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ISSUE 296

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Carpet Edition, style and design on board

Tive the sea like home. This is the main philosophy behind interior design for projects in the nautical sector, especially yachts and luxury boats. Each interior is designed to offer all the comforts of home, with custom designed furniture and accessories, that feature natural materials and luxury finishes.

These are authentic floating homes where spaces flow seamlessly into one another, bridging the gap between interior and exterior spaces. Large glass walls welcome natural light, while the blue of the sea provides a dramatic backdrop and inspiration, transforming life on board into an authentic experience, immersed in the beauty of nature.

Carpet Edition enters the nautical space with rugs designed to respond to specific needs, ensuring high performance combined with excellent aesthetic quality and function. "Soft shapes, neutral colours, harmonious silhouettes and signature details which allow every shipowner to picture themselves in their boat, just as a tailor-made suit" explains Valentina Erba, General Manager of Carpet Edition.

Carpet Edition can custom make any rug - adapting it perfectly for living spaces, lounge areas, dining areas and outdoor decks - with models featuring soft and welcoming lines, and a palette of neutral tones that range from white

to grey, and from beige to light brown. One example is Leaf Time, the new rug designed by Emanuele Missaglia, produced in a luxurious combination of Bamboo and Viscose which, in its elegant colour variation "in Mart", harmoniously combines gold and beige tones. Also Selce, product of the creativity of Studio Salaris, in which irregular borders and geometric shapes blend through the use of different materials (New Zealand Wool, Hardtwist, Boiled Wool, Linen and Tencel) as well as various textures and production methods, giving life to a dynamic and tactile design.

While contemporary yachts tend to dissolve the boundaries between interior and exterior spaces and favour recyclable and recycled materials, the In-out door collection from Carpet Edition offers a versatile and sustainable solution, ideal for terraces, deck spaces or balconies on board, but also perfect for interior spaces. A collection that interprets the continuity between indoors and outdoors, transforming external spaces into a natural extension of the living spaces. "Vessels use electrical propulsion systems, and we can contribute with materials such as PET which comes from bottles recovered from the sea, and finds new life on board", continues Valentina Erba.

A perfect choice is the Deck rug, designed by Simone Cagnazzo, which is

weather resistant thanks to its composition in recycled PET: waste plastic which is transformed into resistant and reusable high-quality fibres, giving new life to the materials and closing the cycle in pursuit of a circular economy.

A major trend in the design of this type of watercraft is the use of large panoramic glass window walls which allow natural light to flood into the interior spaces and offer breathtaking views.

"Natural light is the main character. Large window walls and fade resistant materials bring the beauty of the sea into the interior, at any time of day" concludes Valentina Erba.

A design choice that therefore requires the use of materials capable of withstanding prolonged exposure to intense light sources. The new Pure and Pure Light rugs meet this need, each made of 100% SD (Solution Dyed Fiber) polyester, a designation which confirms the fibre's superior resistance to fading caused by UV rays and stains. Easy to clean, this material offers a longer life without compromising softness or aesthetics over time, while its elasticity allows the rug to retain its shape even when wet, without undergoing significant alterations or deformation.

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Room for more Experience brand diversity at Heimtextil 2026

esigning spaces means thinking in holistic contexts - and this is precisely what the new hall structure at Heimtextil is based on. Products are presented according to their use in the room: from wallpaper and window decorations to decorative and upholstery fabrics and floor coverings. This enables interior designers to find suitable combinations more quickly and experience materials in a holistic context. The trade fair tour becomes a real tool for everyday work.

DecoTeam sets impulses for the interior design trade

A central meeting place for the industry is the DecoTeam in Hall 3.0: Under the motto "Happy up your Home", leading suppliers such as Alfred Apelt, Erfal, Höpke Möbelstoffe, Infloor-Girloon, Karl F. Buchheister, MHZ Hachtel and





Paulig Teppichweberei will be presenting coordinated solutions for holistic interior design. On Wednesday, 14 January 2026, the focus will traditionally be on the interior design trade. On this day, the DecoTeam invites visitors to a varied programme with inspiration from practice and design. The event will kick off with a lecture on "Design to be happy - InternationalInterior Trends" by Corinna Kretschmar-Joehnk, followed by a short AI workshop with Axel Ligowski. He will show how interior designers can implement their creative ideas using digital tools.

The adjoining Design Lounge powered by DecoTeam presents an impressive range of brands: Brink & Campmann with the top brands Harlequin, Morris & Co, Ted Baker and Wedgwood Home, as well as Designers Guild with the exclusive brands Christian Lacroix and Ralph Lauren, are showcasing their latest collections here. The diverse range is complemented by renowned exhibitors such as Haro Carpets, Kadeco Sun Protection Systems, Kobe Fabrics, Otto Golze and Somfy. Also represented are Stoeckel & Grimmler with the renowned brands JOOP! Living, Schöner Wohnen and Esprit home, the









IMIBALA

Design Style: Artistic

colour palette marks a shift away celebrates the use of colour with





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wallpaper manufacturer Hembus, Theo Keller / Theko – with the brands Sansibar Sylt, Tom Tailor and Natur Pur – Tisca, and Unland with Pierre Cardin.

"Anyone who designs textile spaces in their everyday work needs quick orientation rather than time-consuming research. The impressive number of exhibitors and brands at Heimtextil 2026 offers interior designers' quick access to suitable materials, design ideas and reliable partners. Everything in one

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place, carefully structured and tailored to their way of working," explains Bettina Bär, Director Heimtextil. "I am particularly pleased that the DecoTeam and the Design Lounge present such a strong variety of brands and exhibitors. This mix of inspiration, quality and design expertise is unique – and anyone visiting Heimtextil should definitely stop by."

The widest variety of decorative and upholstery fabrics

In Halls 3.1 and 4.1, quality is the common thread running through the entire range: leading manufacturers and weaving mills present the world's largest selection of furniture, decorative and upholstery fabrics, as well as genuine and imitation leather. Exhibitors include international brands such as Dickson Constant with Sunbrella (France), Edmund Bell (Great Britain), Manuel Revert and Nova Tapiceria (Spain), Vanelli Tekstil (Turkey) and Vescom Velvets (Netherlands). The Fibres & Yarns range combines the areas of fibre production, weaving and design. Angles Textil (Spain), Filtrading (Italy), Hoftex Färberei (Germany), Ilcat (Italy), Indorama Ventures Fibers (Germany), Korteks Mensucat (Turkey), Tintoria Sala and Torcitura Lei Tsu (Italy) present innovative materials and solutions for the textile value chain.

Heimtextil will take place from 13 to 16 January 2026.

www.heimtextil.messefrankfurt.com

COLOUR SMART

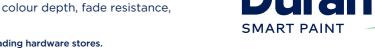
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IID update, November 2025.

More Than Just Interiors: The Multifaceted Journey of a Lowveld Designer

n the ever-evolving world of design, few journeys are as layered and Lenriching as that of Ansje Craven owner of Getting Creative Interior Design Studio, a Nelspruit-based interior designer whose story is one of reinvention, resilience, and redefining what interior design can mean.

From the start, Ansje's curiosity about human behavior and aesthetics was clear. Her journey began at the University of North-West in 2006, where she enrolled for a B.Sc. in Consumer Science. It was here that she first explored the psychological and behavioural influences behind consumer choices - how people experience a space, how they interact with their surroundings, and what drives them emotionally. "I learned early on that whether it's food, fashion, or interiors, design is always about the human experience," she reflects.

Although she did not complete that degree, it was a critical stepping stone. Realising her passion lay in shaping spaces, she moved to Pretoria to study BA Interior Design at the Design School of Southern Africa in 2008. Three years later, she returned to her hometown of Nelspruit, ready to carve out her place in the local design scene.

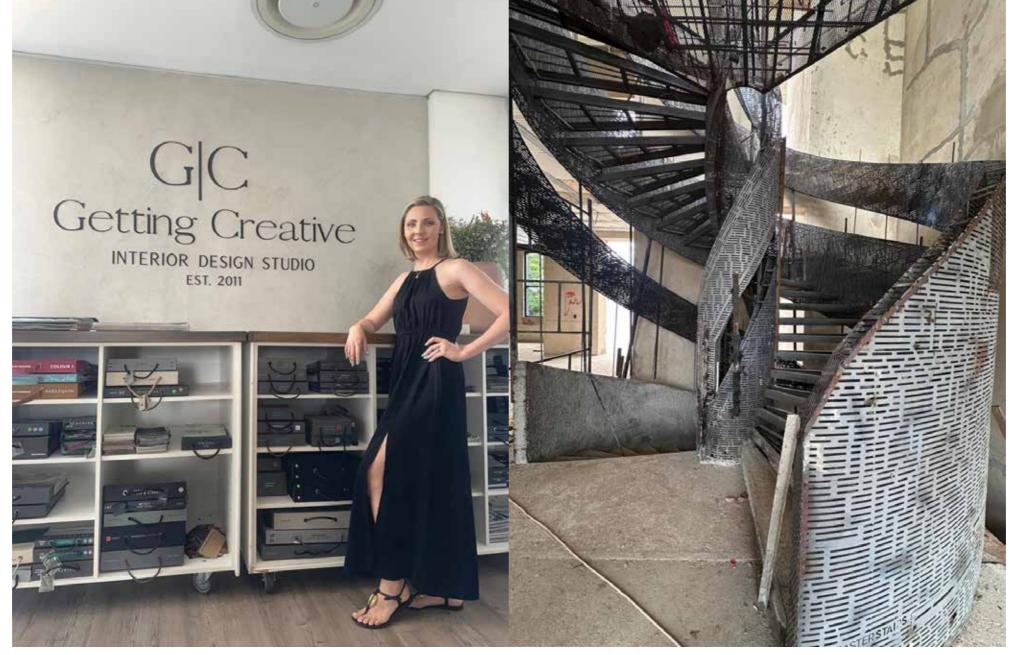
But the road wasn't smooth. At the time, interior design was still a foreign concept to many architectural firms in the region. Despite knocking on doors, Ansje found few takers. Instead of giving up, she pivoted, pitching an idea to a real estate firm - offering home staging services to help agents sell faster. Though the principal loved the concept, the town wasn't quite ready for it. However, she saw something in Ansje and offered her a full-time receptionist role with flexibility to learn the real estate business from the inside out.

