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ISSUE 294

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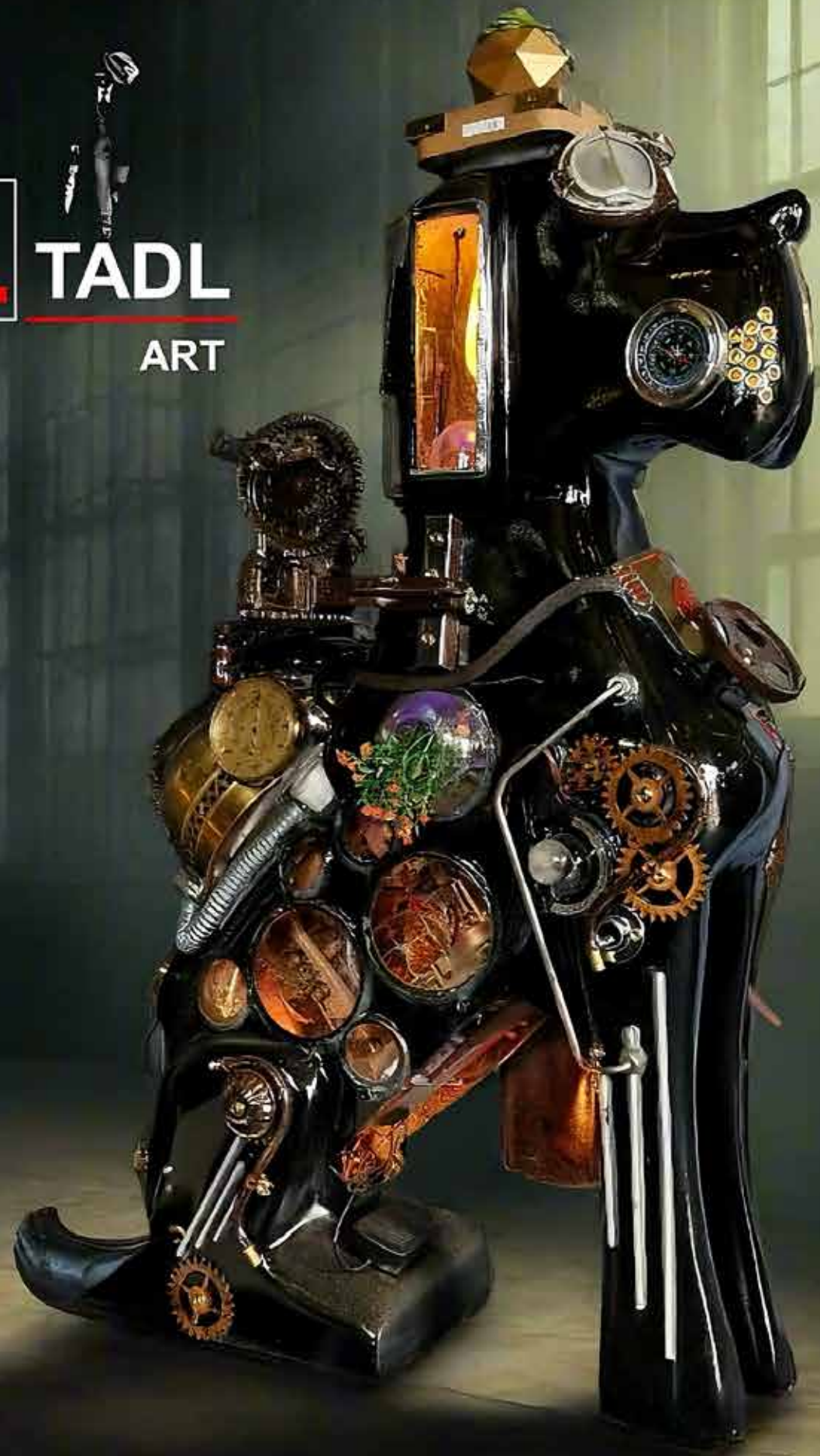


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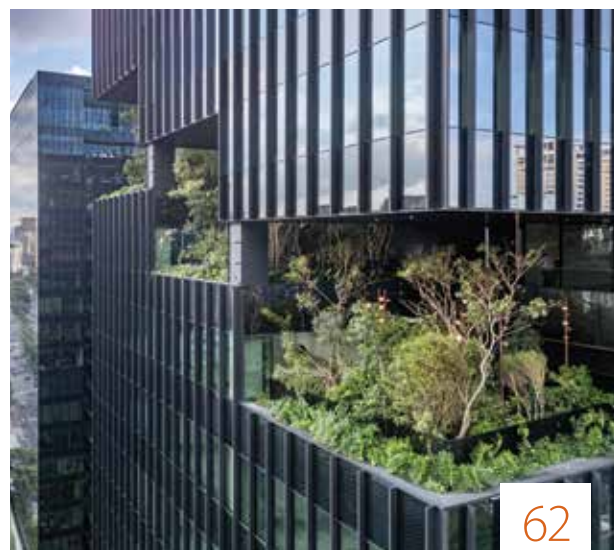
Waterfall
Double Volume
Crystal Chandelier

Code: KLCH-89400

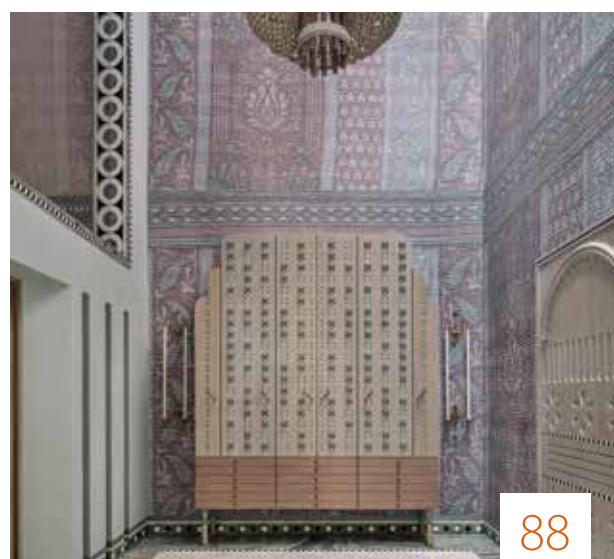


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Contributors: Gill Butler • Stienie Greyling
Layout: Christo Van Eeden • 082 442 8176 • beyond@bdstudio.co.za
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Accounts: accounts@designingways.com

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Patrick Mavros

An African legacy of luxury,
craftsmanship and
conservation

A globally recognised name in refined jewellery and objets d'art, Patrick Mavros is Africa's definitive luxury house - a family-run brand rooted in heritage, craftsmanship and storytelling. What began as a romantic gesture in 1978, when Patrick carved a pair of earrings for his wife, Catja, has evolved into a worldwide symbol of African excellence.

Today, the Mavros family - Patrick, Catja, and their four sons Alexander, Forbes, Patrick Jr and Benjamin - continue to design and craft one-of-a-kind pieces inspired by the spirit, wilderness, and wildlife of Africa. Every piece is meticulously handmade in sterling silver or 18-carat gold, using age-old techniques honed in the family's studios in Zimbabwe.

"Embodying the spirit of family and tradition permeates every aspect of our business,"
says eldest son, Alexander Mavros.



"Our brand was born out of a love story - and has grown into a celebration of African craftsmanship, heritage and conservation."

With boutiques in London, Harare, Nairobi, Victoria Falls, Mauritius and most recently, Cape Town, the brand continues to expand its footprint across the continent and beyond. The boutique at the V&A Waterfront offers a gateway into the world of Patrick Mavros - where every item, from intricate animal sculptures to delicate floral earrings, carries with it a sense of meaning, memory, and magic.

The flagship store in London has long been a destination for global tastemakers and royalty alike, while the family's private studio in Zimbabwe is both atelier and wildlife sanctuary - a creative space

deeply connected to the land and its creatures.

"Our mission is to showcase the very best of African creativity and artistry on a global stage,"

says Alexander.

"Africa is a continent full of mystery, romance, and resilience, and through our work, we hope to share its stories with the world."

Cherished by discerning collectors, celebrities, and families around the globe, Patrick Mavros remains as much about legacy as it is about luxury. Every piece is a future heirloom - a timeless celebration of Africa's beauty, made with intention and soul.

dw

www.patrickmavros.com

Japandi

JAPANESE & SCANDINAVIAN
DESIGN PHILOSOPHIES



Ardmore marks 40 years with the elegant Hoopoe Hop Scarf collection honouring early artist Punch Shabalala

Ardmore celebrates four decades of creativity with the launch of the Hoopoe Hop scarf collection, a tribute to Punch Shabalala—one of Ardmore's first artists and a beloved studio member for 38 years. The collection draws on the hoopoe's rich symbolism of healing, wisdom and guidance, reflecting Punch's resilience in her fight with HIV AIDs, and her enduring influence on Ardmore's visual language.

The Hoopoe Hop design is alive with movement: crested hoopoes spring and bow in rhythmic repetition, their fan-striped wings and curved beaks echoed in finely drawn borders and feather motifs. Delicate botanical accents frame the scene, while the composition's measured negative space lends a poised, contemporary feel. The result is a scarf that reads as both artwork and heirloom, equally striking draped or knotted.

Crafted in 100% Italian silk with hand-rolled hems, each scarf is double printed to ensure saturated colour on both faces—offering true reversibility without show-through. The double-faced 90 x 90 cm silk scarf arrives in nuanced palettes of Chalk, Rust and Safari, allowing the

wearer to switch between a lighter, airy face and a richer, deeper reverse in seconds. Complementing these are slim silk twills in Stone, Rust and Emerald. These are ideal outfit accompaniments; as chic neck ties, hair ribbons or bag accents.


Together, the colour stories mirror the hoopoe's cinnamon plumage, bold black-and-white flight feathers and the greens of the African landscape.

"Hoopoe Hop celebrates the poetry of movement and the courage of one of Ardmore's earliest talents,"

says Ardmore founder, Fée Halsted.

"Punch's eye for pattern and story has helped shape who we are. These scarves honour her artistry and the hoopoe's message of hope and renewal."

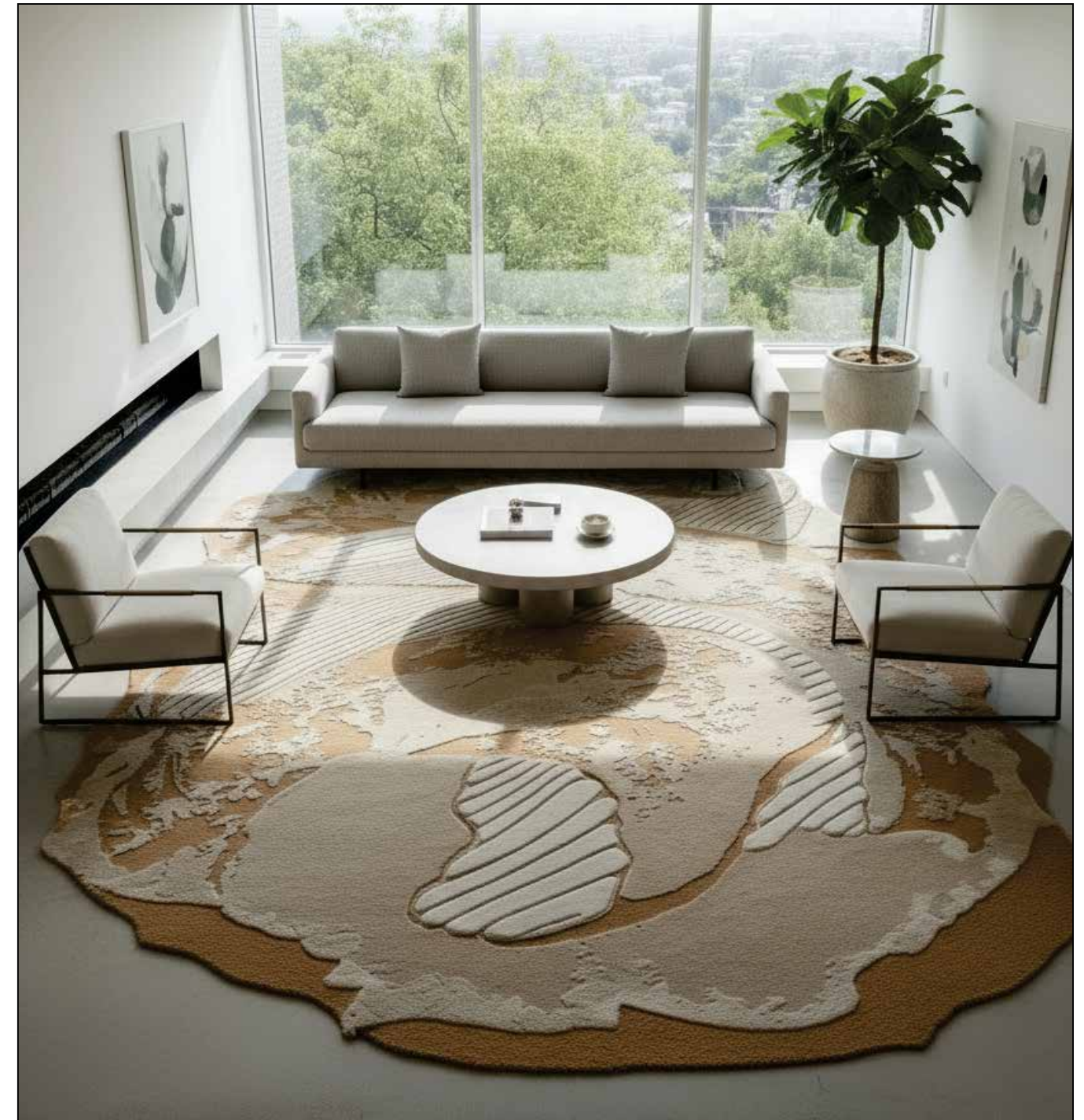
The Hoopoe Hop collection is available in limited quantities.

