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Cover Story

Brazilian Furniture

Focus

Dining Decors

Designers' Desk

Lionel Doyen



Available on:



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The Brazilian furniture industry has potential for economic growth and overcoming challenges with a focus on innovation and sales to other countries.



13 FOCUS



The concept of the dining room has changed over the years. From just a dining table in the corner of the room, it has now become an essential part of the home decor. Read more.



20 DESIGNERS' DESK



We speak to French design master Lionel Doyen about his past projects, creative ideas and future work. To find out more, read on.

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Dear Readers,

We visited Brazil at the end of March and have been fascinated by the industry there. In our cover story, we have tried to delve a little deep into the Brazilian furniture industry. Our focus on the other hand is on the trends ruling the dining industry.

We are thankful to Lionel Doyen for his time to share with us about his experiences with the design industry.

Salone Del Mobile. Milan has been as mesmerising as expected. Our Hot Products section has picked up a few such products for you.

Summer is here. And we can't stop appreciating the beauty of nature at her bountiful best. At times, it surprises how nature decorates our abode with such brightness and colours. Enjoy the warmth of the season and keep reading Furniture & Accessories.

Good bye until I write to you again.

Chitralkha Banerjee

Brazilian

Furniture Industry

-A trend report





The domestic furniture industry has an important role in the indicators of the manufacturing industry in Brazil, either in the production of value, or by its strong social impact and the ability to generate jobs. In the last ten years, the productivity of this segment has improved, allowing a strong growth regarding exports. Furniture hubs – usually made up of small and medium-sized manufacturers – are undergoing positive changes, especially after the significant growth of the internal market, which incorporated many furniture and design consumers, who were excluded by then. Brazil is characterised by a combination of several production processes, involving the most different raw materials, whose result brings a variety of sophisticated and innovative end products.

The demand for furniture in Brazil is very segmented, i.e., it differs positively according to the income level of the population and the behavior of some sectors of the economy,



particularly the civil construction industry. According to Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social - BNDS (National Bank for Economic and Social Development), it is estimated that 2% of the available income of households is allocated for the purchasing of furniture.

The major competitive factors in this sector of the Brazilian industry are found in different sources of raw materials; in the expertise of the production; in marketing

strategies and, above all, in creativity and design. The manufacturers are highly aligned with the trends of domestic and foreign markets. After the introduction of new automated equipment, the automation of production lines and new techniques of business management, entrepreneurs have achieved international standard scales, leaving behind the handmade aspect that even in the 90s prevailed for most manufacturers.

Both in Europe and in the United States it can be noted an export-oriented production. The low coefficient of openness to foreign trade reveals great opportunities for the furniture industry, which has been trying to change these figures through international partnerships and programs. The Brazilian Furniture. has potential for resuming economic growth and overcoming challenges with a focus on innovation and sales to other countries.



FIMMA Brazil: Showcasing the best of Brazil

With more than 25,000 visitors, 360 exhibitors, and 500 brands present, the 13th edition of FIMMA Brazil 2017 finished with an extremely positive result.

The fair, was held, in Bento Gonçalves, the city which is considered one of the main furniture centers in the country. The major players of the world market exhibited products and services on a global scale showcased and extended their long nets, strengthening strategic alliances.



Technology and advanced equipment, robots, automation, innovation, novel products, differentiated services, dissemination of knowledge and discussions on topics relevant to the sector conferred by visitors who circulated in the four – day event.

Fifth largest fair in the world in the furniture segment, the realisation of FIMMA Brazil in 2017 took place in one of the worst experienced economic times in Brazil and in the productive sector, representing a major challenge to its

organizer, the MOVERGS, one of the most solid and active entities class of the country. “In such a year of pre-show, work as a team with determination to achieve our goal which was, and is, support and promote the development of the sector,” said the president of the edition 2017, Rogério Francio.

The result exceeded expectations of all involved, both organisers and exhibitors, with the achievement of the goals originally designed. One was the volume of trades. “We estimated close at \$ 290 million, and we can,” said the executive.

The Buyer Project, which promoted 1200 rounds of business, was one of the strategic actions of the success of this edition, with US \$ 3.3 million effective transactions. “In addition, there is a provision of another \$ 20 million over the next 12 months from the promoted meetings and contacts here.”

One of the attributes credited to the success of this activity was the correct survey of the participants. During nine months, the fair organisers analysed and evaluated 440 international buyers registered and of these, brought 50. Representation, worker thread and acceptance from the companies were the criteria that defined the elect. “Good business results generated thus a great interest of exhibitors in RSVP to 2019. Some even have renewed their spaces.”



Another attraction that generated watchful eyes was the “Joiner Space”, the FIMMA Joiner project. During the four days, SENAI students demonstrated in practice the stages of manufacture of furniture.

On the afternoon of Friday, the financial director of the fair, Dorvalino Lovera, held symbolic of a mobile delivery to the deputy mayor of Bento Gonçalves, Aido José Bertuol to represent the donation to take place of the 40 pieces produced during FIMMA Brazil to charities of the city in the coming days.

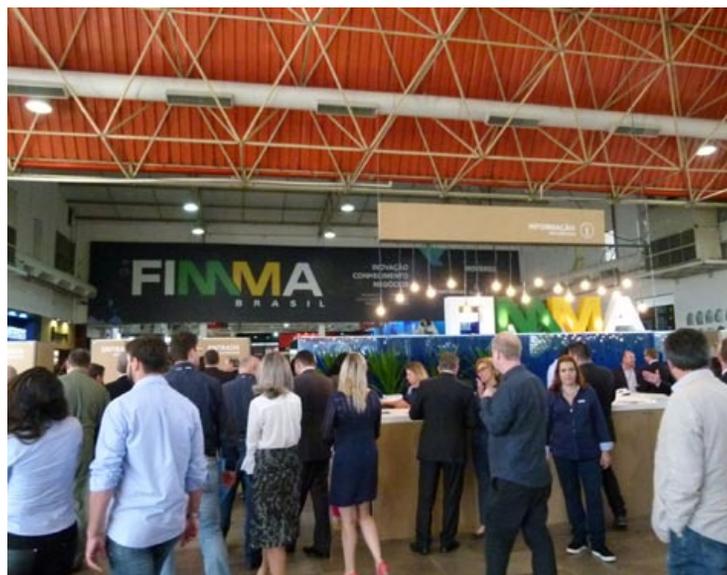
The dissemination of relevant information to the industry, the development of the knowledge and professional skills were also on the agenda, through lectures from FIMMA Joiner project, the Mobile Workshop of the International Seminar on Industry 4.0 – The technological revolution in progress and Seminar Industry on the NR 12 – Safety at work in machinery and equipment. “More than 4500 people attended the presentations and exhibitions. This demonstrates the industry’s concern to improve, aiming for excellence”, scored Francio.