This opened new doors. Viewing open houses, talking to agents, and learning about property dynamics added new layers to her skillset. At the same time, Ansje began slowly building her own design client base. A few months later, she transitioned to working for a landscape architect, applying her 3D modelling and rendering skills to help bring conceptual outdoor spaces to life. At a time when

industry, this skill became a powerful tool for communication and design validation.

By 2013, Ansje had gained enough traction to open her first interior design studio. Her work started gaining recognition for blending strong design principles with functional outcomes whether in residential, commercial, or

Her journey didn't stop there. In 2018, a friend and fashion designer approached her to co-found the Interior Design Department at Xela College of Design. For two years, Ansje mentored young creatives, helping them discover whether design was truly their path. "Teaching gave me new insight - it reminded me that design isn't static. It's something you pass on, evolve, and refine."



engineering firm as a sub-contractor as a wet services designer on a five-year public hospital project. "Most people would think engineering and interiors are worlds apart," she says, "but the same design principles - space planning, functionality, user-centered thinking - apply. It only confirmed what I've always believed: good design transcends disciplines."

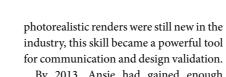
Today, after 15 years in the industry, Ansje is still growing, still learning, and still shaping the future of design in the Lowveld. Her firm is preparing to move into a new studio - a space that will serve as a creative hub for clients to engage, experience, and collaborate.

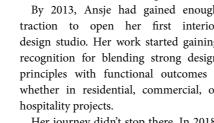
Ansje's story is a testament to the fact that design is not bound by walls or labels. Whether working in architecture, education, engineering, or real estate, the fundamentals remain: empathy, creativity, and a deep understanding of people. "Interior design is not just about beautiful and functional spaces," she says with a smile. "It's about creating experiences. And that applies everywhere."

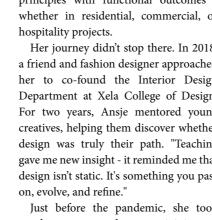
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www.iidprofessions.org.za







Just before the pandemic, she took another unexpected turn - joining an





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KSA update, November 2025.

ctober saw the KSA hold their last event for 2025 in tandem with the IID in Durban. The networking and CPD event was held at Kingsmead stadium in Durban. The venue was kindly supplied by one of our hosts for the day - IID member - The Fourways Group.

This was a day of engagement on all levels and was much needed in the region - it has been some time since either the KSA or the IID have been able to host such an event in KZN and we were delighted by the positive feedback we received.

The morning sessions was dedicated to students, and we were pleased to welcome students from DUT, Vega and Inscape. Our focus here was on giving them some real-world skills and feedback that would help them on the path to getting a job and being successful once they had that job.





















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2026

ASSOCIATION .

We recently announced that both Totem Kitchens in Gauteng and Easylife Kitchens in Pietermaritzburg would have their work gracing the cover of the KSA's 2026 consumer and Industry guide. The theme of the book for 2026 is to showcase that members do more than just kitchens and that they are indeed cabinetry experts. The 2026 Guide will be release at the end of January in both print and digital format and will have a variety of articles and advice.

Our afternoon session was focused on industry and industry professionals. Our four CPD talks were aimed at challenging

mind sets, opening up discussion and

All our guests were able to network

Collaborations like these with the IID are

essential to our industry and reinforcing our

belief that built environment players need to

work better and more consistently together.

with our supplier hosts - KSA members participating were Max on Top, Blum,

reinforcing good basics.

Interslab and Niemann SA.

October/November is KSA award season and we have been very excited to spend the time acknowledging those KSA members and friends of the KSA that have delivered exceptional service and products or who have gone above and beyond for the kitchen industry. This is always a lovely time of year - seeing the excitement when you deliver an award and the competitiveness for the acknowledgement is great and shows members take pride in what they do.

KSA offices will be closed from 19 December 2025 and re-open on skeleton staff from 5 January 2026.

KSA members do so much more than just kitchens. HINTS & TIPS, SERVICES, SUPPLIERS, ADVICE, AND MORE.

www.ksa.co.za





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Pastéis de Belém: One of Lisbon's Most Iconic Bakeries Reimaged by Renowned Designer Gracinha Viterbo

Lisbon, Portugal

iterbo Interior Design Ateliers was honoured to be invited to design a new space for the worldrenowned Pastéis de Belém (Portuguese egg tarts), a Lisbon institution since 1837.

This new retail area, located beside the original shop, was conceived to complement the historic space and respond to the ever-growing number of visitors who travel from around the world to experience this national treasure. Designed by Gracinha Viterbo, the project reflects her signature balance between timeless elegance and modern sensibility, while honouring the brand's deep heritage and identity.

The new interior evokes the artisanal essence of Portuguese tradition, while introducing a contemporary architectural language that feels both familiar and

refreshing. Light oak woods, handmade tiles, and textured lime plaster walls were combined to create a space that feels warm, authentic, and timeless. The lighting concept was carefully developed to highlight the craftsmanship of the finishes and to evoke the gentle glow of Lisbon's afternoon light.

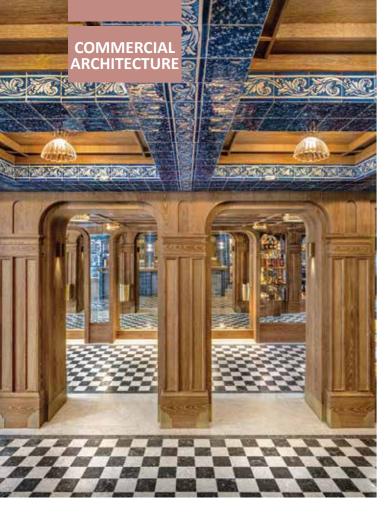
The layout was meticulously planned to optimise flow, ensuring visitors can enjoy a smoother experience as they purchase their pastries or coffee while remaining connected to the charm of the original space. The design creates a dialogue between eras — a conversation between the heritage of the past and the creativity of the present.

Attention to detail defines every corner: bespoke counters and shelving were designed to integrate functionality with beauty, while subtle brass accents add sophistication without overpowering the simplicity of the materials. The brand's iconic blue and white tones are reinterpreted in contemporary textures and patterns, maintaining the soul of the original while expressing a renewed identity.

Beyond aesthetics, the project celebrates a philosophy deeply rooted in the Viterbo ethos — design as emotion, storytelling, and connection. Every surface and proportion was thought to engage the senses, transforming a visit to Pastéis de Belém into an experience of discovery and belonging. The project reflects the studio's broader vision: to elevate Portuguese heritage through contemporary craftsmanship and timeless design language.

This new space also acts as a prelude to what's to come. In 2026, Viterbo Interior Design Ateliers will lead the full redesign of the flagship store, a project that will reinterpret the brand's legacy while creating an environment that speaks to a global audience. The forthcoming redesign aims to preserve the charm and authenticity of the original shop while



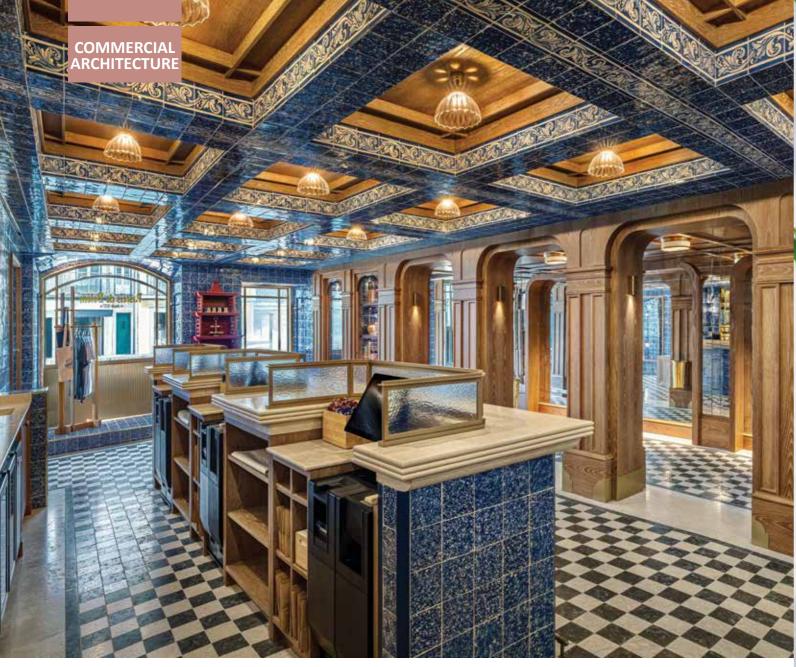


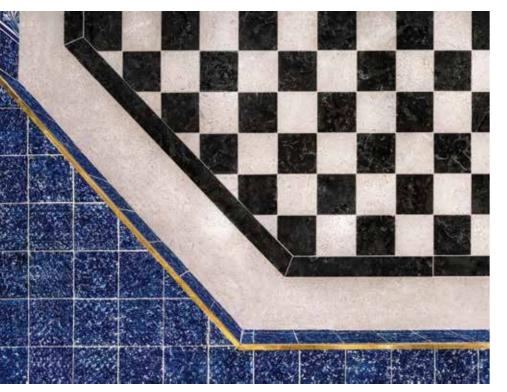






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enhancing its functionality, flow, and aesthetic coherence with the new retail space.

Blending tradition and modernity, the new space pays tribute to Portuguese craftsmanship through carefully curated materials, bespoke detailing, and an atmosphere that enhances the customer experience, all while safeguarding the essence of one of Portugal's most beloved cultural landmarks.

Technical sheet

- Project name: Pastéis de Belém
- Studio: Viterbo Interior Design Ateliers
- Lead designer: Gracinha Viterbo
- Location: Lisbon, Portugal
- Project Completion date: June 2025
- Photographer: Francisco Almeida Dias

www.viterbointeriordesign.com



The fashion sector today is marked by economic uncertainty and shifting consumer behaviour. In recent years, sustainability has become a central focus for many brands.

by Stienie Greyling

ust as butter yellow, burgundy and baby pink colour trends are reaching their peaks, designers are already conspiring on their successor. Certain colours like butter yellow is not going anywhere anytime soon, but this past fashion month, designers posed a united front on a new It colour that feels like a fresh new chapter in seasonal colour trend. Meet the shade called Capri blue, a refreshing blue shade that ranges from cerulean to turquoise to cobalt and is just oozing with an aura of optimism, joy and relaxation.