The Ardmore 'Hoopoe Hop' collection is available for purchase from Ardmore online and at Ardmore stores across the country. 

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Starch Living named runner up for Luxury Brand of the Year at the 2025 Scape Awards

Starch Living has been named runner-up for the Luxury Brand of the Year at the 2025 Scape Awards of Excellence, announced on Thursday, 4 September 2025 at the Scape Design Emporium held at the CTICC in Cape Town.

The Scape Awards of Excellence celebrate outstanding achievements in South African architecture, interior design, and luxury brands. The Luxury Brand of the Year award category specifically recognises brands that set the standard for craftsmanship, originality, and influence within the design sector.

Starch Living's runner-up placement follows its recent shortlist for the award where a panel of respected architects and designers acknowledged the brand's contribution to redefining luxury within the home space. The recognition comes shortly after its recent launch, making the accolade an important early milestone in

the brand's journey.


Says Bonnie Stanley, founder of Starch Living: "This recognition is deeply personal. Starch Living started as a dream to create something honest, beautiful, and lasting for the home. To see it acknowledged on a stage like the Scape Awards is incredibly humbling. It's a tribute to the women who taught me the value of craft, to our small but dedicated team, and to every person who has invited our designs into their living spaces. Having built Heavenly Feather before launching Starch Living, this moment also affirms that South African design has the excellence and vision to stand among the best in the world."

With a reputation for timeless linens and lifestyle pieces that combine natural fabrics, thoughtful design, and South African craftsmanship, Starch Living builds on Bonnie's two decades of experience in luxury textiles. As the

founder of Heavenly Feather, a leading name in hospitality linens for five-star hotels and superyachts, Bonnie brings a legacy of excellence that underpins the new brand's ethos of understated, enduring luxury.

This recognition by Scape Magazine highlights this new brand's growing influence and position as an emerging leader in the luxury design market.

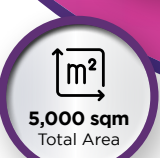
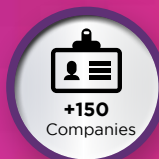
The Scape Design Emporium brought together South Africa's design community to showcase innovation and excellence across architecture, interiors, and luxury goods, culminating in the awards ceremony that recognised standout brands and practitioners shaping the future of design.

The full range can be explored online, or by appointment at the private Johannesburg showroom. 

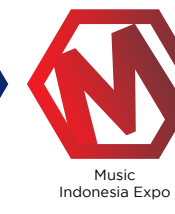
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IID update, September 2025.

Spaces That Shape Us: The
Rising Role of
Interior Design
By Carin Dewey

Twenty five years ago, commercial interior design was still fighting for recognition. When undertaking my studies at the University of Pretoria in the late 2000s, interior architecture students were often mocked as “scatter cushion decorators” a frivolous add-on to “real” architecture. Despite this, I made the leap from studying architecture to interior design. I was drawn to the intimacy of the discipline: the scale of the individual, the chance to shape a single person’s experience rather than simply designing for a crowd. Back then, few of us realised just how vital our profession would become.

Today, thanks to sustainability movements, a growing focus on wellness and the impact of a global pandemic, interior design is finally receiving the respect it deserves. We now understand what we only suspected years ago: the spaces where we live, work and relax profoundly affect our health, productivity and quality of life.

Why Interior Design Shapes Lives

We spend 90% of our time indoors. Our surroundings influence our work, culture, diet, health and mobility. Think of an indoor plant: it needs a certain amount of light, water and nutrients to survive. We’re the same but our wellness is both physical and psychological. In the end, our internal environments determine whether we thrive or simply survive.

This is why designing for all abilities, conducting rigorous research, and focusing on detail are no longer “extras” but essentials. The best interiors don’t just look good; they support people in ways that are measurable and meaningful. Most importantly, designing for the edges ensures that we design for everyone.



The Workplace as a Case Study

Workplace design is a vivid example of why interiors matter. Poorly considered offices can damage morale, productivity and performance. While many global companies recognise this, in South Africa we still have a lot ground to cover. The pace of day to life has shifted our focus to the wrong direction. Time and money became more important than people – whereas evidence demonstrates that an intelligent investment in workspace design has both tangible and intangible rewards. We need to correct that imbalance.

As designers, architects, specifiers and suppliers, we hold a privilege and a responsibility: we are shaping how people feel, behave and perform. We are designing for all people, regardless of age,

ability or gender. A well-designed interior is not a luxury; it’s essential for health and well-being.

Design thinking is a human-centred, iterative problem-solving process.

In the context of interior design, it challenges us to move beyond aesthetics and prioritise empathy for the end user. It involves deeply understanding their needs, clearly defining the brief, generating and refining ideas (often through multiple iterations), prototyping, and testing. By placing the user’s experience at the core, design thinking enables us to create spaces that are more responsive, meaningful, and purposeful.

Much of the groundwork takes place in the earliest phases of design, where

the power of research and the ongoing opportunity to learn becomes the most exciting part of the journey. Who is the client? How do they change the world? And ultimately, how do we align their purpose with their place?

The value of a well-crafted design strategy is immeasurable for any practice. By mapping out your initial process, you create a clear framework—a toolkit that every designer on your team can rely on when uncertainty arises.

Design Partnership’s People-First Approach

At Design Partnership, we take enormous pride in being led by people, not products. Our process is rooted in placemaking and grounded in research, curiosity and empathy. We believe great interiors begin with understanding human needs and translating that into spaces that delight, restore and empower.

By placing people at the heart of our work, we aim to design not just for individuals but for families, communities and ultimately humankind. We know that every detail matters, and that every decision influences how people live, work and feel.

A Duty to Society

Interior design is more than shaping spaces. It’s shaping behaviour, community and culture. As a profession, we are entering an exciting era where we can finally articulate and prove our impact. But with that recognition comes responsibility. We have a duty to create environments that help people thrive, because, at its best, interior design is not only about aesthetics; it’s about life itself.

dw

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KSA update, September 2025.

The KSA's Gauteng golf day was, once again, an overwhelming success! The entire course was booked out by our dedicated members, showcasing the fantastic support and enthusiasm within our industry. Each hole was manned by kitchen and supplier members, spoiling players with refreshments, snacks, and gifts - adding to the triumph of the day.

Blessed with perfect weather, everyone enjoyed a day full of camaraderie, friendly competition, and breathtaking views of the stunning Els Club at Copperleaf Estate. It was truly inspiring to see so many members come together to celebrate our industry and taking part in the theme of the day - Proudly South African.

On the course it was a challenging and hot day out - with some teams even going as far as letting the KSA's own Niale van der Merwe play for them - she did not



disappoint and took many of the players by surprise with her impressive drive.

The evening dinner and prize giving topped off the day with amazing prizes. A heartfelt thank you to all who participated, all our sponsors - Roco Fittings, Grass, Pascal Kitchen Specialists, Kwikot, Mobi Golf, Moremi Kitchens, Sonae Arauco, Upper Edge Products, PG Bison, Boardmart, Union Tiles, Pinnacle Stone, National Edging, Whirlpool, Max on Top, Franke, Caesarstone, Smeg - and everyone who made the event memorable. We

appreciate your support and look forward to many more successful golf days in the future. Everyone agreed—what a fantastic day out!

Congratulations to our prize winners on the day:

- 7th Moremi (Prizes from Gelmar and Rubio Monocoat)
- 6th Moremi (Prizes from Gelmar and Tynox stone)
- 5th PG Bison (Prizes from Grass, Roco, Décor and Design)



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE KSA INDUSTRY SHOWCASE '25



After the great success of this event in 2024 we are excited to invite you to join us again for yet another informative day. There will be networking, new products, technology, materials, and CPD talks. Come for an hour or come for the day - enjoy it all and a bite to eat from one of our food trucks.

Industry professionals joining us for the day will be eligible for 1.0 CPD points issued by IID & SACAP on presentation of a completed event CPD passport. You will also receive a lunch and drinks voucher courtesy of your hosts.

CPD Talks:

- 11.00am - By Sonae Arauco
- 13.00pm - De Othering - Designing for hidden disabilities by the KSA & IID
- 2.45pm - Dynamic Space by BLUM

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4PM**

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28 SEPTEMBER 2025



- 4th Boardmart (Prizes from National Edging, EasyLife Kitchens and Display Wine)
- 3rd Grass (Prizes from MOT and Smeg)
- 2nd Whirlpool (Prizes from Hansgrohe and Whirlpool)
- 1st Kwikot (Prizes from Rainpoint)
- Best Dressed 4 ball – Upper Edge Products (Prizes from PG Bison)
- Longest day – Boardmart 4 ball (Prizes from Franke)
- Longest Drive – Keegan Thornton - Upper Edge team (Prizes from Kwikot, Pinnacle Stone, Franke, and Hafele)
- Closest to the Pin – Michael Barnardo from the Salvocorp 4 ball (Prizes from REM, Gelmar and Hafele)

But, we are not done yet. We still have three big events to come before we allow our events to take a back seat

- 2 October – KSA CT industry showcase will be taking place at the Building Center, Northgate Estate. Kitchen industry, industry professionals, developers, builders, shopfitters and carpenters are invited to join us for another amazing

day of networking, new products, food trucks and CPD talks. Those industry professionals that join us for the day, attend all three talks and complete their CPD passport will gain 1.0 CPD points as issued by IID and SACAP. To book to join us contact capetown@ksa.co.za

- 9 October – Join KSA and Action Coach for a talk that will be of great value to business owners and managers about holding your team accountable while fostering a positive work environment. To book a spot contact capetown@ksa.co.za
- 23 October – The KSA in KZN will be collaborating with the IID for an industry day of engagement and conversations. This will be held at Kingsmead cricket grounds. In the morning we will host students while the afternoon will be open to industry professionals and the kitchen industry – there will be networking, CPD talks and product showcasing. To RSVP to attend please contact capetown@ksa.co.za

www.ksa.co.za

The Conversation Continues
 It's Bigger,
 Bolder,
 Better

KZN
 23rd October

We're heading back and this time, we're bringing even more to the table.

The IID In partnership with KSA, invites you to a dynamic event that goes beyond showcasing top industry suppliers.

This is your chance to be part of the top conversations of the year, all in one place



Expect powerful panel discussions, meaningful networking opportunities, and insights that will shape the way we work, think, and collaborate.



TIME: 14h30 -18h00

CPD: 0.4 – category 1 – Building services and related technologies

VENUE: Kingsmead Cricket Stadium - KZN

RSVP essential: HERE

HOW TO HOLD YOUR TEAM MEMBERS ACCOUNTABLE

Join the KSA and Darryl la Grange of Action Coach for an informative talk about accountability within the team dynamic. This talk is a **must** for business owners and managers

Not my
 FAULT

Thurs 9 Oct 2025

9.30am - 10.30am

Online - Zoom

RSVP - capetown@ksa.co.za





Prior Ecclesia project

Alcamo, Italy

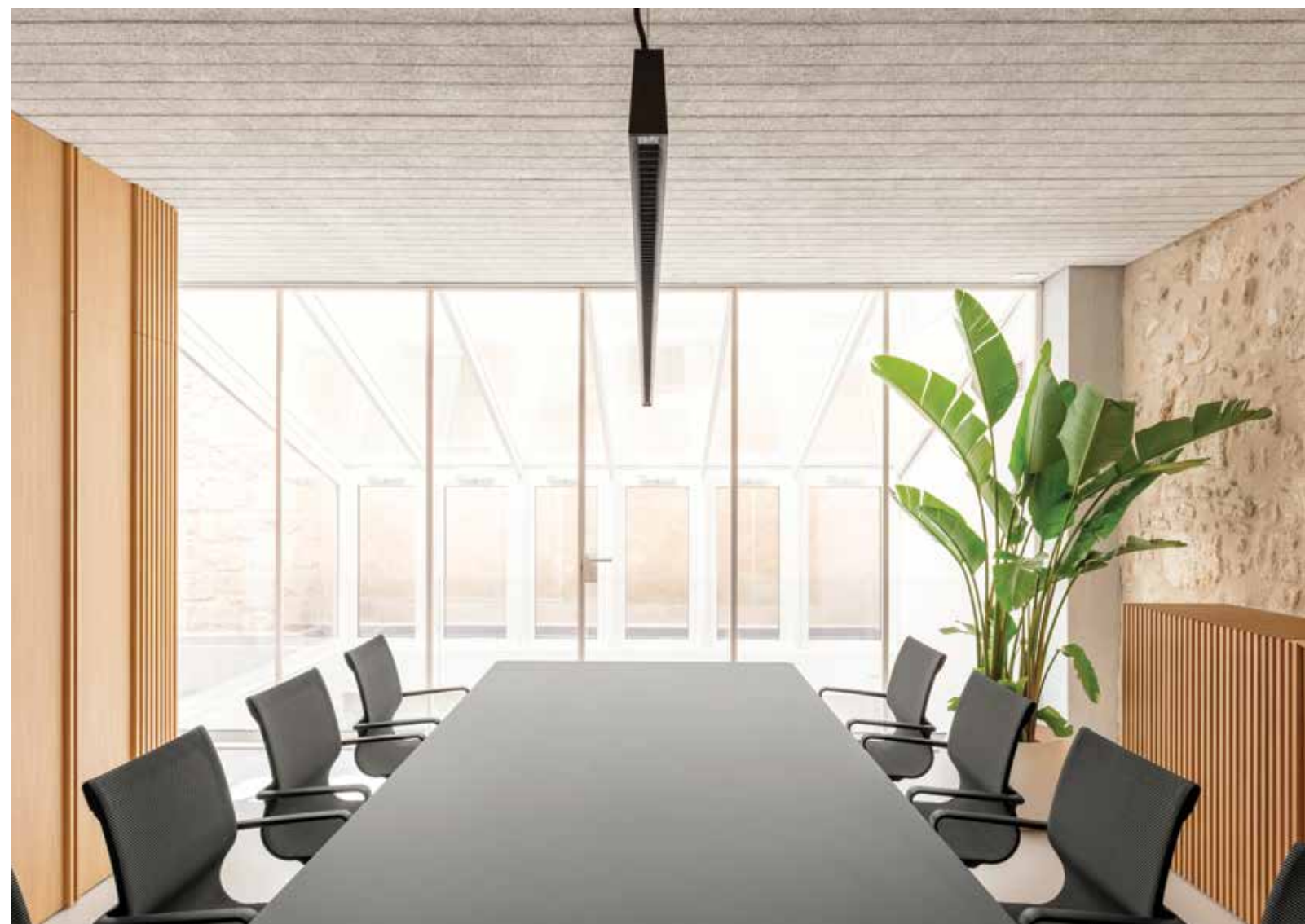
In the heart of Alcamo, a 16th-century deconsecrated church has been transformed into a canvas for an ambitious architectural endeavour. Studio Didea took on this challenge, reimagining the historic structure as a contemporary office.

