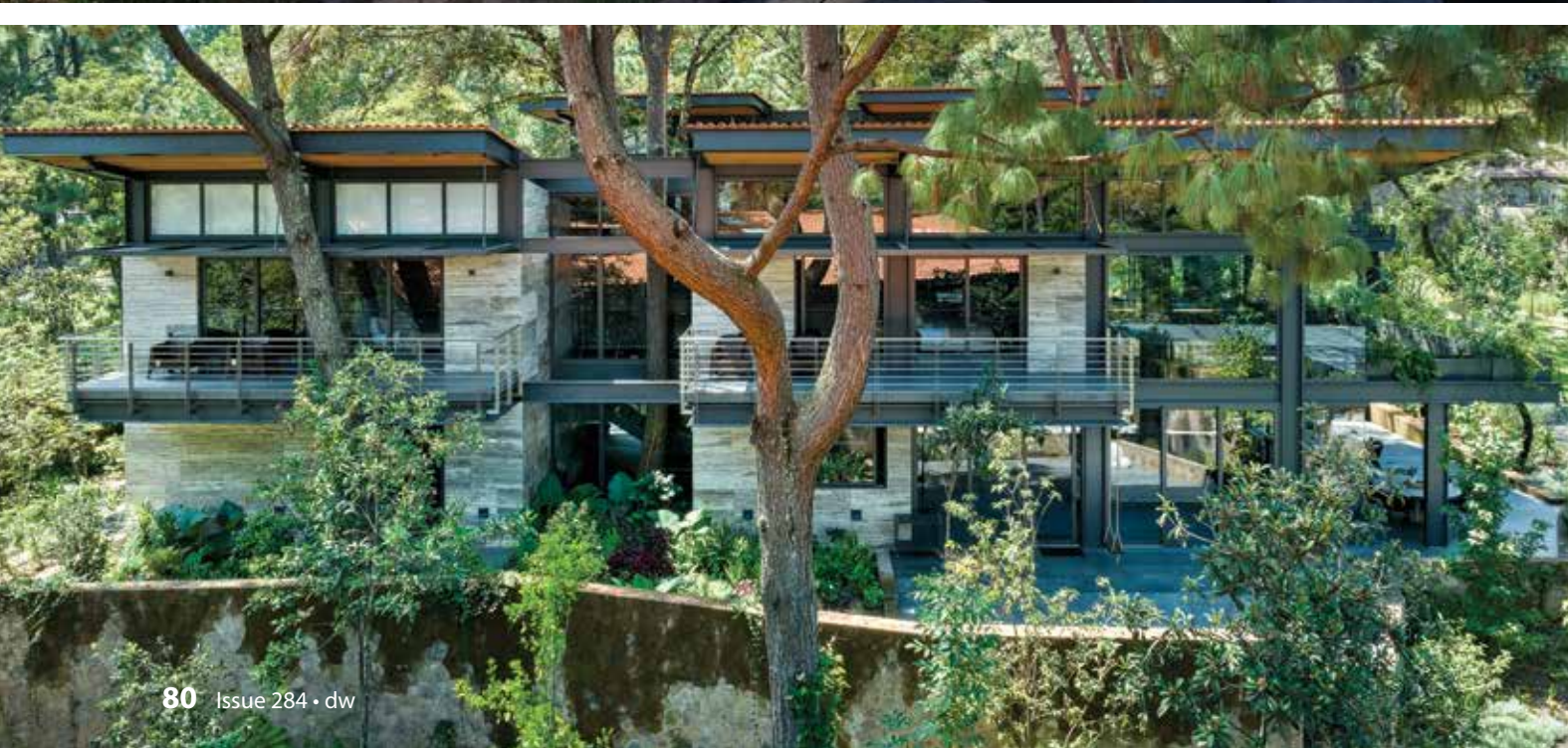
**O**n a completely wooded and descending topography, Grupo Arquitectura carried out a project of four independent two-level houses with their common amenities. When the architects went to visit the site and saw huge trees, they decided not to touch them. Instead, they planted the houses in an almost surgical way, adapting to the unevenness and natural conditions of the land. The final result is houses that appear to have been built for years, as well as vegetation that was planted at the same time as the construction.

The structure of the houses is metallic, with the floors, beams and wooden panels that were left apparent. The walls of the houses are made of Silver Travertine and wooden panels. The retaining walls and general fences of the complex are made of regional stone, placed without a joint. The interior floors and terraces are made of a grey stone from India called Caledonia.