Current fashion trends include the return of Y2K styles like low-rise jeans and cargo pants, the popularity of oversized and wide-leg silhouettes and the rise of athleisure. Other notable trends are floral

prints, fantasy florals, and specific colours like jewel tones and brown, as well as accessories such as bucket hats.

One of the most popular styles rocking the current fashion trends is the ever-so cosy hoodie, however, worn with a twist. Regardless wearing a blazer with a hoodie is no longer just another street style but a transcendent, mainstream look.

Wearing a quarantine-staple-piece hoodie under a blazer adds an extra stylistic layer to an overall look. It works wonders with oversized, boxy blazers, but one can also get thinner hoodies to work better with tailored blazers.

Look for a slim, tapered hoody, preferably darker, solid colour, without too much embroidery or graphics. Pair it









with a dark solder blazer, pant or denim, either work depending on the occasion.

U-turns: Tank tops.

As far as wardrobe staples go, tank tops have always been regarded as one of the greats and a reliable base layer for any outfit, all year round.

Coolest Sneaker Trends.

There are thousands upon thousands of sneaker styles to choose from; new and archival, statement and every day, basic and one-of-kind. Sneakers can be a truly individual part of a wardrobe, but there are a few trends to pay attention to when it comes to material colour and silhouette. Brown is a huge colour right now. If searching for a neutral colour to invest in and stay true to, this earthy shade is a solid bet and super versatile. Whether one prefers suede, satin or leather, there is a brown sneaker out there for anyone.

The sprinter silhouette has made waves in the sneaker world in recent seasons, both on runaways and from favourite accessible brands. Characterised by its narrow fit and minimal soles, this style is designed to be lightweight and versatile. It also has a retro '80s vibe to it, which is having a major moment across the board, from eyewear to footwear.

Suede has sneak into everything this season, from handbags to jackets, and, of course, to sneakers. This magnificent material goes with everything, especially during cooling weather and in sneaker form, it's the perfect transitional shoe. As with any suede (and especially for shoes), protectant spray is advised to make sure they maintain quality as long as possible.

Distressed Leather Handbag.

Following this season's runway trends, it is likely that one noticed an unexpected yet undeniable chic accessory stealing the spotlight: the distressed leather

handbag. As expected, the trend found its footing on the winter 2025 runaways, where designers unveiled bold and edgy variations. Labels are firmly committing to the aesthetic with signature silhouettes reimagined in distressed leather. For those unafraid to make a statement, a metallic grunge-inspired style - accented with eye-catching zippers and buckles, is sure to earn a few double takes. Embody the grunge chic look with this slouchy, single strap style. Pair it with a bomber jacket and relaxed denim for a cool, city ready outfit.

Latest Denim Trends.

Latest denim trends include wide-leg and baggy silhouettes, such as barrel-leg and slushy styles, which offer looser fit than past seasons. Retro styles like '70s flares and boot cuts are also making a comeback. Modern updates include a return to slim fit jeans with more room at the calf, cropped lengths, dark wash denim and bold, 'extroverted' designs with embellishments.

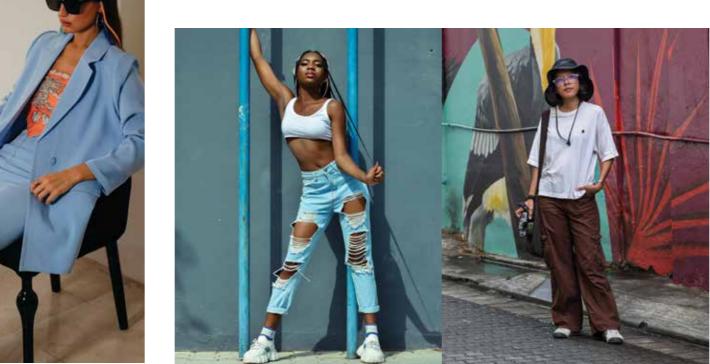
Barrel jeans are set to make a bigger splash this year. The barrel leg gives emphasis to the bottom half of an outfit, allowing for the top portion to be more fitted and paired down. When finding the right fit, this silhouette can be very

Distressed denim is making a major comeback, with shoppers drawn to its effortless, lived-in appeal, to those seeking a relaxed yet edgy aesthetic. The edgy look is an effective way to add texture and personality to any outfit.

Denim trends may ebb and flow, but no style proves more timeless than a straightleg pair. The '90s-inspired silhouette is as classic as it gets: clean lines, a relaxed fit, and a no-fuss attitude that makes it the ultimate. This season's versions lean towards a bit more relaxed, offering just the right mix of comfort and ease.







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Poem Sapce Minimal Waste Dress by Bonan Li

he intersection of traditional craftsmanship and contemporary sustainability inspired the Shrink Pleat Minimal Waste Dress. I sought to challenge conventional garment construction by exploring fabric behavior through pleating and shrinkage techniques. Drawing from research on localised textile manipulation, I developed a method to create dynamic, sculptural forms while minimising waste. This project reflects my commitment to preserving heritage weaving techniques.

The Shrink Pleat Minimal Waste Dress redefines sustainable fashion by integrating innovative pleating techniques with zero-waste cutting. Crafted from locally handwoven fabrics sourced globally, this design preserves traditional craftsmanship while reducing energy consumption. By harnessing localised fabric shrinkage, it forms organic, three-dimensional silhouettes with minimal material waste.

The Dress transforms through a unique pleating method that shapes the fabric organically using controlled shrinkage. Instead of traditional cutting, the fabric

naturally adjusts, creating sculptural folds that move with the body. Each pleat is carefully placed to enhance form and flexibility, offering comfort and structure. This approach reduces fabric waste while achieving a dynamic, flowing silhouette that feels effortless yet meticulously crafted.

This research explores sustainable garment construction through fabric behaviour analysis and zero-waste design. The objective was to develop an innovative pleating method that minimises waste while enhancing three-dimensionality. Using an experimental approach, I tested localised fabric shrinkage and pleat fixation techniques, documenting results through draping, hand-marking, and pattern adjustments. Material tests were conducted to study fabric reactions, with findings informing a scalable, small-batch production model. The research promotes sustainability by reducing textile waste and preserving traditional weaving techniques.

The most challenging aspect of this project was balancing sustainability with structural innovation. Achieving



precise pleat placement through fabric shrinkage required extensive testing, as different textiles reacted unpredictably. Additionally, sourcing ethically handwoven fabrics while maintaining production feasibility posed logistical challenges. Overcoming these obstacles involved iterative experimentation, collaboration with artisans, and refining techniques to ensure both aesthetic integrity and minimal waste.

Image Credits:

Photographer Hao Zeng

www.bonanli.com











Huazolo Aphrodites Embroidered Clothing

Te immersed ourselves in the community to learn about its culture, identity, traditions, as well as its clothing and textile techniques. They shared with us the meaning of the symbols they embroider, such as the multicolored rhombuses that show the days of the week, and the animal figures that represent the fauna of the region. The designs took as inspiration the topography of the town, representing the intersections of its streets in diamond and the fauna amplified and segmented in the design.

It all started with an immersion with the artisans, to understand their culture, clothing, and techniques they have used since past times. Several meetings were held, sharing the symbols they use; seeking empathy, understanding how relevant textiles are for them. We crossed many design ideas, until reaching the final proposal, using rhombuses and animals of the region that are part of their embroidery, but fusing them with topography of the place to connect with the contemporary designs. We promote sustainability with zero waste in patterns through the interpretation of their huipil which is made from rectangles.

The challenge was to generate empathy and communication with the indigenous communities since they were more

than 1000 km from Mexico City. We had many meetings to be able to delve into their culture and understand what was most relevant to them in terms of their techniques and silhouettes, so that together we could design garments with which they could identify and produce. The other challenge was to find sustainable silhouettes and local materials.

Image credits:

- Photographer Silvestre Garcia
- Hairstylist Ignazio Muñoz
- Makeup artist Ian Bautista
- Models Diana Ortiz and Aislynn Diana
- Stylist Vanesa Bojalil







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Twyg announces new jury for the Twyg Sustainable Fashion Awards

wyg, the Cape Town-based nonprofit media platform dedicated to sustainable fashion and lifestyle, is proud to announce a newly appointed jury for the Twyg Sustainable Fashion Awards for the 2025, 2026 and 2027 editions. Alongside this announcement, Twyg has extended the entry deadline for the 2025 awards to 12 October 2025.

"Although we respect and admire all our judges, we believe it's important to refresh the jury every three years," says Jackie May, founder of Twyg. "This not only injects new energy and diverse perspectives into the process, but also ensures designers benefit from fresh eyes and new expertise."

A global jury with diverse expertise

The new jury brings together an extraordinary mix of local and international leaders in media, fashion, sustainability, design, business, and

climate advocacy. Judges for the next three years include:

- Martina Glomb (Germany): Professor of Fashion Design at Hochschule Hannover, founder of the USE-LESS Centre for Sustainable Strategies, and former designer for Vivienne Westwood's Anglomania and Red Label lines.
- Bee Diamondhead (South Africa): Creative director, stylist and fashion editor whose work has defined an era in South African fashion and beyond.
- Idelle Taye (United States/ Cameroon): Founder of Guzangs, a platform celebrating and empowering African artisans through global fashion storytelling.
- Stella Hertantyo (South Africa): Communications lead at African Climate Alliance, writer and former co-host of the Conscious Style Podcast.

- Silvia Tonui (Kenya): Business strategist and creative economy practitioner who has led initiatives such as the British Council's Creative DNA.
- Bielle Bellingham (South Africa): Business and Brand Director at Chommies, cultural strategist, and former editor of ELLE Decoration.

Twyg's awards adjudicator Elisabeth Makumbi (South Africa) returns for her six year. Elisabeth is a management consultant at Bridgespan and admitted attorney, with expertise in circular economy, climate, and social impact.