According to the president, the movement promoted these last four days have confirmed the importance of the sector to the national economy, which is starting to show opposite reactions

to bad scenario created in the last two years. “Delivering the fair, despite all the difficulties, was the right decision,” he concluded the executive, which ended: “The downturn and recession make entrepreneurs become more cautious. But it takes courage and take action to promote change, invest and believe. The ‘machine’ can not stop, or the country for. The fair was a beam of light in business confidence.”

The edition 2017 of FIMMA Brazil was supported by ABIMAQ, ABIMÓVEL, AFFEMAQ, APEX, National Bank for Economic and Social Development – BNDES, Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade – MDIC, Foreign Trade and Services, the National Industry Confederation – CNI , FIERGS / SENAI SEBRAE Homag Group Sayerlack and Berneck.

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Dining Decors

The background image shows a sophisticated dining room. In the foreground, there is a glass-topped dining table surrounded by ornate, upholstered chairs with curved legs. The room features a high ceiling with a large, multi-tiered chandelier. The walls are decorated with intricate, light-colored wall panels. The floor is covered with a patterned rug. The overall atmosphere is elegant and formal.

The concept of dining room has come a long way: from having just a dining table at some corner near the kitchen, today it has gained the stature of a highly decorated room and is considered an integral part of house décor. The dining room has become an essential part of our living trends. Owing to the high demand of some fabulous dining design creations, the market is booming every day.

Renowned design houses are offering a thriving future for the dining industry. Pattern, material, colour, texture, finishing – these features are upgraded with some avant-garde technologies and for this reason dining furniture and décor is getting popular day by day. Creators of some outstanding production are showing a growth prospect of this market in the dining industry. Nowadays, the dining concept is not bounded within six or four chairs and one table. It's all about to have and get some great and happy hour to sit, relax and eat with your beloved one and family members.

Space has become a mandatory subject, as rooms are getting smaller; consumers are increasingly looking for the perfect dining furniture that is compact, easily movable but cozy and elegant to allow for efficient use of the available space. Take an example of Essential Home Winchester dining table, the triangular base adds a perfect combination with the large black cones. Flawless and bright, the remaining surface points towards a thriving future, reminding one to

toast to prosperity with a bohemian lifestyle. Yet it looks like smaller and cozy than any other contemporary dining tables. If one has enough space in their home, contemporary dining is perfect option. Talking about BOCA DO LOBO dining tables, home decoration with a contemporary dining table is a statement from Boca do Lobo. Gold is one of the colour themes that best represents the essence of empowerment, sophistication, mystics, and enticement, which is implicit in this piece and strongly transmitted in their brand philosophy.

This luxury dining table has come to symbolise the evolutionary history of life, representing the last stage of the cycle through the usage of sculpted fossils on display at the top of the table. Boca do Lobo is an outstanding creator of making some fabulous dining tables and chairs. Some of the products are extremely extraordinary and talented like: Newton, Fortuna, Empire tables and Emporium chair etc. Constant research and effort behind the making of modern dining tables and chairs are rapidly emerging







and that's why dining trends are becoming more elegant and sophisticated. The Empire dining table symbolises generations of gatherings and decisions, both in times of celebration or tension. Its cracks reflect tough times, revealing a gold interior in a manifesto towards power. Bonsai is another magnificent production of Boca do Lobo which is a dining table but looks like a bonsai is standing and holding your plates and food. This table is made from wood with an irregular surface and faceted form but the twist is, it is totally manually produced.

Covet House has recently introduced some incredible curated selection of dining table trends for 2017. According to Covet House, "We want to impress you with our curated selection and want to



inspire you for your design projects, sometimes we get a lack of design inspirations and the dining tables are the most important element in a dining room set, there you sit with your family and friends and share histories and a good meal.”

Essential Home Mid Century Furniture house has some inspirational collection which truly inspire to decorate the home with sophistication. These collections look like portable yet sophisticated. Materials and colours are the most sensitive part of this collection where it can easily goes with modern, eclectic and contemporary interior. The Vinicius Dining Table is a perfect example of duality. The white marble contrasts perfectly with the black marble. The golden brass detail in the middle adds a luxurious twist of high end furniture that can convey the same feeling of expensive taste to any kind of interior. Named after a great Brazilian musician, this is the perfect dining table to have in your hotel bar or lounge.

Bacher in imm cologne has an extensive range of kitchen and dining trends. They constantly research to innovate and upgrade their products. The range of dining they offer is generally based on fine material and outstanding colours. Moreover, the innovative imagination they utilise to make their product more beautiful is really appreciable. Piazzetta, Basso, Solus are some of the extraordinary collection they have. Bacher generally evolves their products with the concept of more portable and compact. Dining collection from Bacher is the reflection of modern generation trends and styles and which can be used in places like apartment, home, small coffee shops etc. where space is a major subject.

Rolf Benz – the renowned design house concentrates on wooden material. However, wood is the authentic trend for dining collection. The vision of wooden material comes with a dramatic and dominion look. These will never go out of style, and are quite practical. Rolf

Benz 965, the light looking solid wooden table top and the filigree structure of the underframe of Rolf Benz 965 combine to create an ostensibly weightless powerhouse. This table gives an elegant ring to even the smallest rooms and is available in either a round or oval version. The top and the frame are available in light oak, dark oak, or elegant walnut with an oiled surface. Rolf Benz 965 goes perfectly with the new Rolf Benz 650 range of chairs, and also integrates harmoniously into a great many other living spaces.

Hakama dining table is another outstanding project from CONDE HOUSE. The Japanese Oak dining table comes with an unique style which represents an ultra-modern interior. If one is looking forward to decorate their home with some graceful dining collection, 'AGRA' is the one. AGRA by Brabbu is the

dignified dining collection which comes with four chairs is the modest setting of one of the most famous and most celebrated monuments in world. AGRA dining table, just like Taj Mahal, is an impressive display of craftsmanship and elegance. Its delicate work of the robust white stone softens the imposing structure, while touches with the brass reflect golden warm tones to the polished surface.

"Simplicity and beauty, innovation and durability: dining table trend is a furnishing philosophy that takes the shape of a complete collection of fixed and extendable", Frosted Glass Extended Dining Table collection.





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Lionel Doyen



The French Designer With Worldwide Appeal

Born and raised in France, Lionel Doyen has earned a Master's Degree in Industrial Design. For 10 years, he worked at various international agencies in Paris and London, expanding his knowledge of industrial design and commercial office architecture. He entered the world of furniture design in 2008, while working with Quinze & Milan.