The transformation began with a limited number of original elements. Following extensive interior gutting in the latter half of the 20th century, and the addition of a reinforced concrete support structure, only the outer walls remained intact. A significant initial hurdle was the first floor's complete lack of windows.

At the heart of the Prior Ecclesia project is the desire to eliminate darkness - removing one of the ceilings to reveal a soaring double-height space, crowned by a generous skylight.

"Light is the most precious element in all our work - always paired with what we call Mediterranean minimalism,"

says Nicola Andò, CEO and Creative Director of Didea.



"We work by subtraction, aiming to highlight the inherent charm of a space - in this case, a striking example of Sicilian religious architecture - while meeting the functional needs of its users."

The eloquence of beauty

Natural light pours in from above, illuminating every corner and accentuating the texture of the ancient tuff stone walls, now revealed as a striking architectural backdrop.

The interior design is defined by contrast and lightness, deliberately avoiding additional masonry. The robust concrete frame already in place has been repurposed to support a pillar that spans both levels, organising the space into four distinct sections that alternate between wood and glass.

Spaces that tell stories and embrace sustainability

The interiors of Prior Ecclesia evoke the blank pages of a refined notebook - ready to be filled by those who inhabit the space, making it uniquely their own.



The layout offers versatility and openness. Flexible workspaces for laptop users flow into quiet concentration areas and dynamic zones for meetings and casual interactions. The design also includes administrative offices, a spacious meeting room, and an open-air relaxation area surrounding the skylight.

The material selection is refined and natural. Concrete and wood blend to create a contemporary atmosphere that resonates with the building's history, offering continuity with the ancient stone walls. Partition elements combine transparency with custom oak components, serving as both storage and architectural articulation - ensuring flexibility and order.

Bespoke craftsmanship and user-centred functionality go hand in hand with sustainability principles: the preservation of the existing structure, minimal demolition, and the selection of eco-conscious materials such as aluminum frames and wood fibre roofing that ensure energy efficiency and acoustic comfort.



COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

Refined, essential design

Studio Didea's minimalist approach welcomes, rather than dictates. Its Mediterranean essence emerges in the choice of materials, a warm, subtle color palette, and the way it shapes space through light. It's also globally inspired, drawing from design, art, and photography.

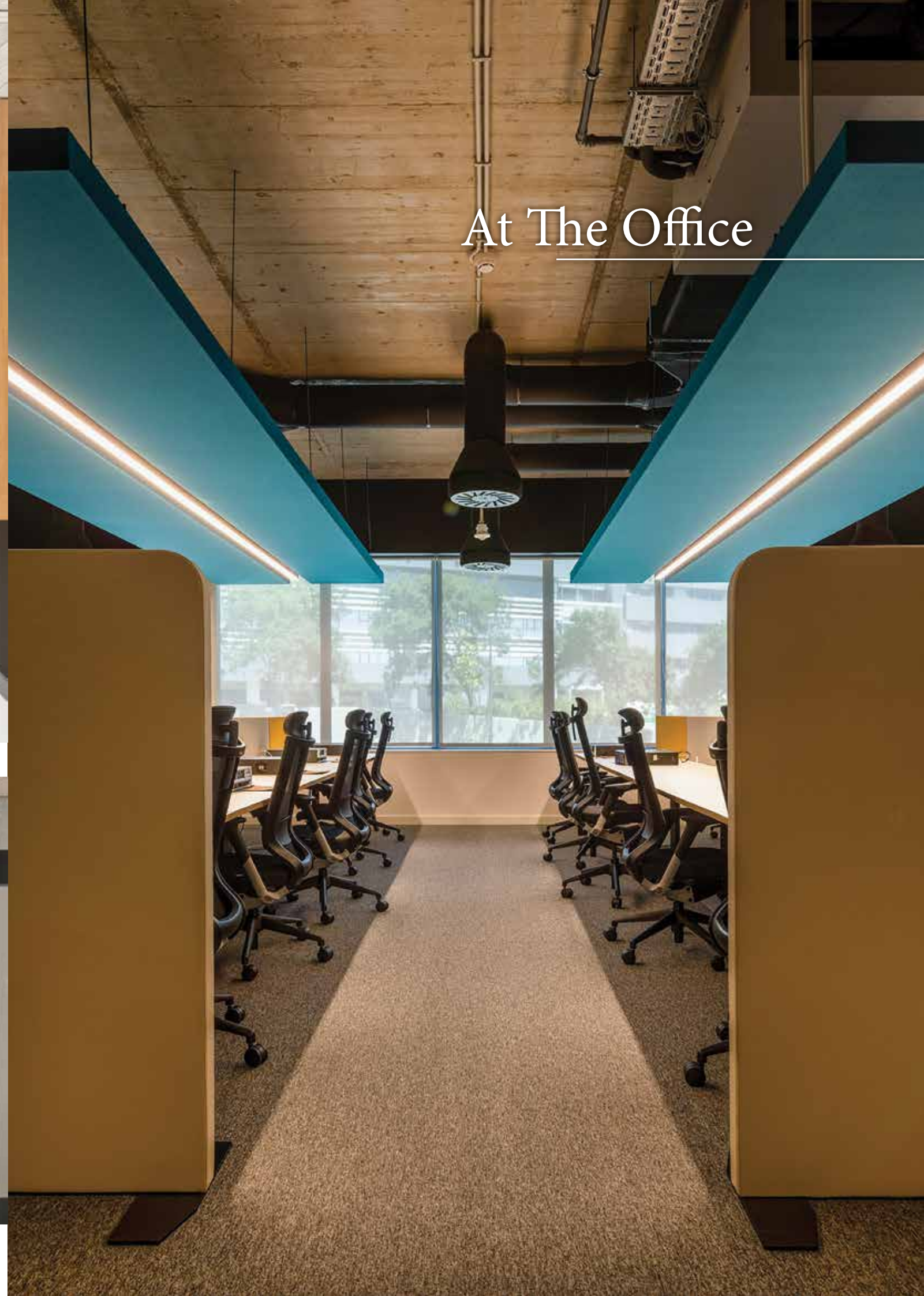
"Several influences guided our creative process for Prior Ecclesia,"
concludes Nicola Andò.

"Luigi Ghirri's sensitivity to space and light, John Pawson's essential architectural language, and James Turrell's evocative use of light as a transformative architectural element." **dw**

Technical sheet

- Project: Prior Ecclesia
- Client: Private
- Scope: Renovation, Interior Design
- Year: 2023
- Location: Alcamo, Italy
- Surface Area: 232 sqm
- Engineer: Salvatore Fuoco
- Custom Furniture: P.A.M. Srl
- Partner Companies: Kerakoll Design House / Vitra / Rimadesio
- Lighting: Deltalight
- Photography: Anna Positano

www.studioididea.it





At the Office

by Stienie Greyling

The latest office trends highlight a significant shift towards hybrid work models, flexible spaces and a focus on employee well-being. Sustainability, technology integration and task-based zones are also key factors shaping the modern office.

Workplaces are changing in exciting ways. The rise of diverse work styles and hybrid working models has increased demand for reconfigurable, multi-use workspaces that adapt to varying needs. At the heart of these spaces is adaptable furniture such as modular shelving, desks and tables, which can easily be reconfigured. This flexibility supports everything from focused individual tasks to collaborative team projects, ensuring that workspaces remain functional and versatile.

Balancing hot-desking with dedicated desks is essential in these environments. Hot-desking fosters flexibility and maximises space utilisation, while dedicated workstations provide continuity and a productivity boost for individuals or teams requiring consistency. This hybrid-friendly approach appeals particularly to start-up and remote teams prioritising adaptability and efficiency.

In addition to traditional work functions, modern offices increasingly require spaces tailored for content creation. Reconfigurable spaces incorporate features like folding walls, mobile tables and stackable furniture, to facilitate activities such as podcasting video production for social media feeds, and media walls to engage with external team members. These adaptable zones

allow businesses to seamlessly transition between brainstorming sessions, studio setups, and formal meeting or casual breakout areas, all within the same workspace.

Collaborative and social spaces are essential in modern workplaces, fostering connection, teamwork and creativity. Enhanced meeting areas equipped with state-of-the-art technology, such as seamless video conferencing tools, support hybrid collaboration by enabling effective communication between in-person and remote team members. These tech-enabled rooms break down barriers to innovation and productivity.

Social zones play an equally vital role, offering informal spaces where employees can interact and build relationships. Whether it is a lounge area or a café-



style set-up, these zones encourage casual conversations that often lead to meaningful collaborations and stronger team bonds.

Informal seating, with moveable and comfortable furniture, adds flexibility to these spaces, allowing employees to rearrange setups to suit their needs. This adaptability supports spontaneous collaboration and dynamic team interactions. Together these collaborative and social spaces balance productivity with human connection, creating a vibrant and engaged workforce.

Acoustic spaces are vital in modern office design, especially in open-plan environments where noise can disrupt focus and productivity. Soundproof pods offer quiet retreats for tasks requiring concentration, virtual meetings, or phone calls, enabling employees to work without distractions. These pods provide a private and peaceful solution with a busy office settings.

For larger teams, sound proof zones with booths and enclosed areas cater to activities like deep-focus work or collaborative discussions while minimising noise interruptions. Acoustic partitioning systems featuring modular and moveable partitions with sound-absorbing materials, allow flexible reconfiguration of workplaces while maintaining effective noise control.

To further enhance office acoustics, ceiling and wall treatments with acoustic panels, baffles and tiles reduce sound reverberation and improve speech clarity. Soft furnishings like carpets, upholstered furniture and curtains add an extra layer



of sound absorption, creating a balanced auditory environment. Together, these solutions transform workplaces into productive, harmonious spaces that support diverse tasks and work styles.

Natural lighting and open layouts are transformative design strategies that breathe life into modern workspaces. By prioritising sunlight through large windows, glass partitions and intelligent architectural choices, organisations create environments that enhance employee well-being and reduce energy consumption. These thoughtful designs allow daylight to penetrate deeply into workspaces, fostering a positive atmosphere that feels both vibrant and calming while significantly reducing reliance on artificial lighting.

Modern workplaces are increasingly incorporating hospitality-inspired amenities to enhance employee experience and foster a sense of community. Café-style breakout areas featuring barista coffee points, healthy snack bars and comfortable lounge spaces provide inviting zones for relaxation and informal collaboration.

Businesses are faced with constant change and uncertainty, particularly in recent years. We are seeing organisations evolve their work models and policies as they have to adapt to the working landscape. What suits a business now might not be the same in a year's time and beyond, as there is the chance of growth or a change in policies, which can put a lot of pressure on their real estate. dw



Sage HQ

Vancouver, Canada

Sage, a leader in accounting, financial, HR and payroll technologies, set out to transform its global office spaces into vibrant hubs designed for hybrid work. The new 18000 square-foot, two-floor Vancouver headquarters embodies this vision, redefining modern workplace design with a focus on innovation, inclusivity, and adaptability. The design reflects Sage's "hybrid-first" approach, balancing spaces for collaboration, focused work, and employee well-being. A key concept of the design is "flow", achieved through curved architecture and lighting. Biophilic elements, inspired by the West Coast's natural beauty, bring the outdoors in with lush greenery, natural materials, and a calming palette reminiscent of British Columbia's landscapes.



The Roster

Upon entering the Sage space, visitors are greeted by a calm entry corridor featuring the building's exposed concrete

core, a branded Sage logo, and seating for guests. On the 18th floor, the heart of the office is the social and collaborative café, offering sweeping views of the North

Shore mountains. This space includes barista-quality amenities, bleacher seating for company gatherings, and abundant greenery.

The open office features central touchdown areas on both floors, designed for focused, independent work. These spaces include a curvilinear harvest table and individually controlled task lighting for added comfort. "Solve" rooms, located in prime view corridors, support collaboration with flexible layouts for brainstorming and meetings. Complementing these creative zones are quiet spaces, including single phone booths, two-person pods, and booth seating, all positioned to showcase the city skyline.

The design also reflects Sage's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), with amenities such as a wellness room, a mother's room, quiet rooms, and a multi-faith room, all thoughtfully integrated into the workplace.

Brand at its best

Sage's signature green is subtly integrated into the design, appearing in custom light fixtures above the café island and the metal leg details of furniture. The company's strong brand identity is further showcased through bold supergraphics in meeting rooms, featuring playful characters that add colour and energy to the space. A striking artwork, crafted from hundreds of carved pencils, highlights



AT THE OFFICE

the company's core principles, while colorful Playmobil figurines are grouped to represent the diversity of Sage's clients and team.