Collectively, this jury embodies Twyg's mission to drive innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability in African fashion while connecting it to global conversations.

www.twyg.co.za/awards























Popular wall décor ideas include using natural textures, incorporating biophilic design and opting for textured finishes like limewash or plaster.

by Stienie Greyling

allery walls are still a thing, but they are looking more polished these days. Instead of a mishmash of random pieces, people are creating curated collections with a cohesive look. The key is to stick to a theme, whether it's a colour palette, a specific art style, or even a shared subject matter. This approach makes the gallery wall feel intentional and elevated.

Large-scale murals or abstract art can also create impact and use of statement pieces like large mirrors or curated pops of colour. Accent walls are making a comeback with a focus on texture and colour depth rather than just a single, solid shade.

There has been a notable shift toward framing wall art with metal and wood. This aligns with eco-conscious trends and adds a premium feel to art pieces.

Framing is critical in art presentation, notably contributing to the overall

impression. Metal frames, especially brushed metal, are gaining popularity for their modern and sleek appeal, complementing minimalist and vibrant artworks. Conversely, wood frames offer a classic and warm look, with options ranging from rustic barn wood to polished mahogany.

The trend of using eco-friendly materials extends beyond wall art framing. It is also evident in sustainable apparel fabric printing methods.

Art deco is making a huge comeback. Warm, rich tones, like wall panelling or deep coloured walls, complemented with geometric patterns, say in a rug or art, accented by more opulent or lacquered pieces of furniture really bring a space together.

Mouldings can be an interesting enough wall décor on their own, but hanging artwork inside of their borders can up the visual interest even further. If





you have a bright sofa, patterned rug or intricate lighting, perhaps the best plan of action is to install moulding on a wall.

Because mirrors reflect light, they make a small area feel bigger and brighter, while also acting as a statement pieces. Hanging a large mirror proportional to the surrounding furniture above a console or book case, is usually the best choice.

Large built-in shelves means the wall décor ideas are as endless as your collection of novelties or ornaments.

Hanging a cabinet's worth of plates is sure to create a meaningful moment on the wall, but even a few well-placed plates will do. Use wire hangers to display the favourite dishes and serving platters, especially if they share a colour scheme. It will be fun to turn something one loves into a focal point.

Lighting sconces add an extra source of light without taking up space on the floor or on a side table. Choose an eye-catching design that doubles as a wall sculpture, particularly on a large wall, and it will add visual interest in the living room day and night. A sconce in a glass or metal material goes such a long way against a matte-painted wall.

Plants don't just have to sit on the windowsill. Make use of hanging or wall-mounted planters to add a bit of greenery and texture to walls. One can stick to succulents for their low-maintenance nature, or try a plant that has vines that

will grow down the wall and add even more life to a room.

The woven quality of macramé adds texture to a wall without a lot of fanfare, which can be appealing when filling small corners like half walls besides door frames, or wider ones, like the upper half of a wall above a bed.

A large calendar works especially well on an office or kitchen wall, since one can keep track of events while also adding a standout element to enliven a room. As far as choosing a colour palette goes, one could either coordinate with the existing paint, so that your to-dos blend in, or one could go for a bold shade so that your plants are never forgotten.

Scenic wallpaper can lead a storybook vibe to any setting in a home. Installing wallpaper is a tall order and asking for wallpaper to align perfectly so that it creates a scene is even more of a challenge. But when one pulls it off, it will be worth it, whether it is in a small entryway alcove, a dining room or a playroom. Use panoramic wallpaper in a tiny space, creating an immersive and transporting moment.

Another way to add texture to living room walls without creating an overwhelming effect, is to go with grass cloth. Install it in a rich, bold colour to add depth. Using natural materials make a room feel warmer and more tactile, adding a sense of cosiness and an inviting touch.

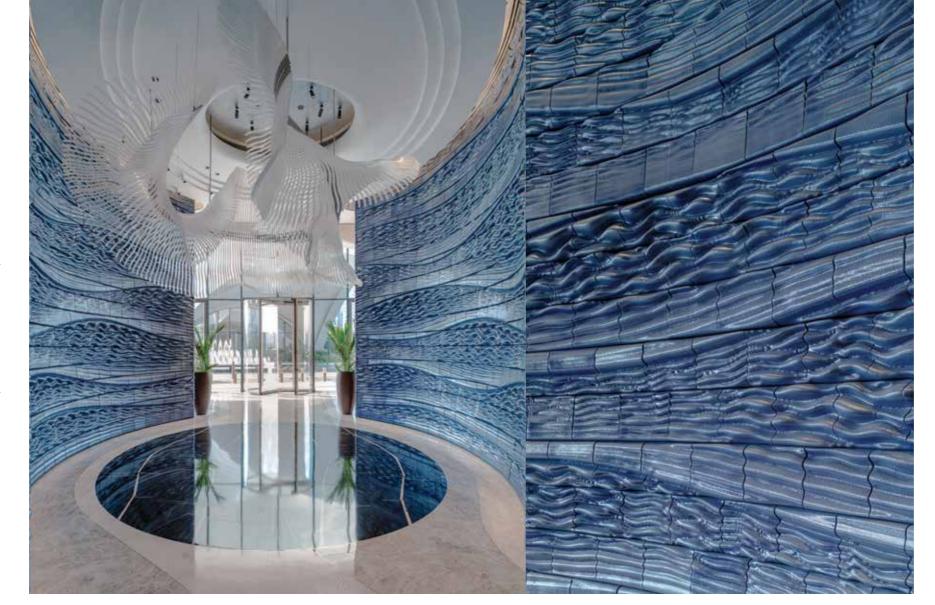
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Blue Voyage Dubai, United Arab Emirates

tudio RAP has designed and produced two large-scale ceramic walls for the entrance lobby of Jumeirah Marsa Al Arab, a new luxury hotel in Dubai. Positioned on either side of the entry, the walls define and frame the approach into the building, creating a calm yet expressive moment of arrival.

Titled Blue Voyage, the project draws inspiration from the nearby Gulf. The curved forms recall the movement of waves, while the surface patterns become increasingly intricate up close, revealing flowing lines and layered ridges that respond to light and shadow throughout the day. Large, specially designed corner tiles wrap the pattern seamlessly around the edges, enhancing the sculptural quality and spatial clarity of the installation.

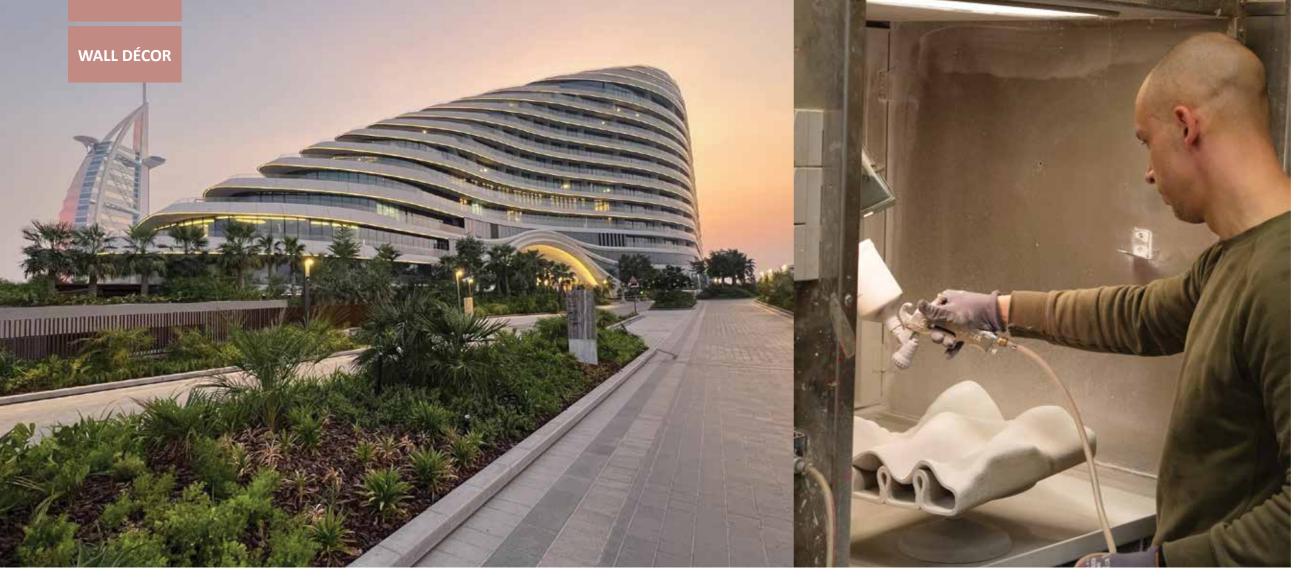
Each wall measures six metres high and nine metres long. In total, Studio RAP designed and 3D-printed around 900 unique ceramic tiles, each one generated







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parametrically and produced in-house at the studio's facility in Rotterdam. This approach enabled full control over form, fit, and material quality throughout the entire process.

Blue Voyage is among the largest 3D-printed ceramic architectural installations in the world. It embodies Studio RAP's ongoing pursuit of uniting computational design with craftsmanship, using advanced fabrication techniques to bring expressive, durable, and site-specific elements into contemporary architecture.

Project Details

- Project Name: Blue Voyage
- Location: Jumeirah Marsa Al Arab, Dubai (UAE)
- Client: Dubai Holding Real Estate
- Designer: Studio RAP
- Architect (main building): Killa Design
- 3D Ceramic Printing: Studio RAP
- Firing and Glazing: Royal Tichelaar
- Photographer: Studio RAP / Riccardo De Vecchi

www.studiorap.nl/Blue-Voyage















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Delmar Porcelain Tile

by NG Kutahya Ceramic

nspired by the coral formations of Maragogi, Brazilian Coral reflects the ecological beauty of nature in an elegant marble-like form, carefully shaping the natural harmony of organic forms in colour and design aesthetics. Like the tranquillity that vegetation, water texture and natural light bring to serene spaces, this design captures a sense of relaxation and renewal. Its unique patterns seamlessly intertwine, creating a natural and endless composition.

Delmar reflects the elegance of nature with organic forms and colours with its design inspired by coral formations on the seabed. Its vibrant patterns bring the tranquillity of nature to the space, while offering the psychologically relaxing effects of nature. Not limited to a specific area or use, Delmar elevates the ambience with its uplifting aesthetics in poolsides, spa centres or any space seeking a touch of the sea.