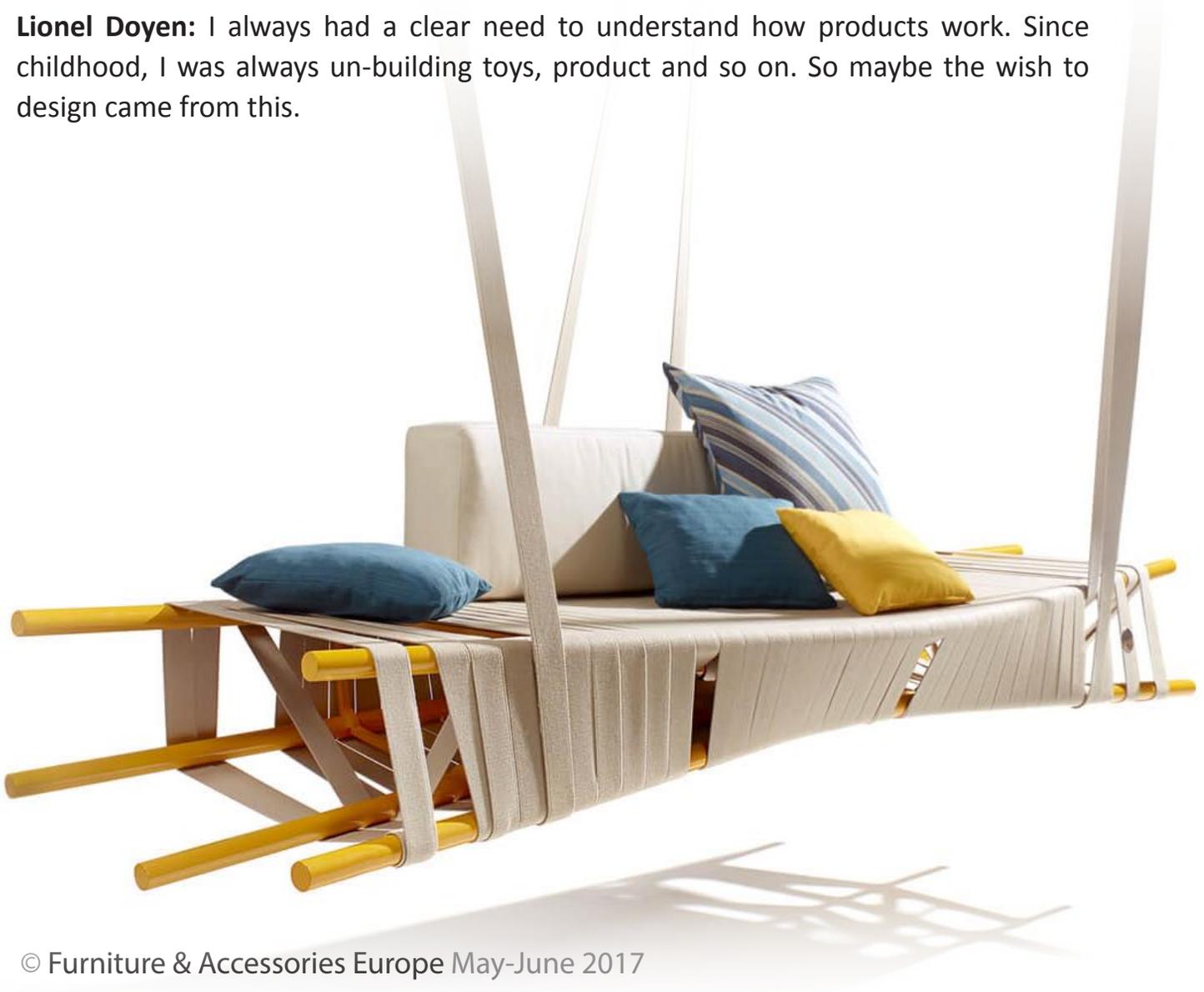
In 2015, the designer launched his own design studio with the aim to establish a more personal and experimental approach towards product design. The studio was started "from a need to structure our activity with new partners and collaborators," as said by Doyen.

Lionel Doyen has worked with various big brands like Manutti, Extremis, Sunbrella and many more. The designer believes each product has a personal relationship with its user, and he is “always focusing on the product user experience with a clear and expressive idea behind.”

We spoke to the French design maker and got to know more about his ideas and future projects. Read on.

FAE: What attracted you to the world of design?

Lionel Doyen: I always had a clear need to understand how products work. Since childhood, I was always un-building toys, product and so on. So maybe the wish to design came from this.



FAE: When and how did you start your own design studio?

LD: I am working as a contractor for almost a decade. But we started our studio in 2015 from a need to structure our activity with new partners and collaborators. With my partner, later on this year we will launch our new collaboration under the French name: les acrobates, design maker.

FAE: What was the idea behind your Fingers shelving system?

LD: Fingers started from a client request. Indeed he had troubles founding a good and nice shelving system for his new house. We started thinking about a system that can match any walls. Fingers is a custom-made system that can optimise any wall setting. The shelf can grow around a window, radiator doors and so on. It's an industrial custom-made solution. At the end, we also developed a free standing solution.



FAE: How would you describe your long-standing association with Quinze & Milan?

LD: It is a unique relation, a real human exchange. With almost eight years of partnership, we are still really happy working together. It's part of the family! By the end of 2017, we will launch two new products.

FAE: If you had to define your own design style, which two words you choose?

LD: I am trying to not have a style. I am always focusing on the product user experience with a clear and expressive idea behind.

FAE: Share some details about the SAN collection for Manutti.

LD: The SAN collection is related to the Japanese garden with a spirit of creating an oasis of peace and harmony on a single furniture element. The collection was designed to play and balance with pure, sober and clear minimal lines, without any decorative parts. It's all about details from the branded logo and slim legs to the use of marble. The refined marble tables form an eye-catching contrast with the bench's natural wooden structure are responding to both different functional needs and atmospheres.





FAE: Is there any particular design principle that you follow for all projects?

LD: Don't make anything, unless it is necessary and useful. And if it is, do not hesitate to make it beautiful.

FAE: What are some of the recent projects you have worked on? Give us some details.

LD: We are actually extremely busy because we are working hard on a wide range of products from furniture to industrial design like: a solid chair, an armchair, a sofa system, a room divider, some new architectural lighting, an innovative horse saddle, a camping tent, a cinema seat, some bed linen range, an open source innovative product, our new collective design collaboration.

FAE: Will we see you at the Maison & Objet fair in September?

LD: For sure! We will be presenting a new product with Manutti.



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Sebastian Herkner presents Pastille Side Tables

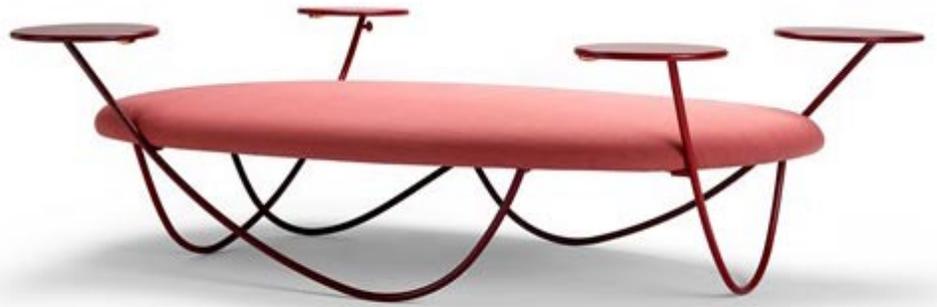
Sebastian Herkner Studio collaborates with Edition van Treeck for the first time, which has resulted in the colourful Pastille tables.