The design of the houses is staggered, with the living areas having descending views, leaving the circulation and services around the rear façade to achieve privacy. All installation systems were thoughtfully conceived, respecting the environment. Wastewater is recycled and treated, while lighting is automated for greater efficiency. Additionally, the windows feature state-of-the-art glass designed to conserve temperature and isolate noise.











#### Technical sheet

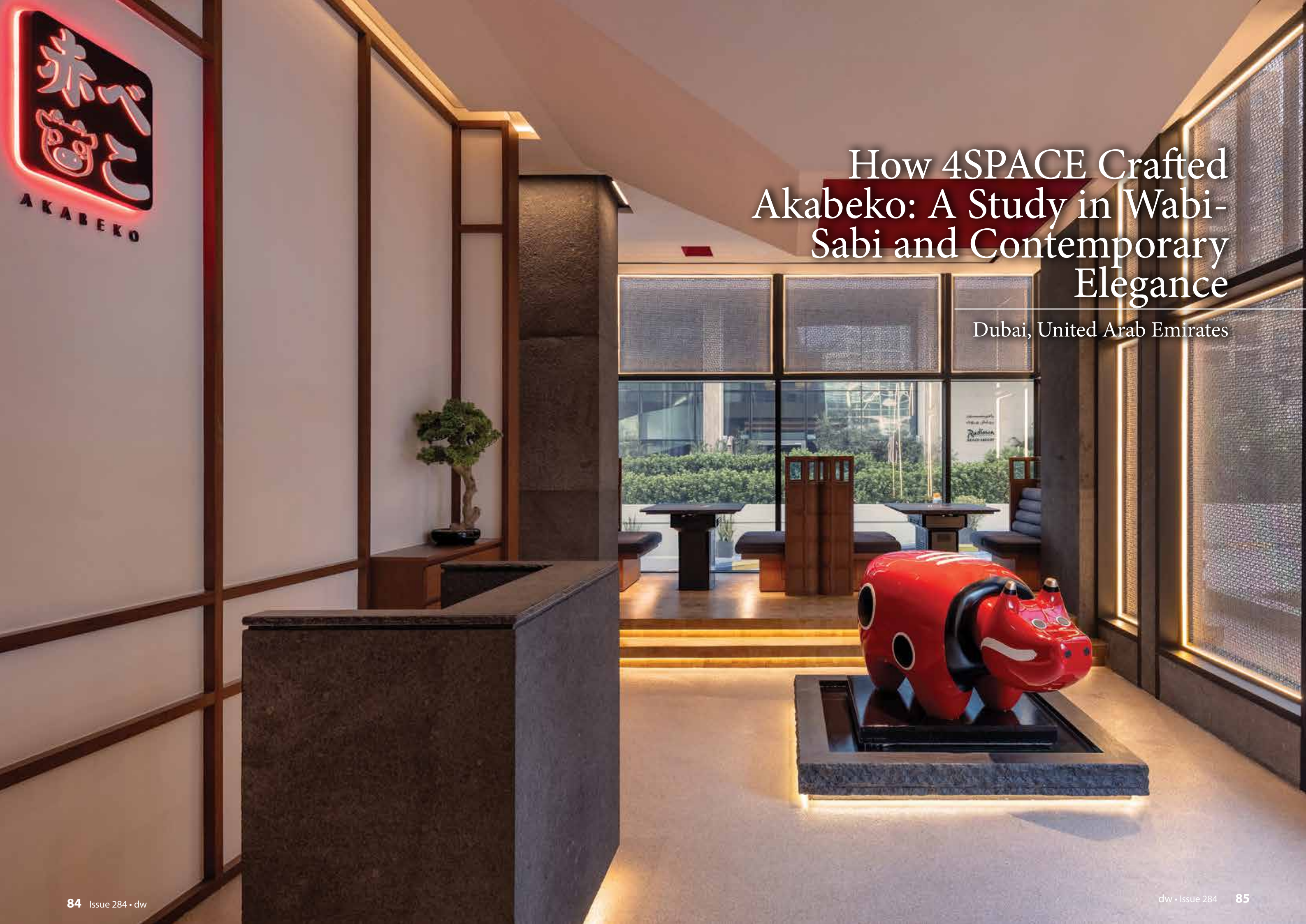
- Four Houses: Pinares
- Location: Valle de Bravo, State of Mexico
- Built Area: 10,000 sq.ft.
- Programme: Four country houses, each with three bedrooms with dressing room and bathroom, study, living room, dining room, kitchen, laundry, full service room, lobby, guest bathroom, and cellar.tennis court, multipurpose court, common terrace area with pool, kitchen, and services. Access with surveillance, and parking lots for the complex. Landscape walkers.
- Architects: Grupo Arquitectura
- Team: Daniel Alvarez, Tomás Alvarez, Gabriel Villalobos, Erick Ríos, Erika Sorensen, Alfredo Cortéz, Anaís Guzmán
- Lighting: Luis Lozoya
- Landscape: KVR / Kees Van Rooij
- Construction: Grupo MF
- Kitchen & Walk-In: Cocinas Olimpica
- Furniture: HAJJDESIGNLESS
- Photography: Agustín Garza