Sustainability in action

Sustainability was thoughtfully prioritised throughout the design. By exposing the base building's concrete walls and reusing existing ceiling systems, lighting, and flooring in the elevator lobbies on the 16th and 18th floors, Edit minimized waste while celebrating the building's raw character. Millwork and back-of-house rooms were repurposed, and local vendors were chosen wherever possible to support the surrounding community and reduce environmental impact.

The office has become a vibrant hub for work and connection. The café invites spontaneous conversations and informal gatherings, while flexible work areas foster creativity, collaboration, and individual focus. Thoughtfully designed spaces ensure seamless integration of remote communication and in-office work, supporting a truly hybrid workforce. Brand elements and greenery breathe life into the space, aligning with Sage's identity and creating an inspiring atmosphere. By blending functionality, sustainability, and design, the office reflects a forward-thinking approach to the workplace, one where employees feel connected, motivated, and proud to be part of something bigger.





Technical sheet

- Client: Sage
- Location: Vancouver, BC
- Size: 18,000 sq ft
- Completion: 2024
- Designers: Edit Studios Inc
- Contractor: PBMG
- Consultants: Smith & Anderson
- AV: Amplified AV
- Photography: Brett Ryan
- Landlord: PCI
- Furniture suppliers: Knoll & Herman Miller, Contemporary Office Furniture, Demountable Doors by Hayworth,
- Feature lighting: Acoustical
- Ceilings: Lumenworx
- Table Lamps: And Tradition Flower Pot
- Features lighting: <https://arancialighting.com/project/frici-evo>
- Feature flooring: Carpeting Throughout: Shaw Flat Weave Tile
- Vinyl Wood Flooring: Mannington Spacia Collection
- Acoustical Wall Covering: Akustus

dw

www.editstudios.ca



Kubby by Kabin

Where Privacy, Comfort,
and Focus Find a Home

There are moments in the day when we don't just want space - we need it. Not in theory, not on paper, but right then, when we need an immediate access to a focused ready space. Kubby by Kabin was created for those small moments. More than a product, it is having what you need, the moment you need it.

Kubby recognises the essential connection between environment and well-being. Every detail - its shape, materials, and functionality - was designed to restore calm in overstimulating, high-traffic spaces. Within one design piece, it brings together all you need to regain focus: a thoughtfully designed chair, a spacious yet compact surface, gentle lighting, and easy power access, all seamlessly integrated and fully adjustable, personalised and made to fit the surrounding space.

In the evolving landscape of modern work and public space design, one truth holds steady: when people feel supported by their environment, they thrive. Kubby was born from this belief - a quiet, refined retreat that offers something rare: a moment of control. It creates a centred, protected space without cutting people off. With a forward-facing design that subtly enhances data privacy, Kubby invites natural concentration, helps thoughts



stretch out, and keeps conversations confidential supporting both productivity and peace of mind.

"Space impacts how we feel, think, and function,"

says Walter Craven, Founder of Kabin. *"Kubby reflects our belief that well-being is shaped by our surroundings. When we design for people, intentionally and empathetically, we support not just productivity, but comfort and security."*

Kubby is a smart solution for higher education campuses, busy airport lounges, crowded hospitality spaces, building lobbies, and transitional unclaimed spaces where traditional furniture falls short. It

meets the demands of modern life: quick to order, easy to install, and built with accessibility and customisation in mind.

Comparable in price to alternatives like Brody, Kubby distinguishes itself through superior privacy, greater comfort, and a design that supports a deeper sense of security. It's not just functional, it's an accessible business tool that enhances daily experience in a fast-paced world.

Kubby reclaims privacy as a fundamental right, not a luxury. In an era of open plans and uniform design, it reimagines public and professional spaces as places of belonging - spaces that support difference, restore focus, and foster wellbeing. **dw**

www.kabin.space





LOCAL Designs an Office Space in Paris

Located in the heart of Paris' 8th arrondissement, the new welcome area for the Caisse des Français de l'Étranger (CFE) replaces the entrance hall of an existing office building. Facing due north, on the ground floor of a wide Haussmannian boulevard, the 70 sqm space benefits from a single window onto the street and is designed to provide the necessary comfort for two separate offices and a meeting room for 10 people.

Inspired by the cinematic sequences of Jacques Tati, the team of LOCAL conceived a space that embraces a form of deliberate neutrality. The reference to International Style architecture serves as a subtle echo of the CFE's global mission. The project bridges two narratives: that of a public institution ensuring healthcare coverage for French citizens worldwide, and that of a modernist architectural language that celebrates transparency, lightness, and clarity of form. The design responds to two core challenges: introducing natural light deep into the volume, and ensuring the space remains flexible in an era of ever-evolving work environments.






The layout follows a rigorous spatial logic. Storage and technical elements are positioned along the perimeter, liberating a central, open space for workstations. Large glazed partitions subdivide the space, while maintaining visual continuity and allowing all offices a shared view onto the street. Acoustic separation from neighboring spaces is achieved through a high-performance shell of compressed recycled paper, ensuring full sound insulation. Raw materials are used throughout, enriched by diverse finishing techniques. A custom ceiling, conceived as an inverted shed, features anodized aluminum trays that incorporate linear lighting and ventilation elements. Light reflects across the angled panels to create a soft, immersive ambiance throughout the space.

The humid block, containing both a restroom and a kitchenette, is clad in mirror-polished stainless steel. The reflective surfaces imbue the room with a refined spatial quality. Two seamless doors, set flush into the walls, are revealed only by subtle vertical gaps serving as handles.

This attention to detail contributes to an interplay of reflections and transparencies that generates a series of visual compositions, strict and orthogonal, yet almost abstract.

Each workstation benefits from its own character. One desk is anchored in a warm atmosphere thanks to its timber furnishing, while the second, defined by an open metal cabinet and linear shelving, offers a more versatile arrangement. The meeting room is framed by an opaline glass wall that echoes and expands the spatial experience. Concealed behind two aluminum panels in the room's corners, large acoustic curtains allow the central table, originally designed for 10, to be reconfigured into three independent workstations. When drawn, the curtains create intimate, almost monastic spaces conducive to quiet focus.

The result is a space where materials interact with light to produce an

atmosphere that feels removed from its Parisian context. It offers an international quality, a refined and adaptable alternative to the conventional workspace, crafted with precision and attention to detail. 

Technical sheet

- **Client:** Caisse des Français de l'Étranger (public)
- **Localisation:** Paris, France
- **Status:** completed 2023
- **Category:** Office
- **Surface area:** 70 m2
- **Architect:** LOCAL
- **MEP:** MTC
- **Photographer:** David Cousin-Marsy
- VUenVille + Bertrand Fompeyrine
- BCDF studio

www.locallll.com/projects/cfe



Lighting feature

by Stienie Greyling

In the ever-evolving world of interior design and home improvement, lighting plays a crucial role in shaping the ambiance and functionality of living spaces. Lighting has the power to transform a room, creating ambience, setting moods, and even influencing our well-being.

We are seeing a wave of colourful statement pieces, with vibrant colours like cobalt, mustard and blush adding playful personality. Combined organic shapes and textured finishes, 2025 lamps deliver style that is functional, fun and refreshingly modern.

In an era dominated by mass production, the demand for unique handcrafted lighting pieces keeps surging. Artisanal fixtures, often sourced from local craftsmen, will

serve as focal points this year, adding character and a personal touch to interiors. These bespoke elements will range from blown glass pendants to intricately designed metal chandeliers, each telling a story of craftsmanship and offering a refreshing break from the ordinary.

Lamp shades will make a bold visual statement. These vibrant decorative

elements can transform a simple lamp into a striking accent piece, bringing lively energy to décor. But that is not all, carefully curated material and colour can do wonders for a room's evening atmosphere. Use shades wisely to make the most of the design.

Atmospheric illumination will continue to gain popularity in lighting trends,

as designers and homeowners seek to create adaptable living environments. This tendency involves using lights that can change colour, temperature and intensity to match different activities or psychological needs. Whether hosting a dinner party or unwinding after a long day, mood lighting is all about creating a perfect ambience for every moment.

Not to mention that it makes the best bathroom lighting choice, too.

Biophilic design trends still have their momentum, now also translating into lighting design. The goal is to incorporate natural elements into sconces and chandeliers in order to bring the calming effects of the outdoors inside. Think branches, leaves and flowers integrated with the lighting structure, fostering a connection with nature even within urban environments.

Ceiling lighting trends emphasise layered illumination, organic shapes and minimalist design, often incorporating smart technology and sustainable materials. Layered lighting, which combines ambient task and accent lighting, is gaining popularity. Organic and sculptural shapes, especially curved and wavy designs, are also trending, adding softness and movement to spaces. Additionally, minimalist fixtures with cleanliness, often in muted metallic tones, are becoming increasingly popular.

Chandelier trends emphasise a blend of luxury, natural elements and smart technology, with a focus on artistic and sculptural designs. Expect to see a resurgence of crystal chandeliers with a modern twist, alongside chandeliers featuring raw wood, unrefined materials and organic shapes. Smart features like app and voice control, adjustable colour temperatures, and integration with smart home systems are also gaining popularity, making chandeliers both beautiful and functional.

This year, architectural lighting is emerging as a prominent trend in interior and exterior design. It focuses on accentuating the unique features

and structures of a room, enhancing its aesthetics and creating a captivating atmosphere.

Commercial spaces everywhere are trying to save energy, decrease costs and reduce the carbon footprint. The use of energy-efficient lighting is one solution that's been gaining popularity for years and is now a full-blown movement.

More commercial spaces are replacing outdated incandescent and fluorescent fixtures with new LED lighting systems. The number of LED retrofits in office spaces at an all-time high and continues to rise. Plus, choosing LED with the latest Smart-based technology allows users to set schedules, control lights during off-peak hours and reduce energy consumption even more.

Sustainability is also influencing the fixture styles currently trending in commercial spaces. These forward thinking fixtures use sustainable materials as an interesting design feature. Responsibly sourced wood, bamboo, rattan and glass transform lamp shades into stylish focal points. This nature-inspired vibe works in hotels, restaurants, office reception areas and medical waiting rooms, but has the potential to fit into other spaces as well.





STONE

When Light Pays
Tribute to Stone

Surrounded by blocks of marble, onyx, and travertine, Maude Rondeau, founder of Luminaire Authentik, felt the silent strength of raw material. In the heart of this mineral landscape, the idea for STONE was born - a collection that honours the innate beauty of natural stones, allowing their shades, veins, and imperfections to speak for themselves.

The collection features wall sconces, pendants, and ceiling lights, offered in six distinct stone hues.

A journey into the heart of craftsmanship

To bring this vision to life, Maude gathered her artistic director and videographer for a journey to Mexico. Together, they captured every stage of the process: the artisan's precise gestures, the dust suspended in sunlight, the rhythm of polishing. It's an authentic immersion into traditional craftsmanship - where hand and tool refine what nature has already shaped.





Minimalist design in service of the material

The STONE collection stands out for its pure, refined forms, created to showcase the raw material rather than alter it. Each piece is unique, carrying a millennia-old story, and made to last far beyond passing trends.

“With STONE, we’re not just making light fixtures,”

expresses Maude Rondeau, Founder and Creative Director, Luminaire Authentik.

“We’re telling the story of the meeting between light and matter, between authenticity and design.”

An extension of the Luminaire Authentik family

In keeping with its philosophy, Luminaire Authentik sees STONE as a new branch on its creative tree—a natural extension of its team, its collaborations, and its dedication to artisanal creation.^{dw}

www.luminaireauthentik.com



Step inside K. Light's newly renovated Showroom

Come see the splendour!

We are proud to announce that our newly renovated showroom is now open to all customers and to the public for viewing only.

After months of careful design and craftsmanship, K. Light is delighted to unveil a state-of-the-art, luxurious space that is a work of art in itself.

This fresh chapter showcases the beauty, quality and attention to detail that have defined our brand for 30 years.

Spread over two spectacular levels, our showroom displays our full lighting collection so you can see how each piece lives in space.

From majestic double-volume crystal chandeliers that make an entrance, to sleek modern pendants, high-performance LED fittings, elegant garden lights and so much more.

The range is vast and thoughtfully curated. Every fixture has been hand-picked to show the best of contemporary and classic lighting design.

We invite you to come and experience the grandeur in person. Around every corner you'll discover elegant details, surprising pairings and modern design solutions that may inspire your next project.



Whether you're planning a full renovation, updating a single room, or simply curious, the showroom is a place to explore, imagine and enjoy purely for viewing and inspiration.

This year is extra special for K. Light as we celebrate 30 years in business. From humble beginnings to the showroom you'll see today, we've grown thanks to customers like you.

We have so much to celebrate and we can't wait to show you how far we've come.

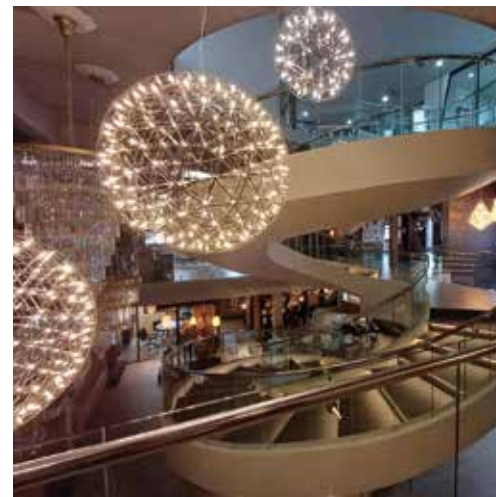
Step into luminous luxury and we look forward to welcoming you.

- Our showroom hours are Monday to Thursday, 08h30–16h00, and Friday 08h30–15h00.
- Address: 7 Kunene Circle, Omuramba Business Park, Milnerton.
- Please contact us via Tel: 021 5524370 or Email: info@klight.co.za.