With the growing appreciation for nature in recent years, biophilic themes have become increasingly popular in interior design. The incorporation of natural elements into indoor spaces has been proven to positively impact human well-being and mental health. As a result, detailed studies were conducted to prepare for designing a biophilic-themed project. First, inspiration was drawn





from nature, and research was conducted on the positive effects of natural materials and organic forms on human psychology. The impact of elements such as vegetation, water features, and natural light in creating a sense of tranquility and harmony within spaces was observed. Next, a concept was developed based on biophilic design principles. Features such as plant walls, stone textures, and wood details were incorporated to simulate natural landscapes within the interior. Large windows and open spaces were also designed to maximise natural light penetration into the space. Throughout the design process, the focus was on incorporating details that would strengthen the connection to nature and reduce stress. The goal was to create an atmosphere that promotes relaxation and rejuvenation through indoor plant arrangements, water elements, and the careful selection of natural materials. Finally, thorough planning and visualisation were conducted to ensure the feasibility and user-friendliness of the design. Each step was carefully evaluated to ensure that the biophilicthemed design would contribute to creating healthier and more serene

indoor environments. These preparatory studies have laid the foundation for the biophilic-themed design project, aiming to provide a natural experience within indoor spaces.

During the development of the project, one challenge was balancing the intricate oceanic theme of Delmar with practical considerations, such as durability and suitability for various environments. This obstacle was addressed through extensive research into materials that could withstand moisture and hightraffic areas while maintaining the desired aesthetic. Additionally, incorporating biophilic design principles required seamlessly integrating natural elements into the design without compromising functionality. External factors such as advancements in porcelain tile technology and the availability of sustainable materials influenced decisionmaking, while social perspectives on sustainability and wellness guided the project's direction.

Image credits:

NG Kutahya Ceramic, 2024.

www.ngkutahyaseramik.com.tr



Beyond functionality, window treatments can conceal or enhance a room's best features. The most important factors are function, fabric and fit.

by Stienie Greyling

ust having a stylish window trim is not enough as many people overlook the importance of this design feature. The best window treatment ideas enhance the window without blocking too much light when they are open. Sheer linen curtains can give a serene bedroom holiday vibes while blackout curtains can keep a room glare-free no matter what time it is. If curtains are not your first choice, opt for a Roman shade or slatted blinds to elevate functional spaces like kitchen or bathrooms.

Modern window treatments include minimalist roller shades, natural woven shades made from materials like hemp, and layered combinations of sheers with heavier curtains or Roman Blinds. For a sleek, custom look, consider wall-towall curtains, decorative window film, or motorised options for a high-tech feel. Other stylish choices are sophisticated interior shutters or simple flat Roman blinds for a tailored look.

There are limitless possibilities for window treatment ideas, from café curtains above a kitchen counter to a frilled valance that adds whimsy to a child's bedroom. Combining different patterns, textile, accents and shape, these window treatment ideas are sure to inspire any home project.

Leading the 2025 trend, neutral and earthy colours bring timeless charm to any room. Popular shades like white, beige, taupe and shades of green or brown make any space calm and welcoming. An earthy colour palette is not only visually appealing, but also versatile enough to complement a wide range of wall colours and décor styles. This adaptability means curtains will remain stylish and relevant,

no matter how a home's interior style evolves over time.

Eco-friendly curtain options are increasingly popular as people seek to reduce their environmental impact in 2025. Recycled fabrics and linen blends are leading the trend, offering stylish sustainable solutions. Linen blend sheers are known for their durability and hypoallergenic qualities.

They also allow natural light in while maintaining privacy for a bright and airy feel. Get the linen look and feel with ecofriendly recycled polyester curtains.

Sheer curtains always make a sophisticated statement. They filter sunlight gently, creating warm, inviting spaces. Sheers are incredibly versatile and elegant, completing styles from modern to classic. Subtly textured, they also help to maintain privacy. Whether floor-

to-ceiling or layered with blinds, sheer curtains elevate any room to a beautiful sanctuary.

Floor-to-ceiling sheer curtains can add a romantic touch to a living room. Lightweight and translucent, this curtaining allows natural light while providing privacy. The soft and airy fabric will also make a room feel spacious. And when they stand alone, they create a minimalist look.

Woven rattan shades are one of the most trending modern curtaining designs for a living room. They bring the outdoors in with eco-friendly elegance, providing a warm and natural ambiance while offering versatile light control. Meanwhile, the intricate textures and earth tones create a serene sanctuary of relaxation and style.

Bamboo blinds bring an organic and earthy element to a modern bedroom.

They also add texture and warmth to a room creating the ideal air for a good night's sleep. Darker tones create drama, while lighter ones suit a minimalist look.

The kitchen is one of the most functional spaces in a home, but it should be beautiful too. That's where window treatments can play a significant role. Whether one prefers a minimal aesthetic or a cosy and rustic charm, these ideas strike balance between practicality and visual appeal.

As a practical and refined solution to kitchen windows, roller blinds are easy to clean and operate.

The dining room is where meals are shared, conversations flow and memories are made. So, when it comes to designing this special area, window treatments play a vital role in setting the overall tone. Create a unique and eye-catching look















with dining room window treatments like corner curtains. The unconventional placement brings visual intrigue and softens the room.

Bay windows fit well with cosy modern farmhouse window treatments. A traditional valance, for instance, can give the dining room that special touch and natural colours add warmth and depth to the space while maintaining a clean and sophisticated look.

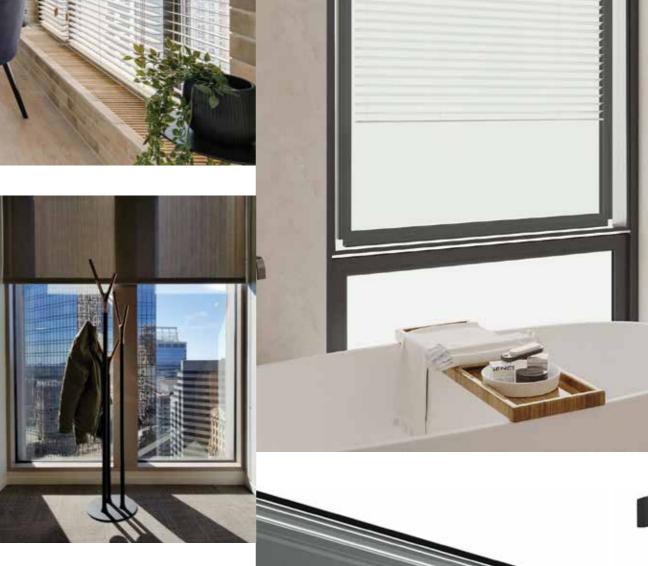
Skip traditional window curtain ideas with contemporary shutter blinds. These versatile window treatments offer a clean and minimalist aesthetic. They also provide excellent light and privacy control, allowing one to tailor the atmosphere to different settings.

Plantation shutters prove to be an exceptional choice for large windows, offering a perfect blend of timeless elegance and practical functionality.

Their adjustable louvres allow for precise control over natural light, providing an effective solution for managing brightness and privacy in dining rooms and living

The sturdy craftsmanship and quality construction of plantation shutters ensure durability and longevity, making them a wise investment for those seeking window coverings that stand the test of time. Beyond their functional benefits, wood blinds contribute to a classic and sophisticate aesthetic, enhancing the overall charm of a space.

Cellular Blinds, also known as honeycomb blinds, are a versatile and energy-efficient choice for tall windows. The unique cellular design creates insulating air pockets that enhance the window's thermal efficiency, helping to regulate indoor temperatures and reduce energy consumption all year round.



Mag Coupling Drive Built in Louver Glass

by Anhui Jinpeng Energy Saving

this insulating glass window with a built in louver boasts multiple optimised features: a contactless permanent magnet transmission system, an external motor, and solar powered wireless charging technology. These features eliminate exposed wiring and bring various practical benefits, such as excellent sealing, thermal insulation rated at level 7, water tightness up to 700 Pa, and noise reduction down to 35 dB, ensuring a consistently comfortable indoor environment.

The innovative glass window with a built in louver excels in protection, durability, and intelligence. It features a permanent magnet transmission system, which allows for easy control of the louvre without intricate wiring. By integrating an external motor and solar powered charging technology, the window eliminates the drawbacks of exposed wiring. For added convenience, multiple louvre control methods are available to meet the diverse needs of users.

Traditional windows with built in louvers often place the motor within





WINDOW TREATMENTS

the insulating glass, which can shorten its lifespan due to high temperatures in summer. Another issue arises when wiring penetrates the sealant, compromising wind resistance, airtightness, and water tightness. In response, this design moves the motor outside the glass and combines a contactless transmission system and solar powered wireless charging, eliminating exposed wiring. Gone are the drawbacks of conventional designs.

To address the key challenge of minimising environmental impact, the external motor is integrated with solar powered wireless charging technology, ensuring it operates without additional energy consumption or carbon emissions. Moreover, the built in louver allows users to flexibly adjust the sunlight streaming in, reflecting around 60 percent of solar heat outward. This excellent insulation performance reduces the load on air conditioning, aligning with modern environmental protection goals.

IMAGE CREDITS:

Anhui Jinpeng Energy Saving, 2024. dw

www.jinpengsun.com













Sustainable design is the idea that sustainability should be built into the design phase of products, services and buildings.

by Stienie Greyling



shift from traditional design that goes beyond the simple aesthetic and functionality of the product. This vision involves several disciples, including product and interior design, graphic design, fashion design and communication. It is an innovative approach that requires a deep understanding of the environmental and social impacts associated with each stage of the product life cycle.

Sustainable design practices encompass principles like reduce, reuse, and recycle, prioritising energy and water efficiency, using low-impact and recycled materials, and designing for durability, disassembly, and reuse to minimise environmental impact, resource consumption, and waste throughout a product or building's life cycle.

Key strategies include optimising natural light and ventilation, incorporating renewable energy, water-saving fixtures and systems, selecting local and recycled materials, and designing for longevity and adaptability.

User-centred design and accessibility.

Another key aspect to take into account when producing sustainable design is the need and expectations of the target group. To concretely respond

to consumer needs, it is essential to promote and take care of accessibility and inclusivity to ensure that products are usable by a wide range of people. Ergonomics is a crucial aspect in this context. Products must promote cultural and social diversity through strategic solutions that meet the needs of various used groups.