dw

[www.grupoarquitectura.com](http://www.grupoarquitectura.com)







# How 4SPACE Crafted Akabeko: A Study in Wabi- Sabi and Contemporary Elegance

Dubai, United Arab Emirates





## How 4SPACE Crafted Akabeko: A Study in Wabi-Sabi and Contemporary Elegance

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Akabeko, the latest creation from award-winning design studio 4SPACE, introduces a fresh take on traditional Japanese yakiniku dining. Located in Dubai, Akabeko blends the elegance of Japanese heritage with modern design, offering an immersive and captivating dining experience that appeals to both design aficionados and culinary enthusiasts alike.

### Where tradition meets modern design

Akabeko is inspired by the iconic Akabeko cow, a symbol of strength and endurance in Aizu folklore. The restaurant's name and central design element—the striking Akabeko statue—celebrate this cultural symbol, while anchoring the restaurant's identity. The Akabeko cow, with its deep red hue, infuses the space with cultural significance and establishes a connection between Japanese tradition and modern dining aesthetics.

The design of Akabeko is guided by the Japanese philosophy of wabi-sabi, which finds beauty in imperfection and the transient nature of life. This philosophy is reflected in the choice of natural materials, subtle textures, and organic forms that permeate the restaurant's interior. The design seamlessly fuses Japanese tradition





with contemporary elements, making Akabeko a visually compelling space where diners can connect with both the past and present.

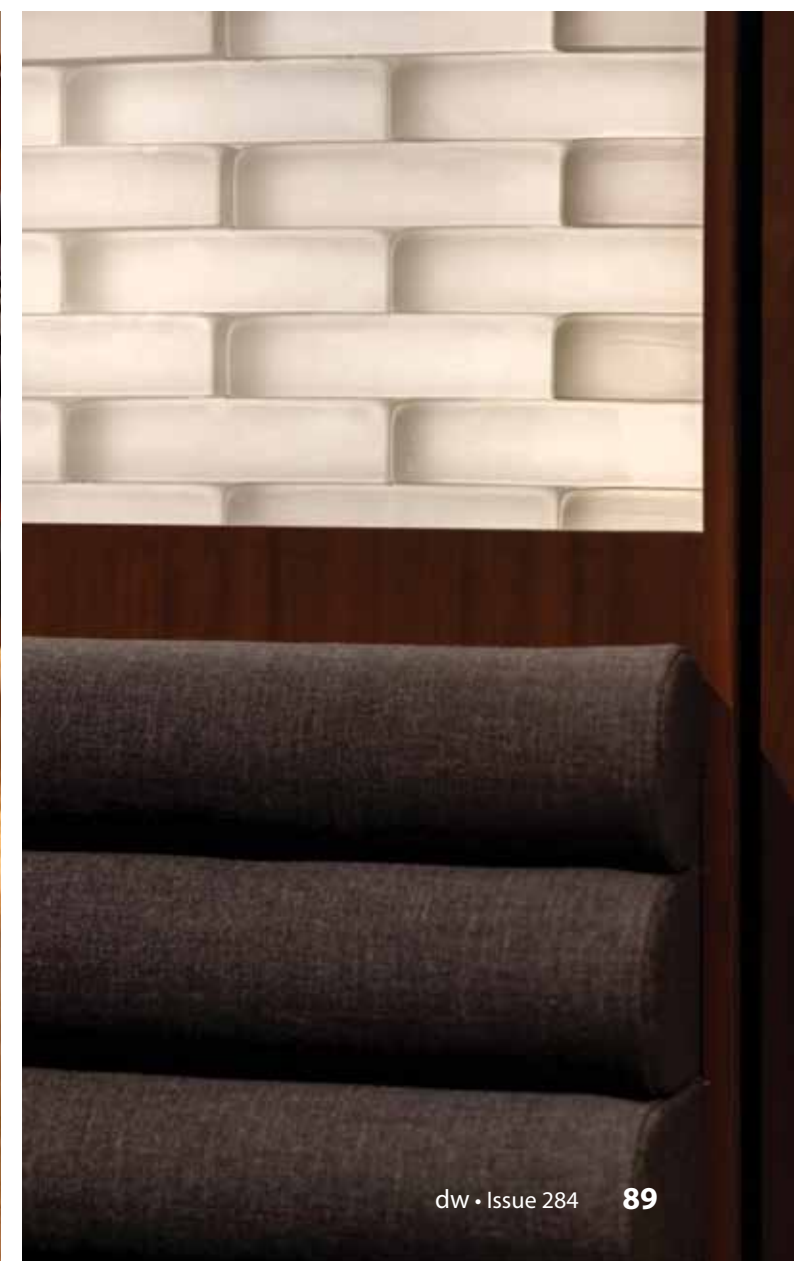
#### Craftsmanship and cultural storytelling