If you would like assistance with product selection or to arrange a sales appointment, our team is ready to help.

dw

www.klight.co.za



Hello Spring



The outdoors is calling, and 2025 spring season is shaping up to be a transformative season for outdoor living spaces.

by Stienie Greyling

This year outdoor living emphasises seamless indoor-outdoor integration, wellness focused spaces and sustainable design. Designers and homeowners are creating functional and stylish outdoor spaces that extend living areas, incorporating elements like outdoor kitchens, cosy seating areas with fire features and even productive outdoor offices. Wellness is also a key focus, with trends like cold plunge pools, outdoor saunas, and meditation spaces gaining popularity.

Biophilic Design.

The term 'biophilia' refers to a love of life or living thing. Biophilic design is all about bringing the outside in and integrating natural elements into a built environment. Nature inspired design is very on trend this year and for outdoor

living spaces, this might look like incorporating greenery, water features and organic indoors and outdoors.

One way to embrace this trend is by adding vertical or living walls. These are both perfect for adding lush greenery without taking up much ground space. While these natural features look very stylish and on trend, they also improve air quality and provide a cooling effect. Ideal for spring and summer months.

Another popular biophilic design choice will be water features, such as small fountains, reflecting pools or bubbling streams. For furniture and décor, focus on natural textures and materials like wood, stone, rattan and woven fabrics.

Many homeowners are looking to maximise the garden space and do more with it. Creating separate zones for dining,

lounging and socialising is a must. There is a range of ways to create zones in the outdoor area, such as with garden pods, garden buildings with partition walls, or other outdoor structures and shelters. This trend is perfect for maximising functionality and making the outdoor space feel more spacious, even for smaller outdoor spaces.

Multifunctional Outdoor Living Rooms.

Gone are the days of single-use outdoor spaces. Multifunctional outdoor rooms remain ever popular due to their versatility and adaptability to different outdoor living needs. Whether looking to create a space

for a home office, a yoga studio, a music room, a teenage den, or an outdoor gym, investing in a multifunctional outdoor room will take outdoor living to a whole new level. Lined and insulated for year round use, outdoor rooms will be a perfect way to enjoy the outdoor area through all weathers and seasons.

Mood Lighting.

The right lighting can transform the outdoor space into an enchanting retreat.

This spring expect to see more creative use of LED lights, airy lights and lanterns. Solar-powered options are particularly popular, offering both style and sustainability. Lanterns and candles, real or battery operated, can create a warm and cosy glow to bring a touch of romance or well-being inspired comfort to the outdoor living experience. Smart outdoor lighting systems are also popular, offering app-controlled features to adjust brightness, set schedules or even sync with music for a fully immersive experience.

Outdoor Wellness Retreat.

Everyone is talking about wellness and seeking ways to improve their health and well-being. This also applies to outdoor

living. This year's trend for outdoor spaces is to transform them into personal retreats. Think hot tubs, saunas, or space for yoga and meditation. A garden room dedicated to wellness can be a game-changer for physical and mental health.

Hot Tubs and Swim Spas.

Installing a hot tub is one of the most popular ways to create a luxurious wellness retreat. The warm water and hydrotherapy jets can ease muscle tension, improve circulation and provide the perfect setting for unwinding after long day.

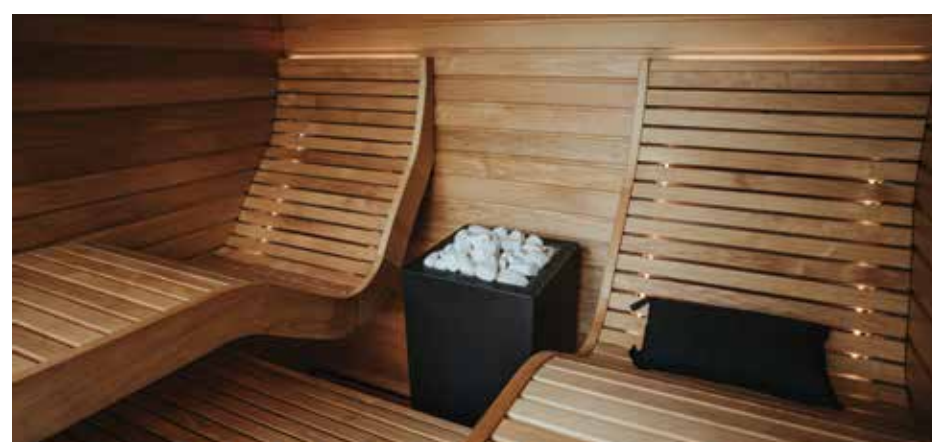
Outdoor Saunas.

Saunas are another fantastic addition, combining the health benefits of heat

therapy with the peacefulness of the outdoors. Whether it's a sleek, modern sauna or traditional wooden design, placing it in the outdoor space elevates the retreat experience. Adding a cold plunge pool or outdoor shower nearby can complete the Scandinavian style wellness circuit.

Bold Colours and Patterns.

Neutral tones may dominate interiors, but bold colours and patterns are making a splash in outdoor design. Vibrant cushions, patterned tiles and colourful planters can bring energy and personality to the outdoor living space. Experiment with unexpected shades, a splash of yellow or pink brings joy and excitement.





Fresh starts at a brushstroke spring-clean your home with paint

Spring in South Africa is a season of renewal. The air warms, blossoms bloom and the urge to throw open the windows and refresh our homes is irresistible. And while decluttering and deep-cleaning are part of the ritual, there's one step that can truly transform both the look and the feel of your space: paint.

A fresh coat of high-quality Plascon paint extends beyond just hiding scuffs and marks. It brightens rooms, improves air quality, protects your home's surfaces

and gives you a space you can't wait to spend time in.

Clean the air as you clean the walls

If spring-cleaning is about freshness, start with the air you breathe.

Plascon Double Velvet Pure goes beyond beauty with its pioneering air-purifying technology, the first of its kind in South Africa. It actively reduces harmful formaldehyde released from furniture, fabrics and building materials, converting it into harmless water vapour.

Add its velvety finish, low odour and easy-clean properties, and you've got a wall-to-wall refresh that's as healthy as it is beautiful.

Colour your season, lift your mood

Spring is a season of light, optimism and colour, and Plascon has an array of uplifting colours for you, whether you prefer it bright, neutral or natural.

Mood-boosting hues like Plascon's Crazy Daisy (Y4-A1-1) yellow or Stylish Lime (Y7-A1-1) green bring energy into

living areas, kitchens or entrance halls. Inspired by the dopamine décor trend, these shades add personality and joy.

Fresh, pared-back tones like Plascon's Meadow Yellow (Y4-A2-2) and River Clay (69) offer calming, timeless backdrops, perfect for bedrooms and open-plan spaces.

Grounded hues like Plascon's Light Sage (84) and Canyon Wall (O3-C1-3) connect your interiors to the outdoors, creating harmony and warmth in any season.

And remember that not every spring project needs to be a full room repaint. Try painting trims and doors in crisp white for a clean, polished feel, adding a bold accent wall in a cheerful spring hue, or giving shutters, garden walls or your

front gate a fresh coat for instant curb appeal.

Protect, perfect, prolong

It's not only your home's interiors that appreciate a spring-clean. Winter weather can leave your home's exterior looking tired. Refresh it now so it's ready to face the summer sun with one of Plascon's trusted products.

Plascon Wall & All is South Africa's most trusted all-over exterior coating, with a 15-year quality guarantee and a unique dirt barrier that keeps walls cleaner for longer. It's versatile enough for plaster, concrete, wood, steel and more, making it a one-stop solution for a complete exterior makeover.

With its proven WeatherTough Protection™ made from mica and marble, plus built-in Polycell Fine Crack Filler, Plascon Micatex forms a thick, durable barrier against peeling, cracking and damp. Low dirt pick-up keeps your exterior looking newer for longer.

So, this spring, before the heat of summer sets in, swap the mop and bucket for a roller and brush, and give your home the ultimate spring-clean, inside and out, with Plascon. From colour that lifts your mood to finishes that clean your air and protect your walls, it's an investment in beauty, health and lasting value. dw

www.plasconcolour.co.za



Live the outdoors with new Pool, Waves and Roof rugs

by Carpet Edition

New Pool, Waves and Roof rugs enrich the In-out door collection from Carpet Edition, designed to offer maximum versatility. These rugs are perfect for decorating outdoor spaces such as yards and gardens, balconies, terraces or pool-sides and can also be used in interior spaces, adding a touch of refined contemporary design.

Pool, Waves and Roof are produced with high-quality technical fibres and are designed to guarantee extreme resistance to weather: rain, sun, humidity and temperature changes which do not alter its functionality and beauty.

Thanks to their construction, maintenance is quick and easy, making them the right choice for those who are looking for a practical product without sacrificing

design. The distinctive textures and design of the In-out door rug collection transform any room into a welcoming space, offering a harmonious balance between aesthetics and technical performance.

The intricate weave of the new Pool rug, composed of braids of different thicknesses, stands out with its attractive combination of three different machine production methods that create unique patterns. Produced entirely of polypropylene, Pool offers several advantages: from excellent thermal and acoustic insulation characteristics to its hypoallergenic properties, which make it ideal for spaces with babies and animals.

Pool is bordered on two sides and can be requested in four elegant colour versions (Pomice, Grano, Tabacco, Canyon), as well as in various sizes 200x300, 300x400, 400x400 and a round version in 200x200 and 400x400. Custom sizes and 400cm wide rolls are also available.

Also, entirely in polypropylene, Roof is a hand-woven light mat with four finished borders. The various colour combinations of this new model interplay on the duality of colours creating a dynamic and appealing effect. The weave, characterised by a light but durable texture, gives depth and movement to the space, highlighting the beauty of





contrasts and shades. Available in six colours and various sizes: 70x240, 170x240, 200x300, 300x400, plus 200 and 400 round versions. Custom sizes and 400cm wide rolls are also available in this versatile mat that is synonymous with contemporary elegance.

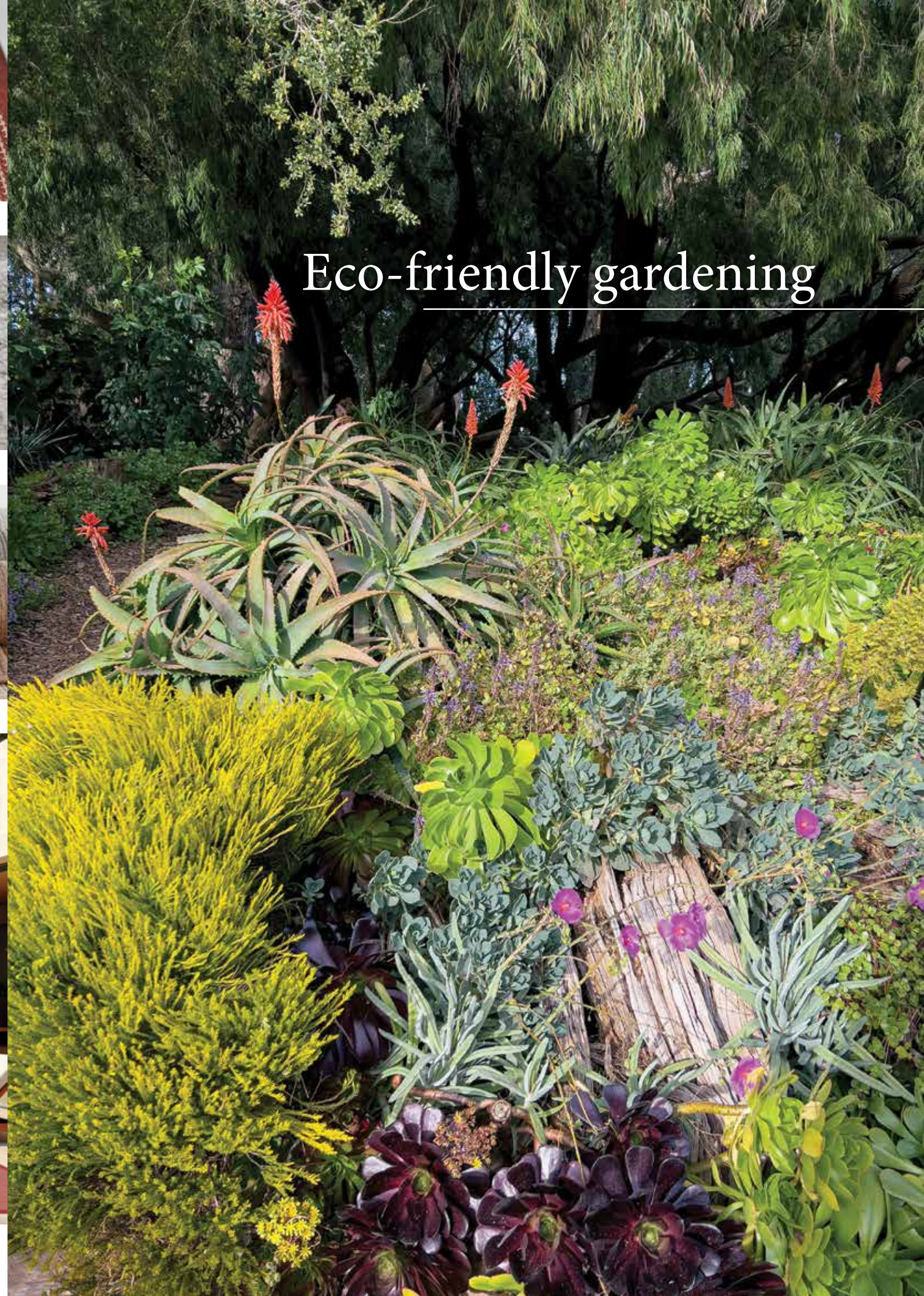
Textural waves of large and small threads delicately intertwine designing the weave of Waves, the collection's new hand-woven rug, which is distinguished by its composition in recycled PET representing a more conscious choice. Each fibre, created by transforming waste plastic, has been processed to create durable filaments which not only offer durability over time, but can

also be recycled again, giving new life to the material and rounding out the life cycle of the plastic. Although made with synthetic fibres, Waves has a surprising capacity to reproduce the same feeling of warmth, softness and comfort typical of a wool rug, delivering a warm and welcoming sensory experience. With its hand-sewn turned-up border, Waves comes in different sizes (170x240, 200x300, 300x400) and ocean inspired colour variants (Artico, Indiano, Pacifico and Atlantico).

www.carpetedition.com



Eco-friendly gardening



Eco-friendly Gardening.

by Stienie Greyling

Eco-friendly gardening, also known as sustainable or green gardening, involves practices that minimise environmental impact while promoting a healthy and thriving garden. It focuses on using organic methods, conserving water, reducing waste and supporting local ecosystems.