Addressing these issues improves the quality of life for users and encourages more responsible and long-term use of products, reducing the need for frequent replacement, and promoting a culture of sustainability and responsibility.

Sustainable design trends and best practices.

Trends in sustainable design are evolving with an increasing number of companies adopting innovative production practices such as upcycling and biometric design. The former is a practice that transforms waste materials or obsolete products into new valuable objects. The second is a technique that draws inspiration from natural processes to create sustainable solutions.

Some practical examples of companies that have adopted and maintained these approaches are Patagonia and IKEA. Patagonia is well known for its commitment

to sustainability. It uses recycled materials for its products and promotes the repair and recycling of its products. IKEA has adapted circular furniture solutions, such as modular and recyclable furniture. These examples show how innovation and sustainability can and should go hand in hand to create a greener and more sustainable future.

Principles of sustainable architecture.

The objective of sustainable architecture is to reduce energy consumption, carbon emissions and waste in the construction, operation and maintenance of a house. To achieve that goal, the following key principles are applied when designing and building sustainable architecture.

Passive design.

The sun, wind and shade are free natural resources that can be used to light, heat and cool spaces. Passive design utilises these resources by working with the specific conditions and climate of a site.

Houses are purposefully oriented for the movement of the sun and wind and the building envelope (walls, floor and window) is carefully designed to control where and when the sun, breeze and shade enter the house. Using good passive design can be thermally comfortable all year round, without the need for additional heating and cooling.

Energy efficiency.

Heating and cooling are the largest consumers of energy in a house. By reducing the need for heating and cooling,



the energy consumption and therefore ongoing carbon emissions of a home can be reduced. Passive design principles provide the foundation for creating such an energy-efficient home: high-quality materials, products and construction ensure that it is well ventilated, insulated and airtight. Based on architectural drawings and a sustainability assessment using computer modelling, it is possible to generate an energy-efficiency star rating out of 10. The higher the rating, the less energy needed to heat and cool the home.



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Hi Inn, Self-Service Ningbo, China

mid growing traveller demand for value-for-money, freedom of choice, and eco-conscious living, Hi Inn Self-Service emerges as more than a continuation of the traditional economy hotel model. It is a design-driven systemic reconstruction - redefining the stay experience from spatial logic to operational models, from visual language to material strategies, all built around a lightweight, yet efficient hospitality solution.

Brand re-evolution

Evolving from the principles of Light, Combination, Simple to Fully Self-Service, Eco-Friendly, and Reliably Affordable, the brand responds more precisely to the real needs of a new generation of travellers. For price-sensitive travellers, it ensures affordability and provides a safe and reliable accommodation experience.

Design language of self-service

Self-service is not just a service model - it is the spatial logic itself. By





SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

orchestrating colour, material, and lighting, the firm creates a restrained yet welcoming atmosphere, enabling guests to enjoy a comfortable experience without staff intervention.

The functional public zone aligns with the compact lobby layout, with a fully self-service area efficiently meeting guest needs.

Modular and unit-based design

Spaces are deconstructed into flexible "units", such as wash walls, wardrobe walls, self-service dining areas, and laundry zones. Deployment is faster through modular construction and functional unit systems, and operations are more efficient.

- Unitised Spatial System: Modular, Precise, Adaptable
- Unitised Guestroom Modules: Guestrooms are built from prefabricated units—wash wall,





wardrobe wall, media wall - integrating lighting and systems for quick installation.

Sustainable practices

Over 80% of construction materials, including steel panels, angle frames, and standardised hardware, are recyclable. This ensures construction efficiency and enables future dismantling and reuse, turning sustainability into an actionable long-term strategy.

Hi Inn Self-Service

Positioned around "full self-service, eco-friendly, reliable, and affordable," Vermilion Zhou Design Group approached the project from the overall logic of space and operational systems, reconstructing the guest journey for a new generation of economy hotels, and delivering a fresh answer that balances efficiency with reassurance to the industry.

Technical sheet

- Creative Director | Kuang Ming(Ray)
 Chou
- Concept Design | Ting Ho
- Interior Design | Garvin Hung, Jim Wang, Li Wu, Maochun Cao
- Lighting Design | Vera Chu
- FF&E Design | Mengjia Deng

www.vermilionzhou.com



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SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

No Footprint Wood House Residential Architecture

by Oliver Schutte

he No Footprint Wood House is based on the some of the history of prefabricated housing schemes in distant locations, such as the Maison Tropicale by Jean Prouvé or the Dymaxion House by Buckminster Fuller. The project is also based on a roadmap to level carbon emissions is Costa Rica. In this context, the modular building design options provide individual home owners with a variety of opportunities to contribute to the collective goal of balancing carbon emissions.





The House has created different levels of interaction. On one hand, there is the classic relationship between our team of architects and interior designers and clients and client groups. Moreover, the research arm of the No Footprint House project engages with universities and local material providers, to continuously work on the development of improved building solutions that create community benefits with reduced environmental impact and cost, improving overall project performance.

The laminated wood system is an attractive and locally sourced resource to configure any model of the No Footprint House series. Alternative structural materials can be chosen according to the specific performance criteria, building location and budget. The production process is defined to deliver the project efficiently to any target location. Completely autonomous configurations are available for off-grid locations, including on-site energy production and waste water treatment.

Costa Rica has shifted from a strategy of sustainability to regenerative development. This condition creates numerous implications for housing. In this context, the No Footprint Wood House drives innovation through the development and incorporation of renewable and locally sourced materials in combination with passive design strategies and local energy production. The project is optimised through industrial and prefabricated building techniques, the first of its kind in Central America.

The main challenge of the No Footprint House series, including the No Footprint Wood House as an expression of its ongoing material development progress, is to unite a broad variety of entities in a joined multi stakeholder approach. Such broadness and systemic thinking are required to find solutions for some of the greatest challenges of our time, which includes the decarbonisation of all sectors that significantly contribute to global carbon emissions, proposing concrete actions and solutions.

Image credits:

A-01 / Fernando Alda

www.a-01.net



Home and Forest with Tropical Species and Sustainable Solutions

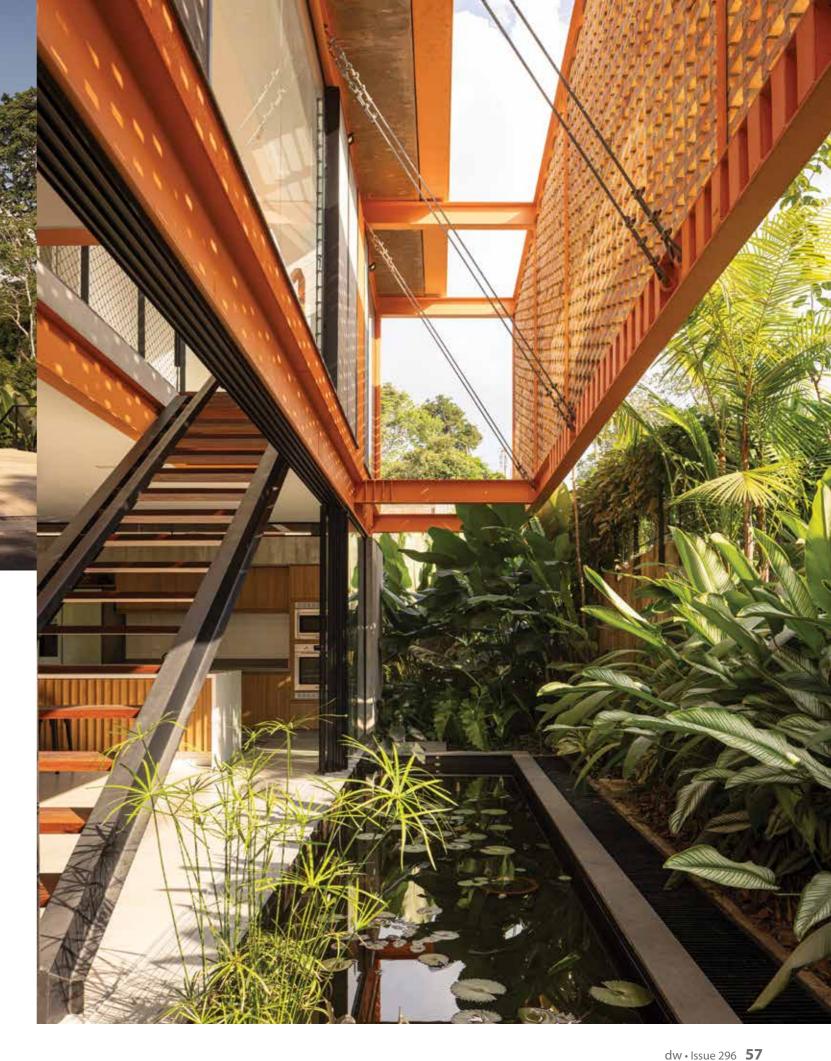
Manaus, Brazil



Brazil, and bordering a permanent conservation area, Pupunha House features a landscape design by Hana Eto Gall Landscape that was conceived as a direct dialogue with the Amazon rainforest.

The guiding principle was to turn the garden into the true protagonist, softening the boundaries between natural vegetation and built form. The residence itself was designed by Laurent Troost Architectures, with interiors by Chris Coimbra.

Arrival is framed as a sensorial experience: visitors follow a path immersed in tropical vegetation, where large foliage, natural shade, and rich textures create a fresh, humid microclimate. This immersion continues inside the residence, as greenery extends into the architecture and follows the circulation routes, integrating nature into everyday life.















SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

With automated irrigation systems and an implementation strategy that respects both the terrain and the ecosystem, Pupunha House embodies the idea of a home that seems to float above the forest canopy. Plant selection also reflects this approach, prioritising native and climateadapted species such as Calatheas, Alocasias, Heliconias, banana trees, and palms.

Part of the existing vegetation was preserved, while new species with ecological and aesthetic value were introduced to enhance comfort, privacy, and biodiversity.