Pastille Side Tables by Sebastian Herkner are suspended drops of coloured glass which found their inspiration in the particularity of the glass fusing technique. Through the process the perfectly cut glass circles are transformed: their contours get blurred, the clear and strong colours become delicate shades. Melting into each other, new colours are created. The slightly coloured shadows left on the floor keep revealing the craftsmanship behind the object.



Offecct unveils Dune designed by Front

Dune, designed by pioneering Swedish design studio Front for Offecct, offers an exciting new response to the constantly changing needs of our work places and public spaces. Dune has been developed for the spheres where the need for informal meetings intersects with the demand for relaxed seating.



Designer Anna Lindgren, one of the members of Front, says, “Dune is so airy it almost appears to levitate. We’re really satisfied with the lightness of Dune. This is, after all, a large piece of furniture that easily can seat up to eight people”.

Despite being so delicate, Dune stands firmly on the ground. Its legs not only support the asymmetrical seat, they also rise above it to hold four table tops that are all equipped with the latest generation usb-sockets.



Anders Englund, design manager at Offecct, says, “Dune is an oasis that comes to life when it is used”. In Offecct Lab, designers collaborate with Offecct to research new materials, products and an aesthetic that can meet the demands on a segment of the furniture market that is undergoing constant change.

Agape presents Immersion tub by Neri&Hu

For Milan Design Week 2017, Agape showcased many new displays at their concept store in via Statuto 12. Among these was a new addition from Chinese duo Neri&Hu, who have designed their first product for the bathroom.

The Immersion tub is a freestanding bathtub that recalls the eastern bathing tradition, very compact in its length and high, for optimal soaking. It was conceived both for sitting in water and for laying down: this is made possible by a simple modular system, where an iroko removable wooden sitting is laid over the bathtub's recesses. This simple operation is achieved through metal weights that prevent the wood from floating.





Lyndon Neri and Rossana Hu share, “It took us three and a half years to complete this project: it allowed us to carefully go through the process, since we could never find that one perfect piece for the ‘urban global condition’. Something small but with the luxury feel of a big tub that doesn’t compromise the space”.

The duo explained that the reduction of space in Chinese cities doesn’t allow for proper comfortable bathtubs anymore, therefore people are giving up this important relaxation and meditation moment. They explain. That is what gave the idea to develop a compact freestanding tub.

New collections by Ex.t showcased at Milan Design Week

PLATEAU CABINET

A simple and functional cabinet with a focus on glass material, this is an addition to last year's Plateau collection, designed by Sebastian Herkner. Textured coloured glass are combined to compliment in a sophisticated way the solid surfaces of the LivingTec material featured in Ex.t's washbasins. The cabinet gets an elegant approach from the tinted and structured glass panels. Plateau Cabinet is available in three dimensions.



Ex.t has collaborated with English designer Samuel Wilkinson for the very first time, and is unveiling a brand new line of mirrors inspired by universal space and the force of gravity.



FLOAT

Like two planets in Space, an opal glass sphere is buoyant along a semi-circular marble shelf over the Float mirror. The Float mirror is a large round mirror that appears to have two geometric objects floating within its surface. The mirror is a playful contemporary interpretation of the classic dressing room vanity mirror with a round light plus shelf. Towards the bottom edge is a rounded semi-circular marble shelf and at the top is spherical opaque glass lamp that is switched on and off via a pull cord.



GRAVITY ROUND

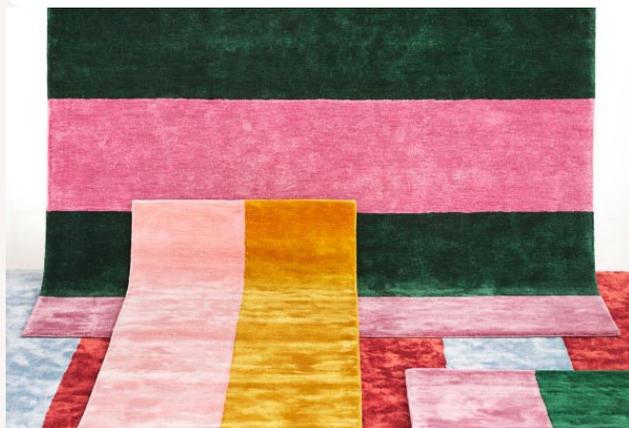


The framed double mirrors of Gravity attract each other thanks to a fascinating game of magnifying forces. The designs feature a sophisticated simplicity which makes the mirrors versatile & unique accessories for the bathroom and beyond. Gravity is a playful

geometric oval mirror with angle rim that can be hung portrait or landscape. The main feature is a second smaller magnified round mirror that points back toward the user that can be detached or placed around the edge as desired.



Normann Copenhagen present two new rugs at Salone del Mobile



Pavilion Rug – by Britt Bonnesen

Made from soft Bamboo silk, the Pavilion Rug features broad stripes in bold colour combinations. It is a real statement piece – ideally suited for creating a playful and personal style. The striped pattern of the Pavilion rug is scaled up in size, so it stands out in graphic simplicity, while a typical colour combinations create an edgy, fashionable look. The gorgeous bamboo silk has a glossy texture that gives the rug an almost velvet-like surface.

Part modern carnival, part luxurious salon ambience – the beautiful rugs add a dash of liveliness to any room, acting as a warm and unifying base for the rest of the decor.

Confetti Rug – by Simon Legald

Confetti is a new range of exclusive rugs, where four different shades come together to form a gorgeous and lively mottling of colours. The Confetti Rug is a soft and luxurious center piece, which creates an inviting and evocative space in one's interior scheme. The soft bamboo silk rugs are available in yellow, red, green, blue or purple.



Walter Knoll and EOOS Design introduce Tama Living



The feeling of arriving at home after a long hard day at work is valuable in every respect. Sitting on the sofa with a good glass of wine or in discussion with friends is the ideal of enjoying a relaxed time. Tama Living, the newest launch from Walter Knoll and designed by EOOS, is the setting for such special moments.

The soft, elegant cushions spread out lavishly. The upholstered elements seem to float on delicate solid wood blades. A clear picture of symmetry, lines and surface, give the sofa the opportunity to reveal its rhythm: gaps in the backrest make the sheer volume seem less.

Side tables featuring the best saddle leather pleasantly nestle up against the upholstery. And there is a special place for that glass of wine, too: not beside but in the sofa – the tray made of solid wood and saddle leather makes sure of that. Tama Living is a composition for cultivated living.

Side Table

The side table naturally snuggles up to the upholstery of the récamière. It can be a perfect spot for all the useful things one may need every day. The table top features striking saddle leather and the blades are made of solid wood – a picture of well-balanced harmony.