Choose native plants.

Adding native plants that thrive in the region reduces the need for excessive water and maintenance. A naturalistic planting design using the right native plants in the right place, makes sense ecologically and financially, and it won't be necessary to replace plants that don't work. Using native plants, such as creating a wild flower patch, however small, will help and encourage a huge diversity of wildlife.

Water wisely.

Water conservation is an important aspect of sustainable gardening. By implementing smart watering practices, one can significantly reduce water use and ensure plants receive the moisture they need without excess waste. Collecting rainwater in water tanks is a simple and

effective way to harness a natural resource for watering the garden. Drip irrigation and soaker hoses are efficient watering systems that deliver water directly to the base of the plants, targeting the roots where it's most needed. This method minimises evaporation and runoff, ensuring that water is used effectively. Watering in the early morning or late evening also reduces evaporation and helps plants absorb more water.

Growing your own food sustainability.

There's something incredibly rewarding about growing your own food. Not only does it provide you with fresh, tasty produce right from your garden, but it also significantly reduces the carbon footprint associated with transporting from vegetable farms and fresh produce markets. Sustainable food gardening involves choosing plants that are well-suited to the climate and soil conditions,

reducing the need for chemicals and excessive watering.

Composting.

Composting is both simple and highly effective. It utilises the natural decomposition of organic materials by micro organising which results in a dark crumbly substance known as humus. It is rich in nutrients and beneficial microorganisms which are helpful in soil amendment. When compost is added to the garden, the soil structure is improved, it also enhance moisture retention and provide plants with a slow-release source of essential nutrients.

With composting there's no need for non-renewable resources such as synthetic fertilisers that harm the environments, as they filter into waterways causing pollution and harming aquatic ecosystems. On the other hand, compost fosters a sustainable ecosystem

through a safe and balanced release of nutrients.

Mulching.

Mulching goes a long way toward keeping a sustainable garden. Mulch helps retain soil moisture, suppresses weeds, inhibits soil erosion and run off, as well as regulating soil temperature. Use organic mulch like wood chips, straw or leaves, cocoa bean shells, leaf litter or newspaper to improve soil health and reduce water consumption.

Plant a tree.

Trees help to purify the air and give wildlife a home and planting them isn't as difficult as we might think. Everyone knows something of the plant magic we call photosynthesis (literally, 'making stuff with light'). There is more to be said about the significance of trees – soil building, soil conservation, habitat and

food for wildlife, heat mitigation, carbon sequestration. Through a narrower anthropic lens: fruits, nuts, materials for homes, furnishings, rayon textiles, and more. Trees enable our breathing, furnish our lives, we literally wear them.

Plant successional blooms.

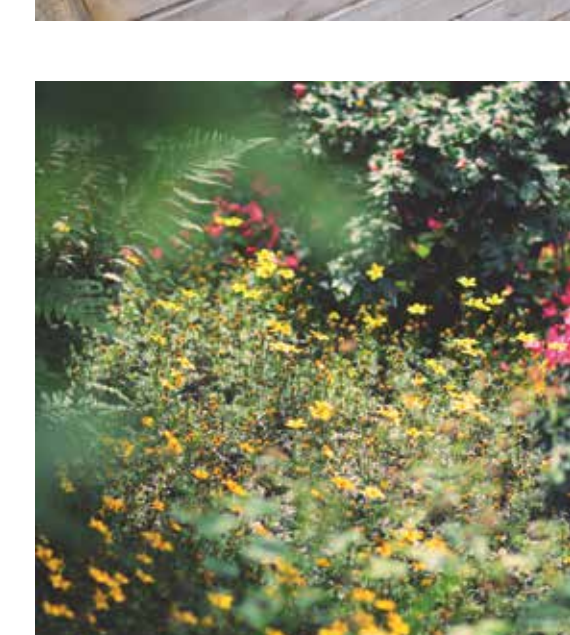
A little bit of good garden planning involves trying to ensure there are successional blooms throughout the year. Having different plants flowering at different times will keep a steady stream of pollinators flocking to the garden, working their helpful magic throughout the seasons.

Collecting seeds is a costs-effective way to keep the flower beds in bloom, by increasing the flowers from your own stock.

Ensure that there are beautiful flowers in bloom throughout the months of the year that help to entice pollinators as well

as other beneficial insects to keep pests away from the vegetables. This approach equally applies to ornamental flower bed ideas, allowing nature to naturally top up and increase the supplies of beautiful blooms.

dw



A Forest Rises in São Paulo — Vertically

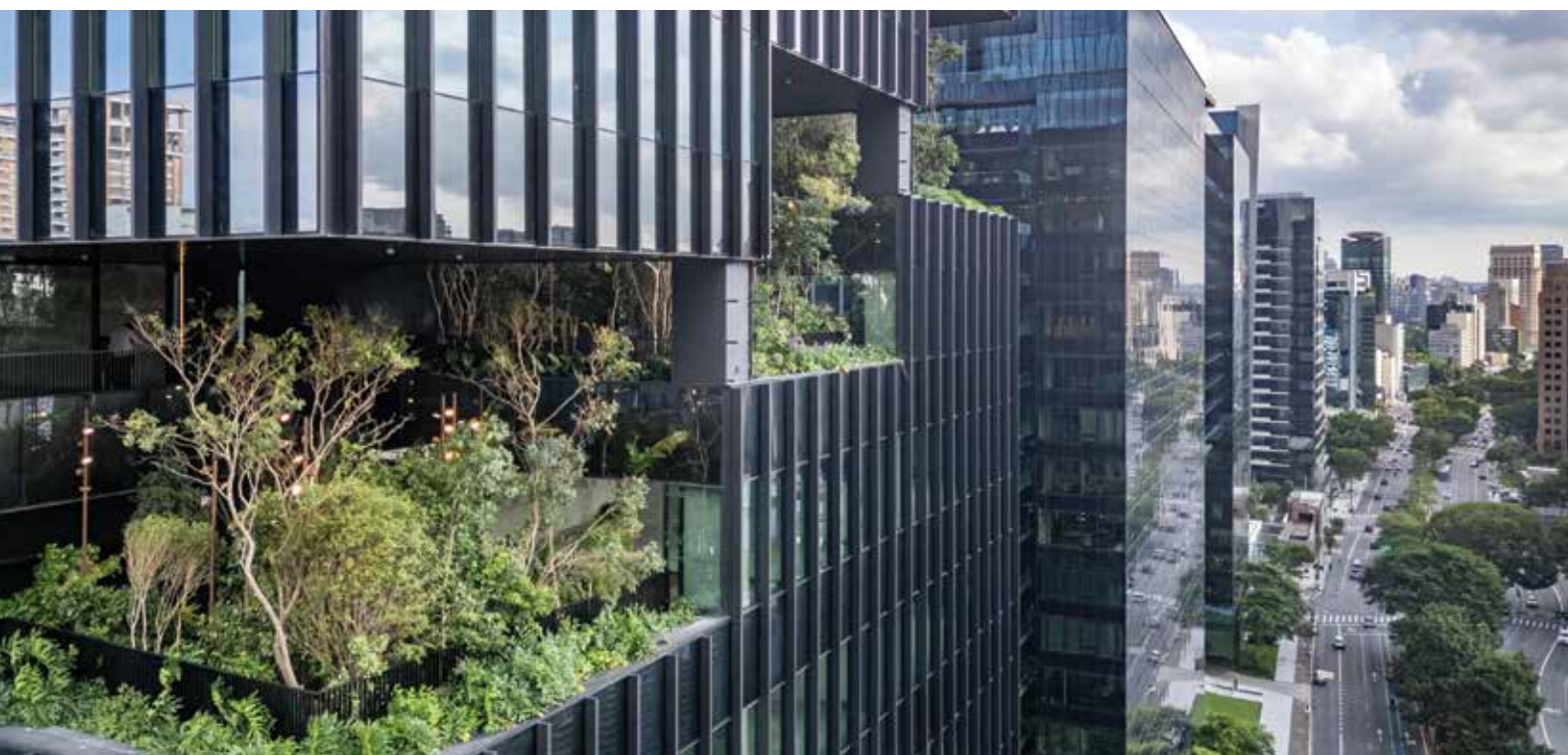
Bela Vista, Brazil

Designed by aflalo/gasperini arquitetos, this 16-storey tower redefines the relationship between architecture and nature with spiral green terraces, urban permeability, and high environmental performance.

In a city where concrete and speed set the tone, Salma Tower arrives as a living contradiction. Yes, it's a Triple-A corporate tower. But it's also a suspended ecosystem where fruit trees, birdsong, and forest breezes flow through boardrooms, cafés, and workstations.

With LEED Platinum certification and 1,200 sqm of native Atlantic forest embedded across 16 floors, Salma Tower redefines what a workplace can be. This isn't about bringing plants indoors. It's about turning the office into a forest.

More than a smart building, it's a vertical biofilic manifest — arguably the boldest in the Southern Hemisphere. It's a place where productivity meets nature's tempo, and where the skyline grows new roots.



ECO-FRIENDLY GARDENING

Why does Salma Tower matter?


- It is one of the five most sustainable Triple-A buildings in the world.
- It represents the largest integration between native forest and urban architecture in Brazil, bringing real nature into the city.
- It stands as a symbol of new corporate architecture - centered on mental health, sensory experiences, and green innovation.
- It holds the potential to become a global benchmark in corporate biophilic design, attracting companies and talent that value more human-centered environments.

Concept: Corporate biophilia, well-being, and reconnection with nature in the workplace.



Purpose: To establish a new model of urban workspace focused on quality of life, productivity, and environmental regeneration.

Technical sheet

- Name: Salma Tower
- Location: São Paulo, Brazil
- Certification: LEED Platinum – the highest level of sustainability
- Category: Triple A Corporate Building
- Key Feature: Integration of 1,200 m² of native Atlantic Forest across all floors
- Land area: 3.379 sq
- Building area: 36.616 sq
- Total Floors: 16
- Overall height: 80m
- Photo credit: Maira Acayaba 

www.aflalogasperini.com.br





Zero Sunlight Curved Greenwall and Column



G-Spot Precise Cut Off



Zero Sunlight G-Spot Natural Spectrum



Zero Sunlight G-Spot

Zero Sunlight Singapore, Singapore

MAERICH, a global leader in LED lighting innovation, in collaboration with acclaimed architectural practice WOHA, has unveiled the G-Spot Recessed Grow-Light Series — an award-winning breakthrough designed for Zero Sunlight spaces. This pioneering system proves that lush, multi-layered gardens can flourish even underground, opening bold new possibilities for biophilic design and the future of sustainable cities.

Future cities, naturally alive

G-Spot reimagines the potential of underground environments and future cities. It illustrates a vision where people and nature coexist harmoniously ANYWHERE, while delivering the ecosystem services only thriving greenery can provide.

Global recognition

Celebrated internationally:

- **Winner** – LIT Lighting Design Awards (Agricultural Lighting)
- **Shortlisted** – [d]arc awards KIT (Architectural – Interior)
- **Nominated** – German Design Council, German Design Awards 2026

Performance meets comfort

Engineered with long-throw optics, precise cut-off, and exceptional glare control, G-Spot delivers powerful light at minimal wattage — turning basements into thriving gardens.

Natural, not pink

Unlike conventional grow lights with harsh pink or magenta hues, the G-Spot growth spectrum is carefully pre-calibrated to feel natural (CRI >90, R9 >90), allowing plants to absorb most light



Underground Living Art Made Possible by G-Spot

for photosynthesis, while the rest reflects as a soft, luminous glow — turning underground gardens into living works of art.


Sustainability in every beam

Beyond illumination, G-Spot empowers sustainability. It supports the ecosystem services of healthy growing plants, from air purification to psychological well-being, embedding nature as a central component of sustainable architectural design. This dual-purpose solution saves energy while helping compensate for the loss of natural greenery, creating thriving indoor biophilic environments.

A game changer for biophilic designs

One of the most compelling demonstrations of this technology is its effectiveness in this enclosed basement greenery thriving indoors without sunlight, unlocking the potential of any interior space, emphasizing the efficacy, versatility, and impact of this grow light solution that enhances human well-being and promotes environmental sustainability simultaneously.

Technical Data

- **Spectral Output:** Pre-formulated white output growth spectrum, CRI >90, R9 >90
- **CCT Options:** Multiple white output options to match architectural lighting
- **Optics:** Multiple options for precise cut-off and controlled spill
- **Visual Comfort:** Dark light with 40° cut-off design for exceptional glare control
- **Photo credit:** MAERICH 

www.maerich.com



G-Spot Recessed Grow Light



'Temple' Installation at Ministry of Culture Wins Top Prize in International Architecture Festival

Montpellier, France



Located in the courtyard of the historic Hôtel de Grave, home of the Regional Ministry of Culture (DRAC Occitanie), the project explores the environmental impacts of human consumption. The installation is the result of a 2024 competition-winning scheme by Michael Cook Architecture & Design, which was then detailed and constructed in collaboration with Garth Goldstein / G2-Studio. It was awarded the 'Prix du Jury' at the 2025 edition of Montpellier's Festival des Architectures Vives.