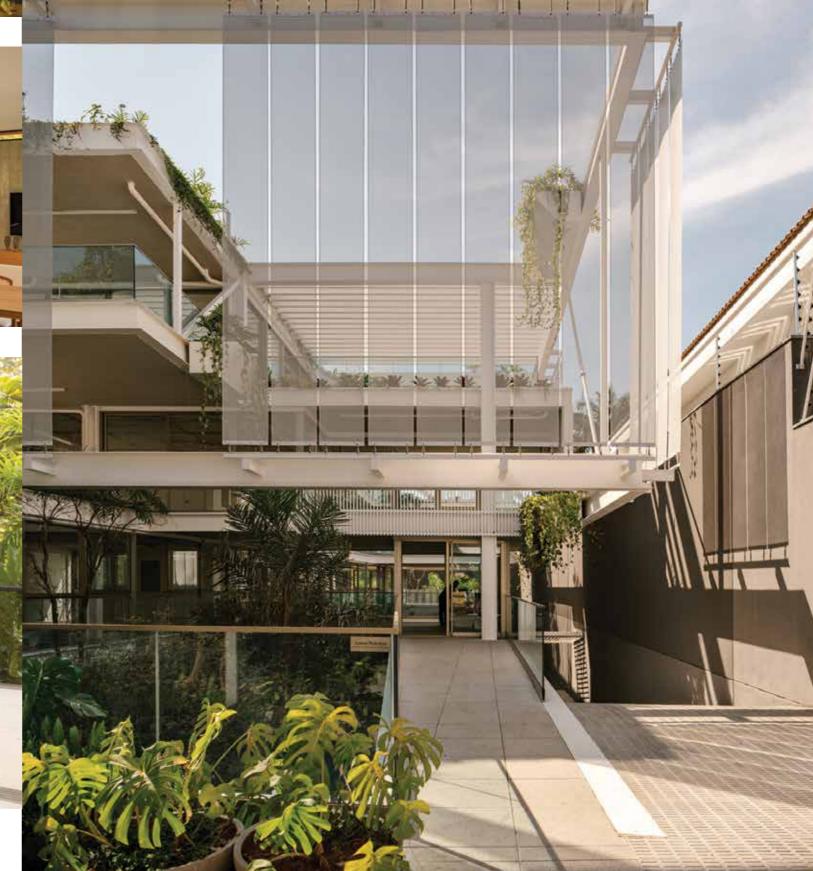
Technical sheet

- Project: Pupunha House
- Location: Manaus, Amazonas, Brazil
- Landscape Design: Hana Eto Gall Landscape (@arq.hanaetogall)
- Architecture: Laurent Troost (@ laurenttroost)
- Interiors: Chris Coimbra
- Photography: Joana França (@ joanafranca)

www.instagram.com/arq.hanaetogall/ www.linkedin.com/company/hana-etogall-paisagismo/







Awards



Architecture Hunter Awards 2025 Winners Announcement: Celebrating Global Creativity and Innovation in Architecture and Design

São Paulo, Brazil

rchitecture Hunter is proud to announce the winners of the Architecture Hunter Awards 2025 (AHA), a distinction dedicated to honouring exceptional achievements across architecture, architecture representation, product design, interior design, urban design, social and student projects, and beyond. This year's awards highlight projects that represent the forefront of creativity, sustainability, and purposeful design, reinforcing the role of architecture in shaping the future of our built environments.

Since its creation, Architecture Hunter has become a global platform for architectural inspiration and innovation, curating the best works for an audience spanning more than 3 million people worldwide. The AHA embodies Architecture Hunter's mission to foster meaningful connections within the architectural community and to elevate projects that make a lasting impact.

The AHA 2025 revealed an inspiring array of projects that showcase the power of thoughtful design to shape experiences, foster connection, and respond to context. From innovative approaches, to materials and space, to immersive environments that engage communities, the winners demonstrate how architecture can











AWARDS

translate culture, nature, and creativity into spaces that resonate universally and leave a lasting impact.

An esteemed jury and global recognition

The winners were selected by a distinguished international jury of leading architects, designers, and thinkers, whose diverse expertise ensured that each project was evaluated not only for its design excellence, but also for its cultural, social, and environmental impact. Among the jury members were Deborah Berke (TenBerke), Juan Ignacio Aranguren (Zaha Hadid Architects), Maria Porro (Salone del Mobile Milano), Patrick Voigt (9sekunden), and Tatiana Bilbao & Team (Tatiana Bilbao Estudio), alongside other renowned voices shaping the future of architecture and design.

Presented by our partners

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Roca and Dellanno, and supported by Marmomac Brazil and CentroRochas, the awards have also benefited from the support of diverse media partners and institutional collaborations. Their dedication to fostering creativity and innovation in architecture has been essential in bringing this global celebration to life.

About Architecture Hunter

Since its creation, Architecture Hunter has been a global platform for architectural inspiration and innovation, curating the best in architecture for an audience spanning more than three million followers worldwide. This first edition of the AHA embodies Architecture Hunter's mission to foster meaningful connections within the architectural community and to elevate projects that make a significant impact.

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From Plant to Palette: Marianne Tiegen Showcases the Beauty of Natural Dyeing in Chalet Cocagne

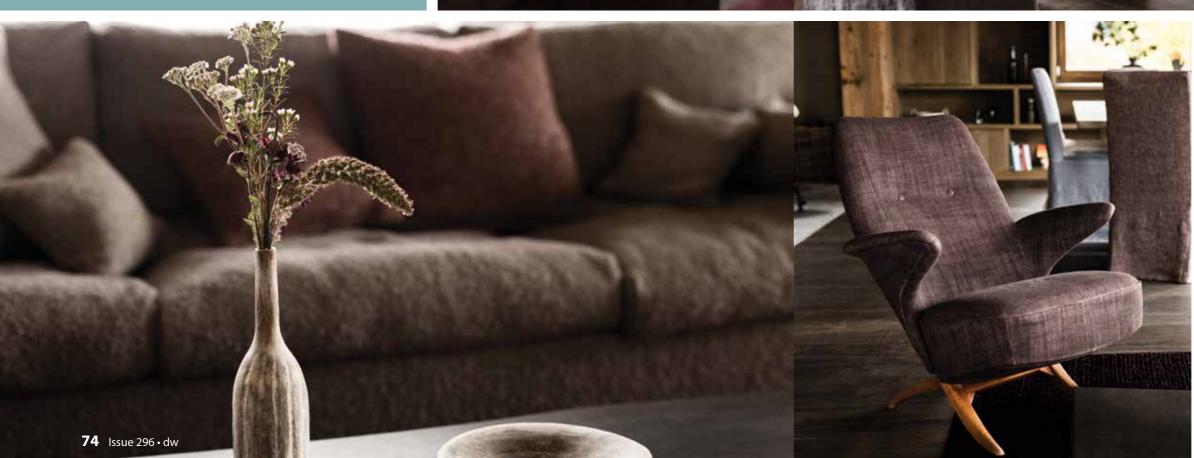
Valais, Switzerland

n the Swiss Alps, on a winding lane lined with pastures and stone walls, Chalet Cocagne stands as a serene meditation on colour, craft, and connection to place. For interior designer Marianne Tiegen, the project was not simply about renovating a 1970s chalet; it was an opportunity to explore her ongoing fascination with natural dyes and how colour can root a home in its environment.

Tiegen's approach begins long before the first brushstroke or upholstery choice is made. Each hue is the result of a slow, deliberate process of research, foraging, and transformation. Working with her team, she gathers local plants, flowers, and mineral pigments, extracting subtle tones that mirror the alpine landscape: misty greys drawn from stone, soft yellows reminiscent of late-summer blooms, and dusky mauves inspired by thistle and wild aster.

"The palette is born from the place itself," Tiegen explains. "Every colour tells a story about where it came from - whether it's the soil, the light, or the season. When you live with those colours, you feel that connection."













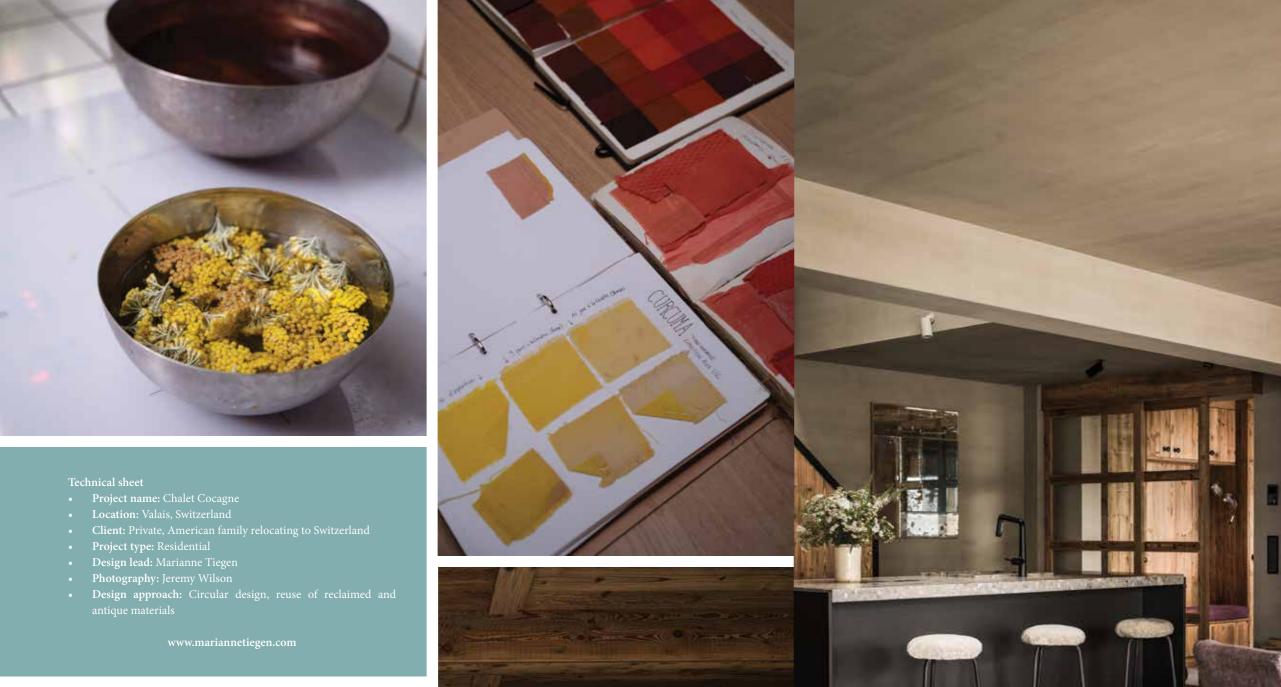
The resulting fabrics, linens, and limewash paints, developed in her Paris atelier before being entrusted to master artisans with an ancestral heritage of natural dyeing, imbue Chalet Cocagne with an atmosphere that feels both grounded and luminous. The living room's linen sofa, hand-dyed in her bespoke "Orage" grey, evokes the sight of mountain clouds at dusk. In the master bedroom, a headboard crafted from wool and linen captures the soft, silvery tones of dried thistle, while the dining chairs bloom in shades of "Lupin" and "Bleuet," echoing the wildflowers that edge the meadows below.