Acting as a storage and armrest in one, the side table carries the geometry of the sofa while extending the upholstered surface. It is ideal to lay books and magazines on it or to use as an armrest when a cushion is placed on top.



Tray

Aesthetics of the useful. The tray opens up the space in the sofa. The cup of tea is easy to reach and there is plenty of space here both for a book and a tablet. The tray unfurls its subtle elegance in the interaction of materials, of characterful saddle leather and natural solid wood.

Fritz Hansen presents the Lune sofa by Jaime Hayon

Republic of Fritz Hansen and designer Jaime Hayon introduce a new sofa concept: the modular Lune. Born out of Hayon's Ro and Fri chair design concepts, Lune is based on the same curvy design philosophy, making it quite distinct from other modular sofas. The bold design looks and feels like a conventional sofa but offers the versatility of a modular construction.

The sculptural and curvy Lune design captures the intersection of clean Nordic aesthetics and southern elegance. The functional, modular system offers unlimited possibilities – from a straight two-seater to larger L-shapes, along with chaise lounge options. Lune is not only extremely comfortable, but also beautiful from every angle.

Lune is carefully constructed to enhance comfort in every inch



of the sofa. The exceptionally soft seat is upholstered with a cotton-linen fabric blend, while the cushions are crafted using four layers of materials with a top layer of duck and goose feathers. When seated, one experiences incredible comfort and softness as the cushions mould around the body.

As an extension of the Lune experience, Jaime Hayon has also created a number of Objects pieces – a pillow, two throws and a sofa tray. The pillow and throws feature some of Hayon's well-known motifs.



GRAFF presents the new SADE collection

Drawing upon clean, modern lines and the latest technology, GRAFF's SADE Collection, provides a simplistic, yet comprehensive range of articles both deck and wall mounted, with a single lever or as a widespread set, for the bathroom and for the shower.

Designed internally by the celebrated G+ Design Studio, the collection navigates contemporary concepts and geometric silhouettes, delivering a fixture that speaks to GRAFF's long-held reputation for cutting-edge manufacturing and design capabilities.

The faucet plays on the strengths of minimalist design motifs, as evidenced by the curved, flat spout. The handles' gentle curve recalls the spout's inclination, enriching the faucet's charm and refined character, while its hallmark shape emulates old world fountains that distribute water with grace.

The faucet's spout is constructed with a solid brass block (emptied internally), granting a thicker silhouette with unique, eye-catching proportions. SADE is manufactured in brass, with a very low nickel and lead content, in compliance with all drinking water regulations and the most restrictive criteria required for the protection of health and the environment.

The SADE collection is available in Polished Chrome and Steelnox, the special satin nickel finish patented by GRAFF that is 100% fingerprint-resistant. Obtained through a galvanic process and subsequent powder coating treatment, the Steelnox finishing stands out for its originality and prolonged resistance over time.



Mattiazzi introduces Quindici lounge chair by Bouroullec brothers

The latest addition to Mattiazzi's furniture collection is the stripped-back Quindici lounge chair by Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, launched during the Salone del Mobile.Milano, held from April 4 to 9.

The seating comes in two editions – an armchair, and a chaise lounge version with an additional leg rest. Both feature T-shaped armrests that contrast the softer silhouette of the seat, which is made from thin panels of ash. The balanced angles of the wooden plates create a minimalist, compact furniture experience.

The Quindici range is Mattiazzi's first upholstered lounge chair. Quindici comes in several finishes, including grey and black, with upholstery in white, dark green or black Kvadrat textiles.



New rug designs by Nanimarquina

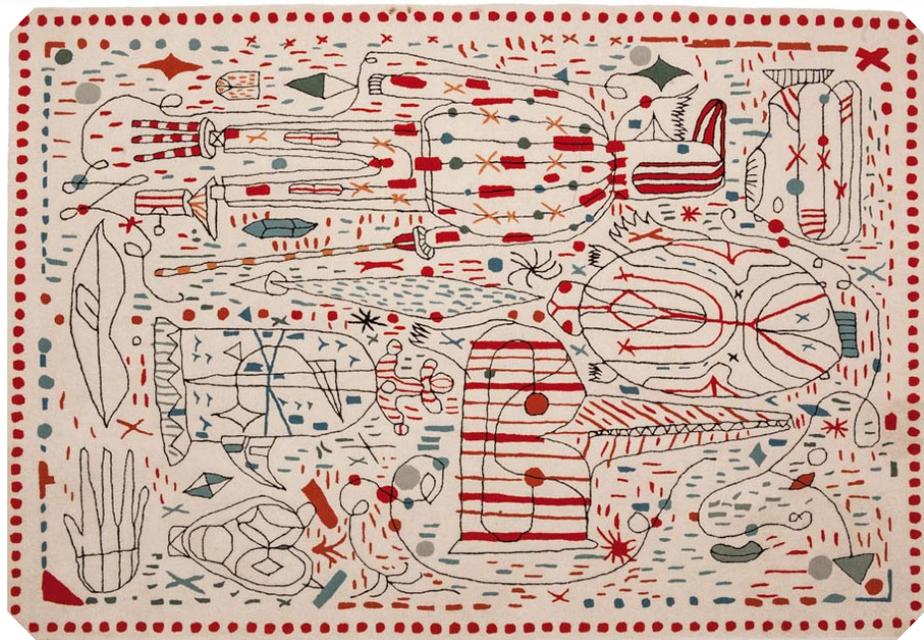
During Salone del Mobile 2017 in Milan, contemporary rug design company Nanimarquina celebrated its 30th anniversary. For the past 30 years, Nanimarquina has been creating unique rugs that excite and transmit emotions.

Hayon x Nani

The perfect gift for a 30-year milestone, the Hayon x Nani is a dreamy, wild collection with a great sense of humour – designed by Jaime Hayon.