The interior of Akabeko showcases meticulous craftsmanship and attention to detail. The contrast of textured black walls against warm wood tones creates a welcoming yet sophisticated atmosphere, while strategically placed, indirect lighting adds depth and warmth to the space. These carefully considered design elements contribute to a sense of tranquility, allowing guests to fully immerse themselves in the dining experience.

Cultural storytelling is a key component of Akabeko's design. The restaurant's layout and décor are inspired by traditional Japanese architecture, from the use of bonsai trees as living art pieces, to the intricate light patterns that play on walls and surfaces. The Akabeko statue serves as a focal point, imbuing the space with a narrative that ties the restaurant's design to its cultural roots. The integration of these symbolic elements goes beyond aesthetics, offering diners an enriched experience that resonates with Japanese heritage.

#### An elevated culinary experience

Akabeko reimagines the yakiniku dining experience by combining the finest Japanese wagyu with state-of-the-art culinary technology. At each table, smokeless grills are seamlessly integrated, allowing guests to enjoy an interactive and intimate cooking experience. The presence of highly skilled chefs adds a personal touch, guiding diners in preparing their meals while showcasing the art of yakiniku. Akabeko's menu emphasizes quality and authenticity, with a focus on premium cuts of wagyu, celebrated for its marbling and flavor. The combination of traditional Japanese culinary methods and cutting-edge technology ensures that each dish is prepared to perfection, offering diners a taste of Japanese gastronomy at its finest.







#### Designed for privacy and connection

The spatial layout of Akabeko is designed with the diner in mind. Carefully arranged booths and tables provide a balance between privacy and connection, allowing guests to enjoy an intimate meal, while remaining engaged with the restaurant's overall ambiance. This thoughtful design creates a welcoming environment where diners can savour their meal while feeling connected to the cultural and social energy of the space.

#### Sustainability and modern responsibility

In addition to its design and culinary achievements, Akabeko emphasises sustainability through the use of natural materials and energy-efficient technologies. 4SPACE's commitment to sustainable practices aligns with contemporary global values, making Akabeko not only a celebration of Japanese tradition, but also a model for responsible design and consumption in the hospitality industry.

#### A one-of-a-kind dining experience

Akabeko by 4SPACE is more than just a restaurant—it's a journey into the heart of Japanese culture, redefined for modern times. With its thoughtful integration of tradition, craftsmanship, and innovation, Akabeko offers a one-of-a-kind dining experience that resonates on both sensory and cultural levels. Whether through its design that celebrates wabi-sabi, its menu of world-class wagyu, or its commitment to sustainability, Akabeko invites guests to enjoy a truly immersive dining experience. dw

#### Technical sheet

- Size: 240 m<sup>2</sup>
- Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- Contractor: Laads Contracting LLC
- Design: 4SPACE
- Photo credit: Anas Rifai

[www.4space.ae](http://www.4space.ae)





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## TAIL OF THE DOG

One of South Korea's highest earning exports are Korean TV Series. Awareness of this style of TV drama created the 1990's Korean Wave, and Netflix helped to create a tsunami of interest by streaming and supporting TV dramas from 2010. This was further pushed into our TV watching consciousness in 2021 by Squid Game, a series that had 111 million viewers by the first three weeks.

There is almost a template for each series – rich spoilt, entitled boy/girl meets honest, hardworking, outspoken boy/girl, hearts start to beat, a secret romance blossoms in the workplace, hometown, schoolroom. The sets are gorgeous with glamorous high-rise penthouse apartments and offices, or homely small living spaces with scruffy rooftop gardens. The clothes are glamorous, with finely tailored suits and coats, or homespun with oversized handknitted jerseys. There is a lot related to food, served from street stalls, or in fine dining restaurants.