Project description


People like to eat cheeseburgers. A lot of cheeseburgers – around two billion are consumed each year in France alone [1]. At the same time, the country is running out of clean water, along with the rest of the world. And it takes a lot of water to make a single cheeseburger. Over 2500 litres, in fact [2]. That's equivalent to about 5000 single-serve (500 ml) plastic water bottles for one burger! Something has to change, it seems.

The proposal imagines a not-too-distant future where ever-worsening periods of drought, induced by global warming, have necessitated the implementation of much stricter water-rationing measures

across the land, augmenting the French government's 2023 Plan d'action pour une gestion résiliente et concertée de l'eau. Many popular foods are banned as a result, including all beef and cheese products. The installation thus serves as a temple dedicated to preserving a memory of the very last cheeseburger, and of all the water that went into making it.

A simple wood frame establishes a rectilinear volume within the courtyard of the Hôtel de Grave. 5000 recycled plastic bottles line the walls – supported by two layers of mesh – creating a diaphanous skin that mediates views across the enclosure, blurring the distinction between inside and out. At the centre stands a pedestal, and on top the immortal cheeseburger rests, preserved in a clear acrylic case. Visitors who wish to pay their respects are encouraged to leave

flowers, which can be placed in the empty bottles. Over the course of the week, the project is gradually transformed as these flowers accumulate, lining the temple's interior, providing a colorful reminder of our insatiable desire.

sources: 1. rtl.fr, 2. sierraclub.org 

Technical Data

- **Structure:** Douglas Fir wood framing
- **Facade:** 5000 recycled plastic water bottles supported by two layers of metal mesh
- **Cheeseburger:** Le Royal Cheese (McDonald's)
- **Flowers:** Alstroemeria, Gypsophila, Dianthus caryophyllus
- **Photo credit:** photoarchitecture.com

www.mc-ad.net
www.g2-studio.com



Beyond the Gallery Walls

A Weekend of Art, Artists
and Open Studios in
the Riebeek Valley

From artists' open studios and curated exhibitions to food experiences and live music under the Swartland sky, Solo Studios returns from 24–26 October with a full weekend of creative immersion — from Riebeek Kasteel to Riebeek West.

In a world in which we usually engage with art within the confines of museum and gallery walls, Solo Studios embodies the personal connection between artist and viewer, over a weekend of open artists' studios in the glorious Riebeek Valley, from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 October. More than 60 artists will be on hand to show and discuss their work and creative practices in Riebeek Kasteel (RK) and Riebeek West over a weekend of art, culture, food and small town hospitality, set against the backdrop of Swartland vineyards, olive groves and mountainscapes.

"It's no accident that so many artists call this place home," says Ashley Stone, co-owner and co-project manager of Solo Studios. "Those of us lucky to live and work in this picturesque valley know how inspiring it is, especially to creative people. Solo Studios is an exciting opportunity for our artists to directly share how this inspiration takes form, and for visitors to acquire artwork with



by Peter Steere

a personal connection -- along with a healthy dose of country living."

"This year, in addition to our local talent, we are also focusing on the cross-pollination of our community with artists from other areas, which brings an exciting new dimension to Solo Studios," says Stone.

Northern Cape's MAPSA Touches Down in RK

A highlight is LANDscape[s], an exhibition hosted at Die Kunshuis, featuring selected works from the private collection of Modern Art Projects South Africa (MAPSA), based in Richmond, Northern Cape. The exhibition is curated by Miné Kleynhans from the University of the Free State, and offers reflections on the imaginings that Richmond elicits: ruminations on the passage of time, excavations into our past, the meaning and consequences of our present endeavours and that which will one day become relics to our future selves.



by Solly Smook, WOP15STORIES, 2025
- oil, ink, charcoal on A2 fabiano paper

Art and Ardmore in a Creative Space of Sustainability

Louis Jansen van Vuuren is an artist whose living spaces – whether a country home in Riebeek Kasteel or a chateau in central France – have always embodied the creative spirit. Jansen van Vuuren and partner Hardy Olivier will open their newly built luxurious home and studio called EcoPlace, built entirely out of recycled plastic and fabric, as a gallery venue for an exhibition of five artists, including Janse van Vuuren, esteemed ceramic studio Ardmore Ceramics from Kwazulu-Natal, Ashley Ogilvy, Linda Weaver and Ruan Huiseman.

From the Deep South to the Bergriver and straight to the heart of the Swartland

What started as a friendship between artists and gallerists from Riebeek Kasteel and the village of Kommetjie in Cape Town's Deep South has coalesced into a full-scale exhibition of 13 Kommetjie female artists at this year's Solo Studios, called Red Hot, Pink Spot, with works



by Danielle Vorster, Trace Remains, Mono-type & Marker on Paper, 297x420mm

from sculptures to porcelain to ceramics to paintings and monotypes. These works will be exhibited at the Church Hall in Riebeek West.

Speaking of Riebeek West, it will be in full bloom, with the newly opened Blacksmith Yard Gallery hosting several ceramic and bronze artists. Of particular interest is the gallery's collection of ceramics from the late Nicolene Swanepoel, who was a protégée of internationally recognised ceramic artist Wilma Cruise.

The regional cross-pollination continues with FEAST, a group exhibition of three artists from Porterville, to take place at the Old Post Office in Riebeek Kasteel.

In addition, the Riebeek Kasteel Village Square will be a hub of artistic making, with 15 ceramicists creating and selling their work.

Speaking of Art

For those interested in learning more about art and art collecting, there will



by Pippa Lea Pennington

be two [IS2] talks over the course of the weekend: The Art of Collecting - from understanding value and significance to nurturing a collection that reflects both personal taste and cultural heritage with the insightful Elmarie van Straten of Strauss & Co., and Bricks and Books: Building with Contemporary Art in the Karoo.

With so much to experience – between stimulating studio visits, a feast of food choices and the natural beauty of the valley -- visitors are encouraged to book for the whole weekend.


The list of artists participating in Solo Studios 2025 includes Louis Janesen van Vuuren, Ardmore, Astrid Dahl, Emma

Willemse, Riaan van Zyl, Solly Smook, Kristen McClarty amongst many more.

Experience an unforgettable celebration of music with Vivaldi, The Movies and All That Jazz, a mesmerising performance by World Café, featuring the talented violinist Veronica Bell. Enjoy exquisite renditions of Vivaldi's Four Seasons, along with epic movie soundtracks and lively gypsy jazz. This remarkable show promises to be a fitting and inspiring closing to an incredible weekend of art.

While art studio and gallery hopping remains the beating heart of Solo Studios 2025, 24–26 October; there's so much more on hand to cover your canvas: eat at a long table, drink wine from some of South Africa's best producers, listen to classical music and soak in the natural beauty of the Swartland. This year's event in the quaint towns of Riebeek Kasteel and Riebeek West offers abundant ways to fill your cultural, culinary and country living dance card.

The details:

- Solo Studios 2025 is taking place in Riebeek Valley, from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 October.
- Tickets are available and can be purchased via Solo Studios website and Webtickets. 

www.solostudios.co.za



by Gordon Williams, Afternoon Shadows (2025), oil on canvas, 75x102cm



by Adele Sherlock



by Blacksmith Yard Gallery



by Solly smook, hercios, 2023 - oil, acrylic, charcoal on canvas



by Andries Dirks



by Louis Nel, Flux 1, 2024, Acrylic on canvas, 80cm x 60cm



Original in Berlin Founder,
Lars Triesch, Showcases his
One-of-a-kind Ray Kappe
Home in Berlin

Berlin, Germany

Original in Berlin Founder, Lars Triesch, Showcases his One- of-a-kind Ray Kappe Home in Berlin

Berlin, Germany

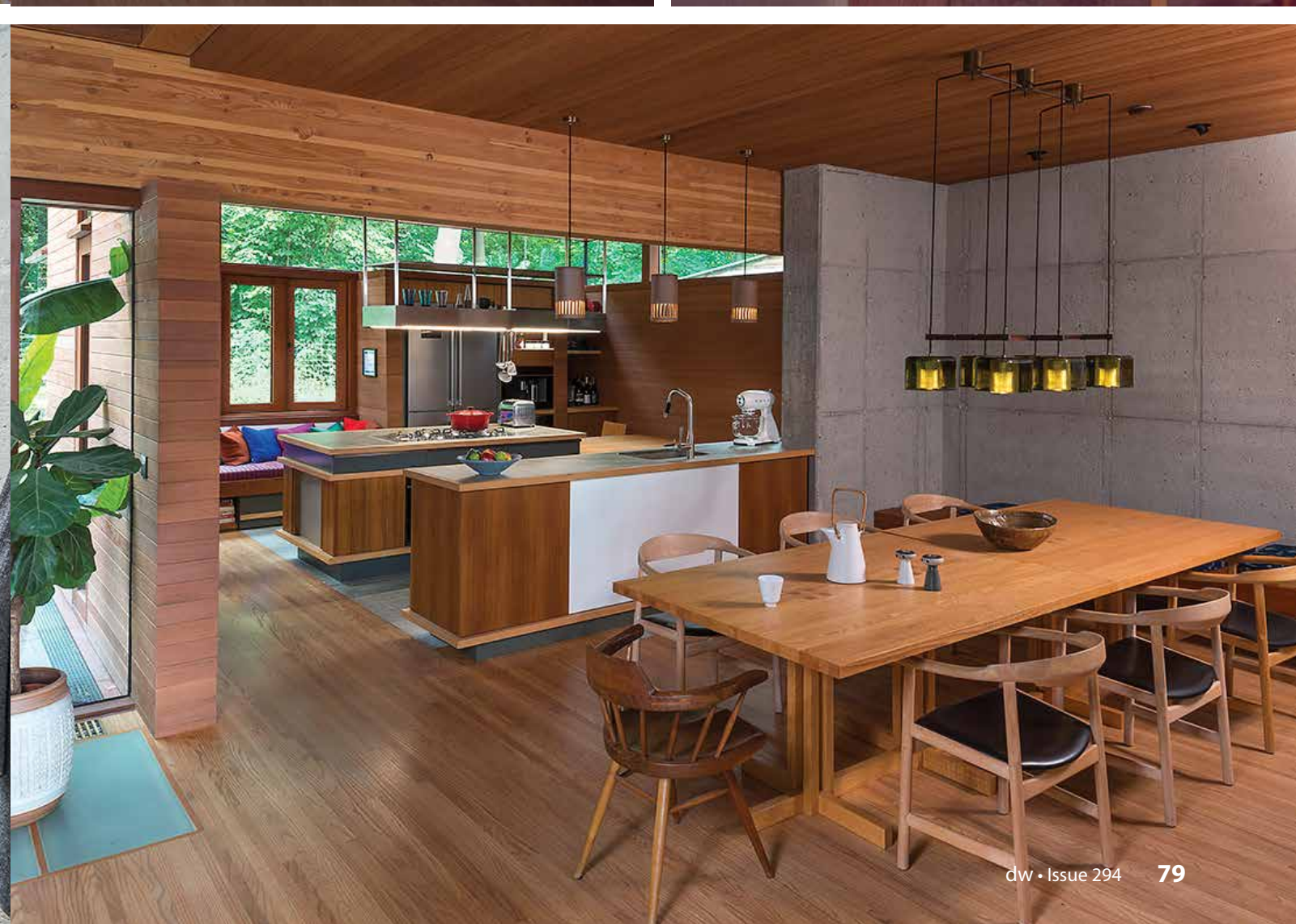
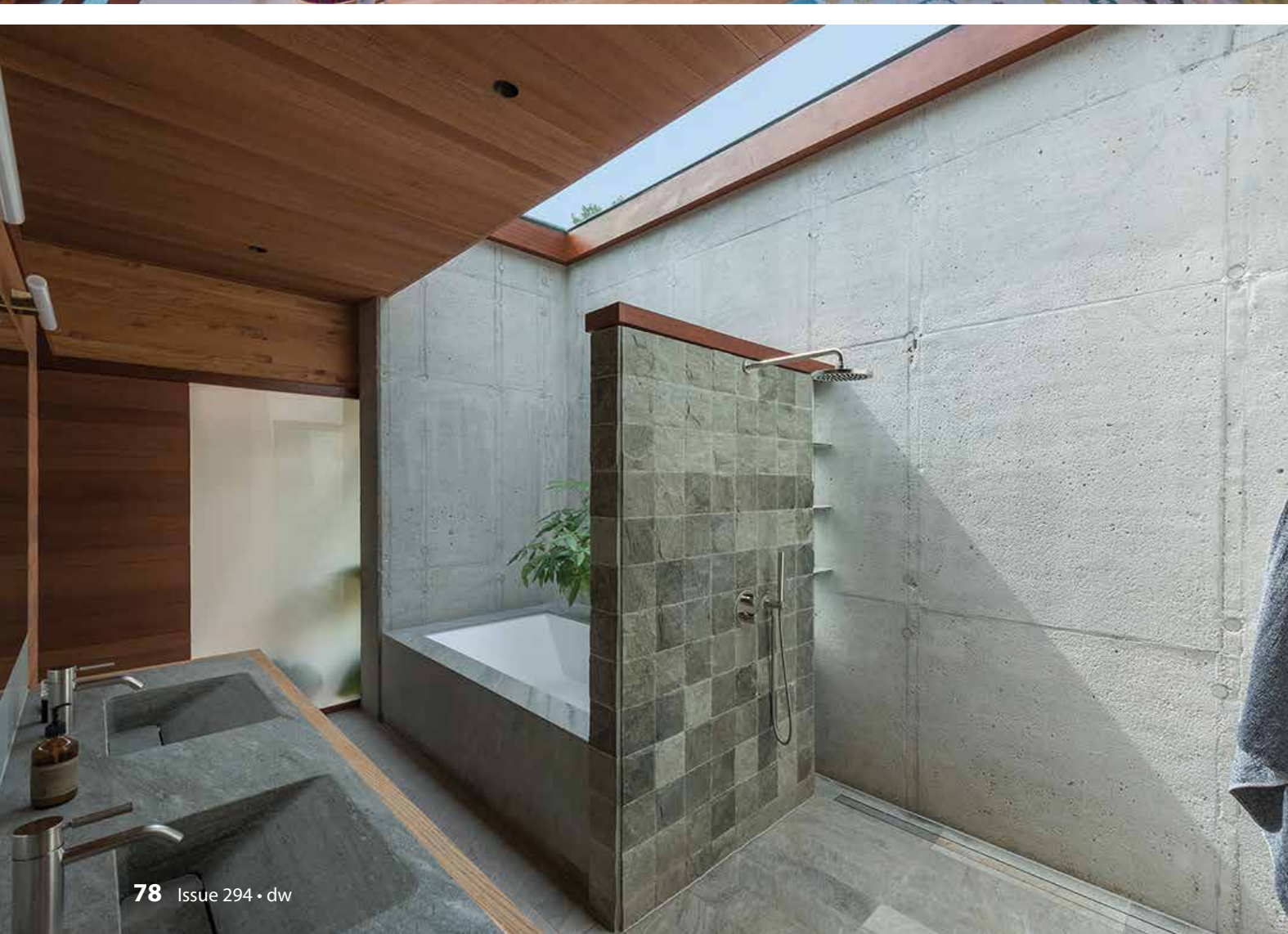
Tucked into the lush landscape of Kleinmachnow, just outside Berlin, Lars Triesch's California-inspired residence channels the spirit of mid-century modernism with effortless sophistication. Designed by the late, great Ray Kappe, the home seamlessly merges the warmth and openness of Southern California architecture with the serene beauty of the German countryside, creating a perfect reflection of Triesch's eye for timeless design.