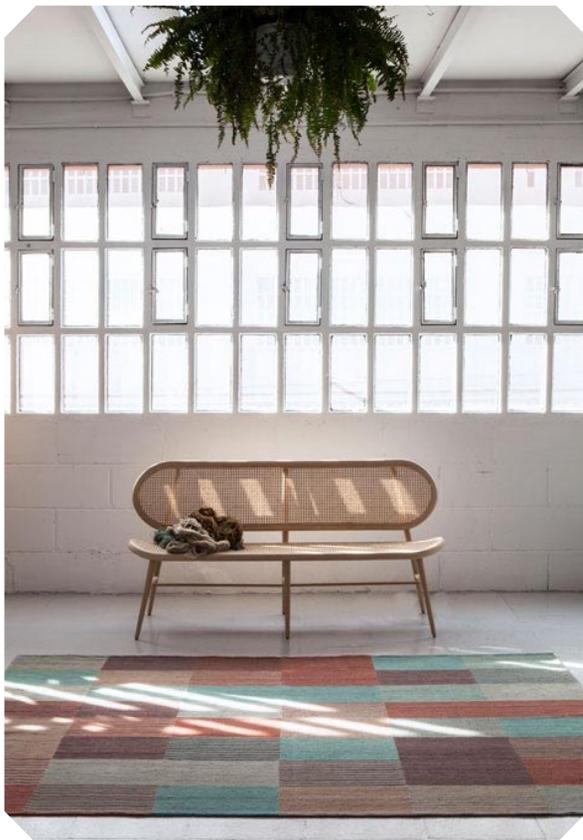
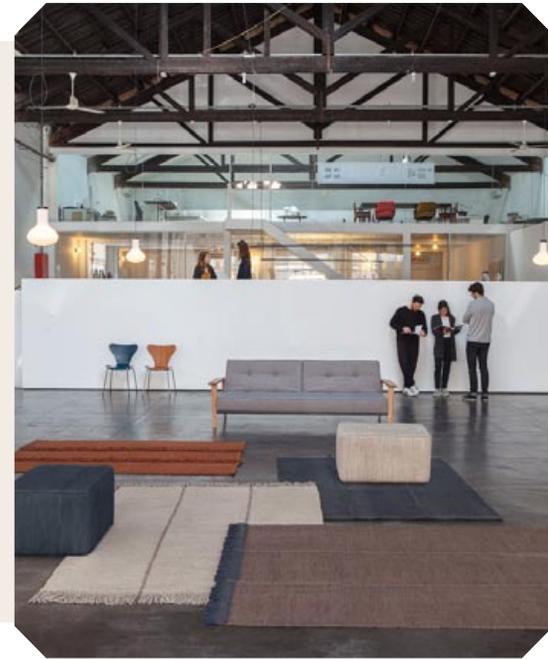
Created with the hand tufting technique, a manually operated pistol injects pieces of wool, intuitive and fluid lines are achieved, as well as an organic composition: the definitive and faithful reproduction of the original sketch by the designer.

A first glance reveals a chaotic tangle of colours and shapes that invade the rug. However, after looking carefully, the imagination of Jaime Hayon springs to life: turtles, lips, hands, stools, fish, half men – half birds.



Mía – by Nani Marquina

An artisanal flat-weave made in India, the Mía rug is a Dhurrie created by joining three pieces, individually dyed, to obtain a worn, lived-in effect. Mía is the first collection that can be fully customised, choosing between two sizes, four colours, and four different finishes. One can contrast seams, add different types of fringes or opt for colourful stitches. Infinite results are possible; each detail makes a difference, ensuring their rug is unique.



Blend – by Raw Color

A slim, hand-woven Kilim, Blend rug applies the basic rules of colour theory, with three available models in which hue, luminosity, and saturation vary.

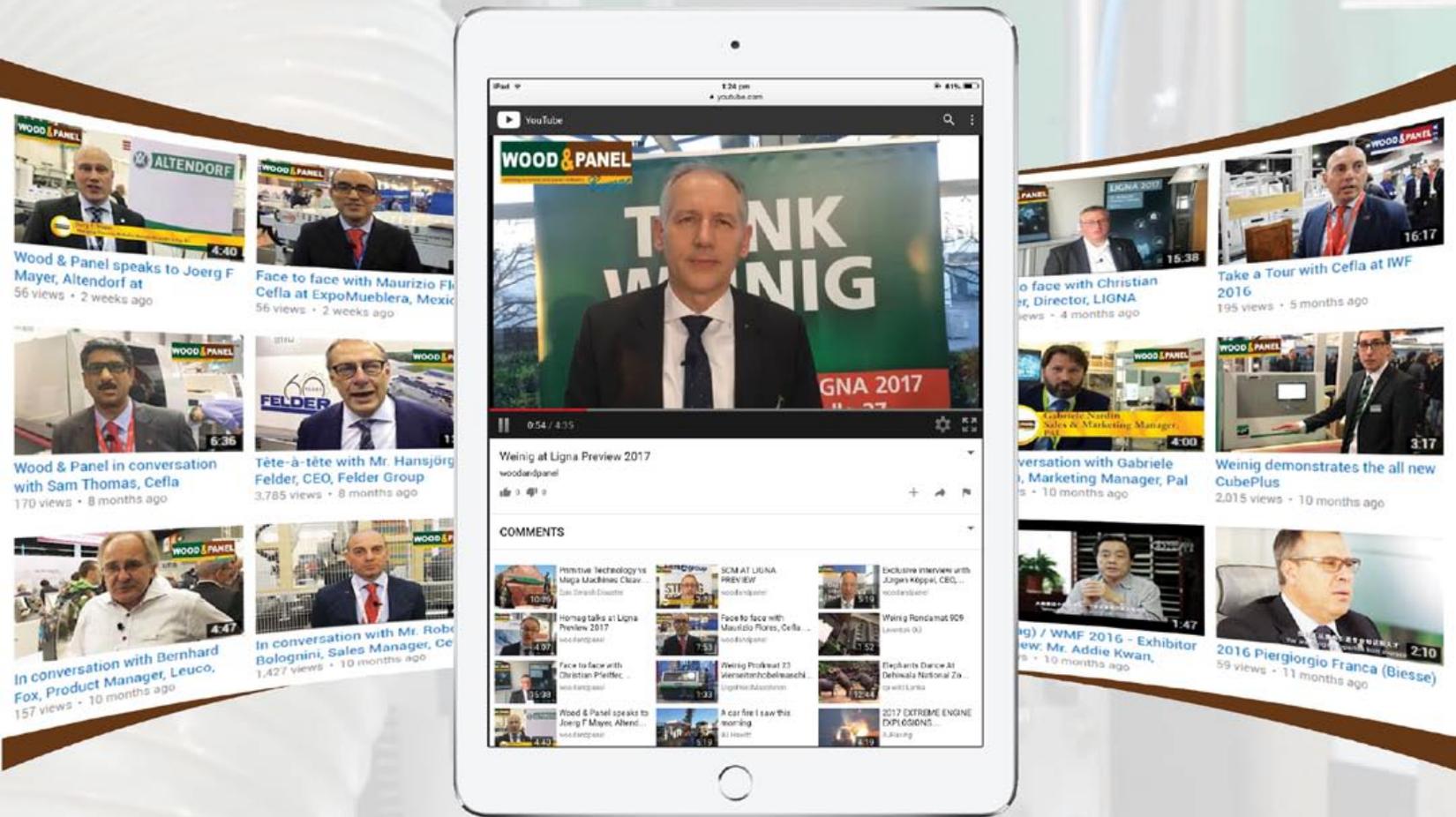
Blend plays with the visual perception of colours. Solid surfaces interact with surfaces that are constructed from lines. These duo toned lines merge into the viewer's eye to create new colours. Due to this graphic system a multitude of

subtle shades are rendered departing from 5 different yarns.

Blend applies the basic rules of colour theory, with three available models in which hue, luminosity, and saturation vary. A slim, hand-woven Kilim, this original rug from Pakistan will delight those passionate about colour. Raw Color accompanies nanimarquina discovering current and contemporary colour territories.