## The Luck of the Irish

There is usually a scene where a lot of drinking takes place with soju (similar to vodka but slightly less alcoholic) served neat in shot glasses either sipped or knocked back.

Product endorsement is very visible – cars, phones, watches, clothes, shoes, handbags (lots of these) and cordless Dyson hand-held vacuum cleaners. The heroes are extremely handsome, and rarely smile. When they do, the screen lights up and glows. The heroines are beautiful, and seesaw through emotions as the stories unfold.

There are street fights, car chases, hospital scenes, closeups with clenched fists and teary eyes, and the first kiss usually happens after at least four episodes. There are trips to the country, to the sea, to the hometown villages, and visits to temples and colbariums, where the ashes of the dead are kept in urns, surrounded by photos and synthetic flowers.

The titles are weird but descriptive – Crash Landing on You, Boys Over Flowers, Extraordinary Attorney Woo, Uncontrollably Fond - and the subtitles not always perfectly grammatical, but this is no deterrent. Social issues are often part of the storyline – autism, single motherhood, school bullying and tension created by pushy parents, powerful companies and corruption, wicked stepmothers who wield too much power, hospital life and social media damage. Overall themes are friendship, family values, love, and traditional values being upended by Western materialism and individualism.

There is more: historical period pieces with wonderful sets and costumes, and zombie style movies with scary character changes. I prefer the rom-coms which I find perfect for late night escapism and binge viewing, I am addicted.

Gill Butler

## Wave



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# PostKrisi Chandelier

by Cavalleri

The PostKrisi collection welcomes a stunning new Chandelier that combines sculptural elegance with a dynamic sense of movement, making it the focal point of both residential and contract environments. The development of a low-voltage system with high-quality, interchangeable light sources allows Catellani & Smith to redefine lighting design, offering both standard and custom-made Chandeliers that combine contemporary aesthetics and cutting-edge technology.

The PostKrisi Chandelier is composed of small spheres-available in diameters of 14 or 20 cm – crafted from natural fibreglass, with copper and brass details.

Each sphere features the signature frayed edges of the shades, which is the distinctive characteristic of the entire PostKrisi collection. The spheres are suspended by blue cables of varying heights, anchored by a satin steel base, available in square, rectangular, or round shapes.

In the new PostKrisi Chandelier, the interplay of fibreglass and the irregular edges of the spheres allows the light to filter through, casting beautiful shadows and creating a soft, ambient glow. This lighting effect embodies the sculptural and artisanal essence of Catellani & Smith production.

The PostKrisi Chandelier is available in standard models, as well as in custom variants, allowing customers to choose from various bases sizes and finishes, a different number of pendants, and customised heights.

dw

[www.cavalleri.com/en](http://www.cavalleri.com/en)



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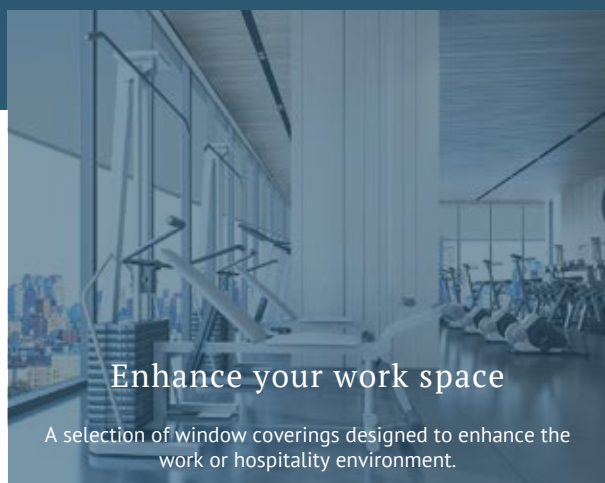
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# SOPHISTICATED WORK SPACES

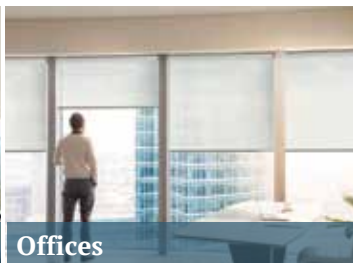


## Enhance your work space

A selection of window coverings designed to enhance the work or hospitality environment.



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Offices



Medical Facilities



Restaurants

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