Lars Triesch's passion for design began in his teenage years, sparked by his involvement in music. His fascination with California culture and architecture eventually led him to discover Ray Kappe's work, particularly after viewing the documentary *Coast Modern*. Deeply inspired, Triesch pursued the vision of creating a home in Berlin for his family that reflected Kappe's iconic style. Although Kappe passed away in 2019, his legacy lives on through his collaboration with Triesch, ultimately leading to the realization of this architectural marvel, making it the only Kappe home outside the United States.

www.originalinberlin.com







Shoreline House

Victoria, Canada



Shoreline House

Victoria, Canada

Splyce Design has completed Shoreline House, a thoughtful renovation and addition that balances contemporary design with environmental sensitivity. Perched at the end of a suburban street where single-family homes give way to rugged coastline, the property is defined by rocky outcrops, mature fir and oak trees, and sweeping 180-degree views of the inlet.

New construction versus renovation

The clients approached Splyce after purchasing the 1960s home with a vision for a new residence. Given the site's immediate proximity to the ocean and its sensitive habitat, the studio proposed the option with the least ecological impact: retaining and renovating the existing structure, while adding a compact, single-storey extension.

Environmental considerations

Strict waterfront setbacks dictated an irregularly shaped building envelope for the addition, which houses the primary bedroom and ensuite. Designed with a minimal footprint, the new volume lightly touches the terrain, with recessed concrete foundation walls to avoid over-excavation in the marine protected area. The structure appears to hover, with its roof soaring 13 feet above a cantilevered screen wall that extends to a dramatic point.







Choreographed approach

Approach to the home is choreographed by a colonnade-lined staircase leading to the front door. The addition, clad in light-stained cedar, contrasts with the shed-roof forms of the original house, where dark finishes echo the granite shoreline. Throughout, the design explores the meeting points of old and new, wild and cultivated, interior and exterior.

Landscape matters

In the landscape, patios and pathways integrate seamlessly with native vegetation and topography. Expansive windows - some with concealed frames to dissolve the boundary between inside and out, others precisely placed to frame specific vistas - capture shifting light and ocean reflections, animating the interiors throughout the day.

Conclusion

Shoreline House stands as a testament to Splyce Design's ability to create contemporary architecture that is rooted in place, attuned to environmental context, and enriched by the dialogue between landscape and building.

Technical sheet

- **Project name:** Shoreline House
- **Location:** Victoria, British Columbia
- **Completion:** 2024
- **Size:** 3000sf
- **Design team:** Nigel Parish, Tomas Machnikowski, Galo Oyarce
- **Builder:** Mdrn Built
- **Structural Engineer:** Aspect Structural Engineers
- **Landscape:** Andrew van Egmond
- **Photography:** Ema Peter

dw

www.splyce.ca





Pennyroyal Tea

Tamil Nadu, India



Pennyroyal Tea

Tamil Nadu, India

Pennyroyal Tea, a garden sanctuary located on the serene eastern coast of Tamil Nadu, stands as a beacon of inclusive design and sustainable craftsmanship. Created by a collective of over 200 highly skilled artisans from across India, this remarkable residence celebrates heritage, empowers communities, and redefines what it means to build consciously.

Over the span of two and a half years, the project brought together traditional craftsmanship and modern design, with 80% of its furniture, lighting, and artworks custom-crafted for the space. The result is an immersive, wonder-filled environment that captures the richness of Indian culture, while presenting a refreshingly contemporary outlook.

With a deep commitment to sustainability, Pennyroyal Tea prioritises the use of locally-sourced natural stone and solid wood, ensuring minimal environmental impact and improved indoor air quality. By focusing on custom design, the team significantly reduced waste and minimized reliance on mass-produced goods. The approach also embraces end-of-life considerations, making it possible for materials to be reused or recycled, thereby lowering both embodied and operational carbon footprints.

More than a home, Pennyroyal Tea is a living canvas — a space where heritage and innovation converge. From its intricate mosaic flooring and brass installations, to its handcrafted furnishings, every element tells a story of craftsmanship, culture, and care for the planet. The







project serves as an enduring reminder of how design can uplift communities, honour traditions, and build a more sustainable future for all.

Technical sheet

- **Project Name:** Pennyroyal Tea
- **Location:** Eastern Coast of Tamil Nadu, India
- **Duration:** 2.5 years
- **Artisans Involved:** 200+ skilled artisans from across India
- **Design Focus:** Inclusive design, sustainable craftsmanship, cultural heritage

Material Palette:

- **Natural Stone & Solid Wood:** Locally sourced, free from harmful chemicals
- **Custom Furniture & Fixtures:** ~80% of total interiors
- **Additional Elements:** Mosaic flooring, brass installations

Sustainability Features

- Reduced waste through a custom design approach
- End-of-life consideration for materials (reuse/recycling)
- Minimized reliance on mass-produced goods
- Improved indoor air quality with natural, low-VOC finishes
- Reduced embodied and operational carbon footprints

Artisan Impact

- Preservation of traditional craftsmanship and heritage skills
- Empowerment and economic benefits for local communities

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www.multitudeofsins.in





Houghton Mosque

As one of this year's Heritage Day tours, the Johannesburg Heritage Foundation organised a visit to the white Houghton Mosque. A landmark on the southbound motorway going towards Killarney, it has been a building of interest and beauty since its opening in 2011.

The tour was led by the local architect, Mr Muhammed Mayet, who explained that this was a design as much about the spaces as the actual buildings. We gathered in the outer garden of carefully laid brick areas with concrete seating, simple planting of low clipped hedging and deep scarlet geraniums in pots. This is where families meet each other before and after any ceremonies or prayer sessions and is an easy space to be in with a crowd or on your own.

We entered the side door into a long room where you took off your shoes and stored them in pigeonholes with wood carved details over each space. Then through the doors into the inner courtyard, which had a raised passageway around it, and because of Johannesburg's infamous summer thunderstorms, is covered in clear

roofing, letting in as much light as possible. A table was set up in the one corner, where we were given welcome cups of Arab Coffee – more like a strong tea infusion, and little round dates from Mecca. Apparently, you must have odd numbers – one or three or five – as many as you like. The courtyard floor was covered in sandstone with geometric designs of triangles and squares, in pale peach and grey. These designs are part of the sacred architectural geometry, where lines and circles intersect. We saw more of this in the screens set into the gentle arches in the roof, letting in natural light from the east and the west. Our tour was in the afternoon, so the west sunlight coming through the screens cast strong patterns on the plain white plastered walls of the interior of the mosque.

The stepped roof inside the mosque itself was set above rows of pointed arches, and the focal point was obviously the mihrab, or niche facing Mecca. More geometry was in the metal screens covering holes in the columns letting in air from below, cooling the building in the summer, and allowing warm air to be pushed

into the space in the winter. Tiny details of the bullnosed tile joints around the columns, shaped like leaves and interlocking perfectly, was an indication of the great attention to detail of all the finishes. Small portable wooden prayer screens were neatly placed around the prayer area, so if you were on your own, you could block off a space for yourself and pray in peace. After looking up and admiring the stained glass under the main dome, we looked down and admired the luxurious carpeting, with prayer mat designs in orange bordered with more geometric patterns in black and beige. The carpeting was woven with New Zealand wool, nothing else in the world compares to this quality. Where it was made was a deep secret, not even the architect was allowed to know this. When there are large congregations, the prayer mat sizes are ignored, and worshippers kneel shoulder to shoulder to pray.

This was more than a simple tour of a building; it was an afternoon of peace imbued through the spirit of the space, and the simplicity of the place.

Gill Butler

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Gold Moon wall lamp

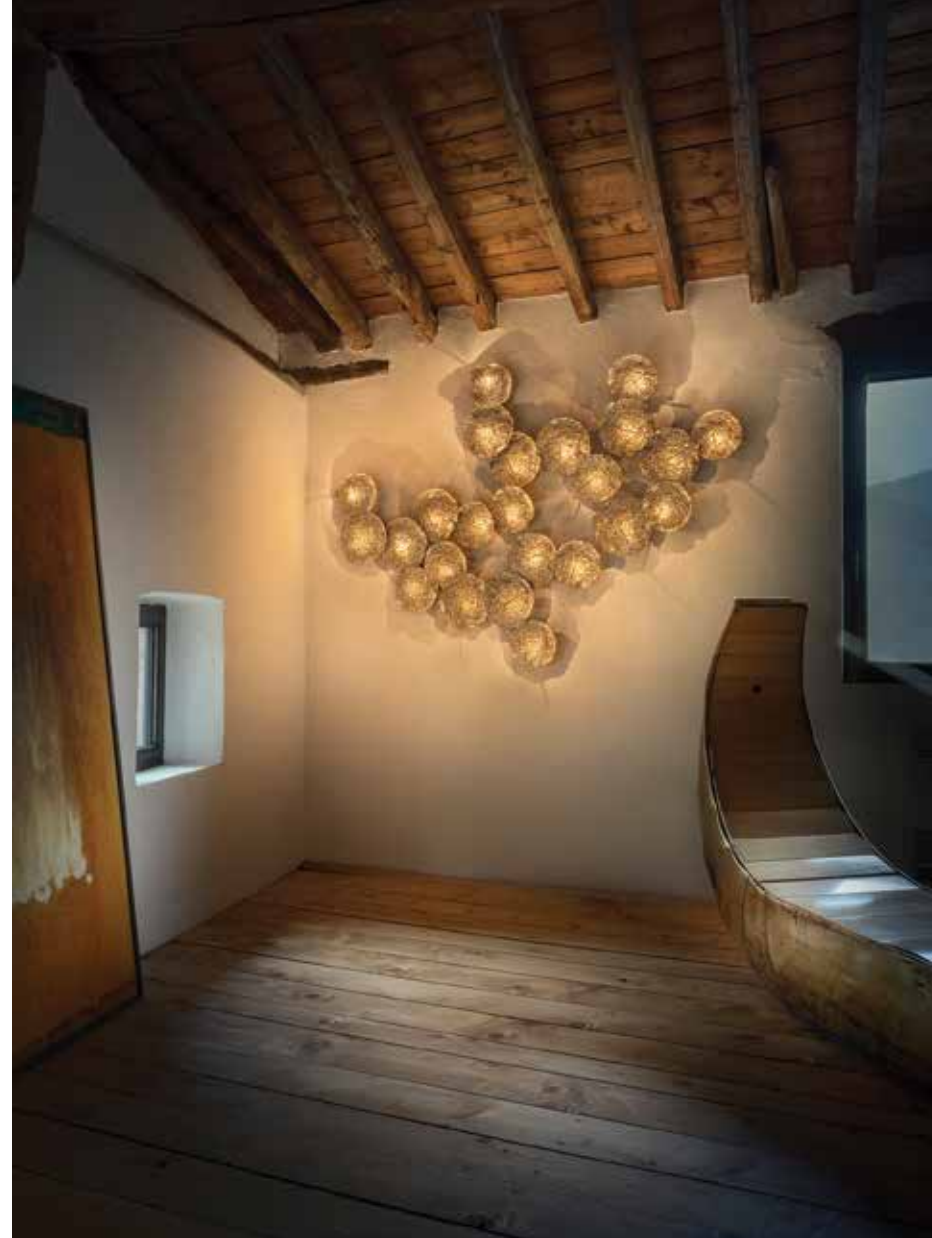
Catellani & Smith presents a new version of **Gold Moon**, one of the company's most distinctive models. Now available in a bright wall version, in addition to the pendant lamp, **Gold Moon** is ready to play a key role in the lighting of residential, contract and hospitality design projects.

The new **Gold Moon** wall lamp is made up of six discs with an irregular surface, three with a diameter of 25 cm and three measuring 30 cm, embellished with the characteristic golden-coloured leaf coating. The dynamic arrangement of the discs, together with the golden-coloured finish, reflects the light provided by the small interchangeable LED elements concealed amid the copper curls, creating enchanting light and shadow effects on the wall.

The standard six-disc composition is particularly spectacular when featured in custom configurations made up of several elements. Each combination is able to adapt and respond to specific design requirements, adding an aesthetic value that transcends the mere lighting function.

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