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BIFE-SIM



The international trade fair for furniture, equipment and accessories – BIFE-SIM is celebrating its 26th edition this year and will take place from September 13 to 17. This international show is organised by ROMEXPO which is the strategic partnership with The Romanian Furniture Manufacturers Association and The Romanian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The exhibition presents the latest tendencies in the furniture, decorations, equipment and wood accessories industry. At BIFE-SIM, visitors will find all the furniture styles available both on the Romanian and the international market, from classical to modern: from sturdy wood to combinations of wood and glass, leather or hand painted.

Furniture producers, importers and distributors will offer the general public, in the five days of the fair, ingenious and practical solutions that can satisfy all the demands of a pleasant interior design. At BIFE-SIM, visitors will discover new ways of organising their furniture according to how much available space they have, the number of people that use it and its position inside the house.



The six themed lounges will facilitate visitor access to areas that particularly interest them and that will allow them to make informed choices:

- Classic Salon – located in Halls C1 and C2;
- Design Salon – located in Halls C4 and C5;
- Comfort Lounge – located in Halls C4 and C5;
- Salon Kitchen – located in Hall C3;
- Salon decoration and lighting – located in Hall C6;
- Salon Equipment, Machinery, Equipment, Raw Materials and Accessories – located in the Central Hall.



Specialists in the furniture industry, producers, importers, distributors, merchants, decorators, architects and designers will offer, during the fair, advice and ideas so that visitors can find the best solutions that fit their budget.

BIFE-SIM 2017 encompasses the entire offer of equipment and utility vehicles for the wood industry, designed to increase the effectiveness of the production flow and to implement new technologies.

The 2017 edition will also bring practical demonstrations of the producer that will show the visitors the technological processes through which raw wood is transformed into furniture pieces suited for the ambience of every home.

BIFE-SIM has surpassed, year after year, the expectations of both the visitors and of the exhibiting companies, thus becoming a pillar of the furniture industry, locally and internationally.



Index Mumbai

An international trade fair, completely focused and dedicated to the furniture, fabric, artefacts and decorative lighting - the Index International Furniture Fair, will take place from June 15 to 18, 2017 at the Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai.

The international trade fair on residential furniture with exhibits from Italy, Turkey, Malaysia and Indian Companies is a complete B2B platform with a focused exhibitors and visitors profile from the industry. It is the best platform to check out the latest designs and trends from the furniture design countries of the world.

Exhibitors are participating in this show based on different sections like: Art, Accessories and Decor, Architectural Interiors, Frames and Prints, Home and Office Automation & Technology, Bedroom Furniture, Dining Room Furniture, Living Room Furniture, Baby & Youth Furniture, Bathroom Accessories, Bathroom Equipment, Bathroom Design, Bathroom Fittings, Bathroom Furniture, Kitchen Accessories, Kitchen Equipment, Kitchen Appliances, Kitchen Furniture, Kitchen Worktops & Fittings, Sanitary Ware, Architectural Lighting, Bespoke Lighting, Decorative Lighting, Design Lighting, Indoor Lighting, LED Lighting, Lighting Accessories, Architectural landscaping and designer services, Children playgrounds & leisure areas, Decking, paving and artificial surfaces, Gates & Fences.

On the other hand Index attracts a highly relevant and motivated target audience, including: architects, interior designers, interior architects, retail managers, purchase managers, manufacturers and suppliers and procurement managers. Above 8000 visitors and more than 220 exhibitors are expected to visit the show.

The biggest B2B events for the industry help people to connect and interact with each other. This expo helps the industry to get detailed information about the sector and have a good and effective way to develop and grow. This expo will bring together all the experts and professionals of the industry who will get a platform to discuss and share their experiences and ideas related with the industry. The attendees of the show will gather good amount of information and that helps them to expand their knowledge base associated with the sector and experience their latest products and services associated with the industry.



Manchester Furniture Show



The Manchester Furniture Show which is one of the UK's largest furniture show is going to kick off from July 16 to 18, 2017. The show is going to present a large section of domestic furniture.

With a proven track record over a period of more than 50 years, the Manchester Furniture Show is designed with the needs of furniture industry at its heart. In 2017, the halls will be filled with a vast collection of established and new exhibitors, offering inspiring ranges of dining, living and bedroom furniture as well as home accessories.



The important trade show brings key retail buyers and suppliers together, at the same time and place where they can do business for the autumn season, in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere. Manchester has always been of great value, and now it is even better. It's an order taking show and has always been a commercial success for all involved. Featuring an enormous range of designer and non-designer furniture from a huge range of suppliers and including custom-made units, the Manchester Furniture Show has everything one needs to smarten up their home this summer.

Manchester Show is an award-winning exhibition in the heart of Europe's most vibrant city. Its historic architecture and state-of-the-art facilities provide the perfect venue for the Manchester Furniture Show 2017. Manchester Furniture Show is organised by a team of proven furniture exhibition specialists, who are seen as part of the fabric of the furniture industry and renowned for their understanding of exhibitor needs.

The Manchester Furniture Show has already attracted some of the biggest names in furniture to exhibit this year. The lineup has grown even stronger with the addition of German bedroom furniture giant Rauch, who have been producing their individual style of bedroom furniture since



1897. The exhibitors profile of Manchester Furniture Show will include various industries and students specialising in interior decoration and furniture designing display their products. There will be arranging of products including upholstery, cabinet furniture, beds and bedroom furniture and accessories like pictures, mirror and lighting. Various branded companies will represent their own set of products.

A swift guide to some of this year's highlights:

Manchester makes the selection process for buyers easy – over 150 UK and International brands showing new designs and refreshed favourites.

Sofas and Chairs:

What's to see: An extensive list of major UK upholstery brands are launching new models and showing remodeled hot-sellers. Large stands will be dominated with luxury fabrics and elegant and practical designs and all combined with the best of British manufacture.

Living and Dining:

What's to see: It's all about texture and contrast in living and dining. Mixed materials and styles from course rustic to smooth sophisticated will be on show. Cabinet furniture is definitely in a renaissance, and will be shown in all its glory here – think marble, metal, glass and different woods with curves, inlays and new finishes.

Beds and Bedroom:

What's to see: Movement and colour are the buzz-words in beds and bedroom. Adjustable beds with sumptuous upholstered headboards and streamlined storage with doors that glide are the must-haves.

Decorative Accessories

What's to see: Everything! No show at Manchester is complete without some of the latest decorative flourishes on display. This year will see a colourful abundance of mirrors, art, glassware, lighting and giftware.



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IFFS



The International Furniture Fair Singapore (IFFS) 2017 edition concluded with resounding success after an eventful four-day run from March 9 to 12, at the Singapore EXPO. Held along with co-located shows, the 34th ASEAN Furniture Show and the inaugural NOOK Asia, the

international trade event attracted 21,966 professionals from the furniture, interior design, and furnishing industries, including 87 buying delegations from 92 countries.