Infused with both art and nature, Tiegen's colour philosophy resists trends in favour of timelessness. Each shade is a reflection of the landscape itself - crafted to endure, both stylistically and physically. Beyond the colours, her process remains as sustainable as it is poetic: using plant-based pigments drastically reduces water consumption and eliminates chemical runoff, while repurposing vintage textiles and locally sourced wools minimises waste. Every element - whether a hand-stitched linen curtain, an antique mirror, or a dining table carved from reclaimed oak - was chosen with intention.

"Natural dyeing teaches patience," says Tiegen. "It's unpredictable in the best way. You learn to embrace imperfection and let nature have the final say."

At Chalet Cocagne, that philosophy finds its purest form. The home's earthy textures and harmonious tones blur the boundaries between interior and landscape, creating an environment that feels deeply alive. Even small details, such as a light fixture made from reclaimed zinc and carved wooden birds, or a bench upholstered in custom-dyed linen, carry this same sensibility: a respect for craft, a reverence for nature, and a belief that true luxury lies in the time it takes to make something well

In an era when sustainability is too often reduced to marketing language, Marianne Tiegen's practice offers a more intimate model, one rooted in material honesty and emotional resonance. Through her "from plant to palette" process, colour becomes more than decoration; it becomes a living expression of place, memory, and care.







Beach House: Lake Archambault Residence

Saint-Donat-de-Montcalm, Canada

ocated on the shores of Lake Archambault in Saint-Donat-de-Montcalm, this new residence offers a contemporary interpretation of living in a natural environment. The project emphasises a simple volumetry, composed of cubical volumes topped with flat roofs, designed to minimise the building's visual impact on the landscape while maximising openings toward the lake and sunlight exposure.

A restrained composition

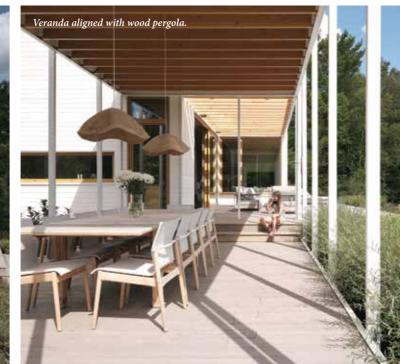
The exterior envelope stands out through the use of a single locally produced material - pre-finished white wood cladding - selected for its durability and its ability to reflect natural light in a site with little natural shade. This light surface acts as a neutral background highlighting oak-tinted window frames that introduce a subtle warmth to the overall composition.

This limited material palette ensures a unified architectural reading and strengthens the visual relationship between the building and its immediate surroundings. For the sake of continuity, the same materials subtly extend into the interior, where light wood, white

















Openness and spatial continuity

The layout prioritises a fluid relationship between indoor and outdoor spaces. A large veranda, adjoining a pergola built with an exposed wood structure, extends the main volume and creates a strong horizontal line that anchors the project within the site, emphasising both the horizon and the view toward the lake. This architectural gesture serves as a transition between dwelling and landscape, while creating intermediate zones that encourage outdoor living.

Landscape design and site integration

The landscape concept is based on the use of native plant species selected for their resilience and ecological compatibility with the lakeside environment of Lake Archambault. This approach promotes local biodiversity, while also reducing maintenance requirements.

The site naturally opens onto a red sand beach, whose texture and hue blend seamlessly with the tones of the surrounding landscape. The abundant sunlight informs the orientation of living spaces and supports a natural lighting strategy, reducing dependence on artificial illumination.

A discreet and enduring architecture

Through its measured composition, coherent materiality, and careful landscape integration, the Lake Archambault residence embodies are architectural approach in which formal simplicity and spatial quality take precedence over expressive gesture. The project reflects a desired to inhabit the territory respectfully, sustainably, and in continuity with the Lanaudière landscape.

Technical sheet

- Location | Saint-Donat-de-Montcalm, Québe
- Project type | New construction
- Years of completion | 2024
- House area | 3900 sq ft / 360 sq r
- Structural engineering | Genie
- Landscape Design | Friche Atelier
- Photo credits | Maxime Brouillet

www.ghochearchitecte.com/ghoche-portfolio/beach-house-stdonat









Casa San Francisco

San Miguel de Allende, Mexico

he Casa San Francisco project began with a request for a de Allende, a small colonial town in the Mexican state of













The surrounding nature and the property's purpose as a place for rest and relaxation influenced a third aspect of the design concept for Casa San Francisco. The goal was to create a space for contemplation that would allow for reflection on the natural order of the world and to celebrate the seasonal processes of growth, change, decay, and entropy.

To achieve this, the house's spaces were divided into five volumes that open to different landscaped areas, offering clear views of the vineyards and the surrounding natural setting. A transverse corridor running through the volumes guides the layout of the spaces. The corridor is accessed via an entrance with a double-height ceiling that serves as a transitional space between the exterior and interior. The west wing contains the home's public spaces: the dining room, terrace, kitchen, living room, garage, and service areas. The four private bedrooms are located to the east.

In order to convey, through materiality, the principle of nature traversed by time and the conventual architectural style brought into a contemporary language, the aim was to use a minimum of materials to achieve maximum results. To give the house a sober form and colour, noble materials that would endure over time were used, and traditional construction methods were revived. The predominant materials chosen were locally sourced stone from a nearby site; unpolished Mexican marble for the floors; and lime-based paint applied by hand in a colour that complements the stone's natural colour, resulting in monochromatic monoliths. In terms of interior design, oak furniture was chosen for its simplicity, and the lighting design emulates the light temperature in 16th-century convents without sacrificing illuminance levels. This combination resulted in warm environments where natural light also plays an important role.

This project's unpretentious approach aligns with Luis Barragán's idea that "time also paints" and the notion that beauty is imperfect and emerges over time.

Photo credit: Cesar Belio

www.instagram.com/arqjorgegaribay



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TAIL OF THE DOG

Black Friday

Black Friday, an American shopping day on the Friday after Thanksgiving Thursday, has exploded into Black November. It incorporates not only in-store shopping on the exact November Friday, but on-line digital shopping as well, on what was termed Cyber Monday in 2012. Black Friday used to be when special deals on big ticket items such as large household appliances, were offered for one day only, and usually in-store only.

That has all changed with the digital shopping platforms offering deals on everything from essential foodstuffs to clothing, and more recently to travel. Book one cruise, get one free. With constrained budgets, people have been spending more on essentials, and not just in bulk. Dog food competes with new car sales.

Clothing and underwear, where you can buy two bras and get one free, is also a popular area of spending.

Personally, I foolishly thought I could go to a branded shoe factory shop and make and exchange for a different size on Black Friday. I sailed down the motorway and then hit the gridlock outside the Woodmead shopping precinct. Now iammed in the five lanes all trying to get to one place, I decided to go along and try. I wrested my car thought the misbehaving traffic, along a tight lane where people had parked illegally down the side and found a reasonable space behind the buildings. As I stepped out, and asked the way through to the front, the security guard looked at me, shook his head, and suggested I should reconsider, people had camped outside the store all night. In an instant, I reconsidered, got back into my car and went through the gridlock again to escape.

I had no idea South Africans would be so excited about Black Friday. They arrived in their cars, in taxis, and full-sized buses. Children with their parents, all looking for that one big deal, or several small ones? People must have taken a day's leave for this and been ensnared with BNPL contracts (Buy Now Pay Later). The stuff of nightmares, Black Friday no longer had the meaning of keeping your finances in the Black, but filled my head with black thoughts, all about everything spinning out of control. Next November, I will stay home.

Gill Butler

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YAMAGIWA Launches "TWILIGHT" - A Lighting Collection Inspired by the Evening Sky

Tokyo, Japan

AMAGIWA Corporation (Minatoku, Tokyo, Japan), a distinguished Japanese lighting design company renowned for high-quality and innovative illumination solutions, is pleased to announce the launch of its new lighting collection, TWILIGHT.

The TWILIGHT collection takes inspiration from the serene beauty of the sky at dusk, when the sun sinks below the horizon and soft light lingers in the air.

Each shade is meticulously crafted by

winding fine glass fibre, a process that allows light from the internal source to scatter through every strand. This diffusion creates a shimmering brilliance reminiscent of a crystal chandelier, while also projecting a delicate lattice pattern onto the surrounding walls.

At the centre, a silhouette inspired by the horizon line emerges — an artistic expression of the tranquil moments of twilight. Acrylic diffusers at the top and bottom soften the glow, producing an ambient illumination that gently fills the space. The result is a lighting piece that captures both radiance and warmth, evoking the quiet beauty of the evening sky.

Available in pendant lamps (in two sizes), and a table lamp variation, TWILIGHT brings a cohesive sense of atmosphere to interiors — whether as a refined accent for the home, or as a luminous focal point in lounges and hotel lobbies.



About YAMAGIWA

Established in Japan in 1923, YAMAGIWA is a leading lighting manufacturer known for its global presence. Specialising in creating original collections, the company combines timeless design with aesthetic quality under the tagline 'The Art of Lighting.'

Using traditional methods and skilled craftsmen, YAMAGIWA has crafted various collections, including modern pendant lights, floor and table lamps, and contemporary wall lights. With over 100 years of expertise, the company has collaborated with renowned designers like Toyo Ito and Tokujin Yoshioka, achieving a harmonious blend of innovative design and traditional craftsmanship.

en.yamagiwa.co.jp



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