IFFS continues to reinforce its position as an ideal business platform for the international furniture industry. The 2017 edition featured a diverse international portfolio of 428 exhibiting companies from 35 countries. Together, the participating companies put up an impressive showcase of creative and design-rich pieces that received widespread recognition from industry buyers. The slew of positive sentiments received on the show floor is a testament to visitors' satisfaction over the quality content presented and their overall show experience, emphasising the event's increasing importance in the eyes of industry professionals.

Mr Ernie Koh, Chairman of IFFS Pte Ltd, shared, "From a business point of view, IFFS has to redefine itself in order to remain relevant and sustainable, and to continue serving the international furniture ecosystem as a premier sourcing platform. The quality content was condensed into four power-packed halls this year, and we invigorated the show with more feature areas, design-centric displays, and knowledge-sharing seminars. Through these initiatives, we successfully delivered a content-driven show that focuses on the quality of brands and overall experience, one that offers a more conducive and seamless environment for visitors."

Visitors were treated to a visual extravaganza as they strolled across the packed fairgrounds in search of show-stopping creations. True to its promise of delivering a content-rich show that inspires and sparks conversations, IFFS 2017 provided the industry with a feast for the senses with a variety of immersive, engaging, and high-quality showcases that featured well-designed furniture.



Popular feature areas like The White House, conceptualised by award-winning Singaporean designer, Nathan Yong, and The Italian Hospitality, curated by Italian design master, Giulio Cappellini, easily captured visitors' attention with their stylish and sleek presentations.

While the industry stalwarts drew in the crowds, up-and-coming designers were also given the valuable opportunity to showcase their works to a global audience and gain greater exposure at IFFS. Of special mention is the Design STARS Showcase, a collective display of works presented by 10 design talents from around the globe.

For visitors looking to complement their furniture-sourcing needs with lifestyle furnishing and design-centric decorative pieces, IFFS offered a 'one-stop solution' with NOOK Asia, the newly-introduced co-located show that focuses on artisanal crafts from around the world.

Other noteworthy attractions included the EU Business Avenues in South East Asia Pavilion, 12 Country Pavilions, Virtual Reality Zone, Upholstery Pavilion, The Outdoor Boulevard, as well as a series of 12 complimentary Design Business Seminars.

Attending the show for the first time, Ing Hendricus Wichers, President and Founder of Grupo HeWi (Mexico), said, "My main objective is to search for and establish long-term partnerships with reliable suppliers that offer good services and value, and are able to understand my business needs. So far, I've met around three to four promising companies that I'm keen to work with. This has far exceeded my expectations and I'm very impressed with what I've seen and experienced at IFFS."



ForFurniture

FOR FURNITURE is the largest spring international trade fair for furniture and interior design in the Czech Republic. From March 23 to 26, the seventh edition of FOR FURNITURE was held where domestic and foreign exhibitors presented the latest trends in the furniture world.

Visitors got a chance to see presentations of leading Czech as well as foreign manufacturers of furniture, importers of furniture as well as interior studios. The showcase was varied to include modern, classical, design or stylish furniture. Eminent experts from the field of architecture and design attended this contracted and selling oriented trade fair. It provided the opportunity for visitors and buyers to connect with and receive advisory tips from interior designers.



The FOR FURNITURE trade fair is held in conjunction with a set of other spring fairs; including FOR HABITAT, trade fair for housing, construction and renovation, and DESIGN SHAKER, a selective exhibition of interior design. This year, there was a new project LIGHT IN ARCHITECTURE, a specialised exhibition of lighting fixtures, design and accessories.

Together, all these set of fairs registered a total of 593 exhibitors. Of these, 41 were foreign exhibitors coming from 9 states. A net exhibition area of 15,282 sq. m. was occupied. Compared to last year, the fairs witnessed a 24% increase in attendance, with a total of 35,384 visitors attending the 2017 set of spring fairs.

Of the 593 exhibitors, FOR FURNITURE saw the participation of 152 exhibitors. They covered an area of 5880 sq. m.

The new project LIGHT IN ARCHITECTURE showcased the best and most prominent Czech and world brands in the field of lamps and lighting equipment. The specialised exhibition was aimed towards architects, designers, construction engineers and developers from all over the Czech Republic.





The Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) witnessed a successful 23rd edition that was held from March 8 to 11, 2017. All the leading names of the furniture and interior design sector had gathered together to participate in Southeast Asia's biggest industry event. A record number of 543 local and overseas companies attended this year's trade show.

Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong, Malaysia's Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities, was the guest-of-honour at the opening ceremony of MIFF 2017.

MIFF

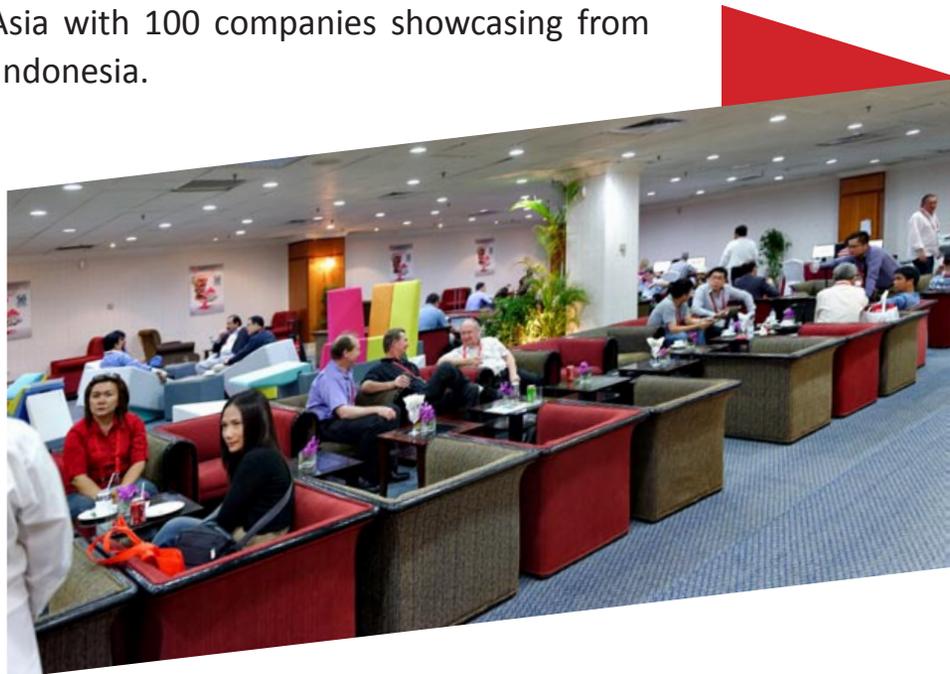
The huge turnout of exhibitors saw a 12% increase from 2016 show numbers. The vast array of furniture, furnishings and fittings had covered 80,000 square meters of the Putra World Trade Centre and Matrade Exhibition and Convention Centre. As the leading global furniture sourcing hub in the region, MIFF draws 20,000 visitors from as many as 140 countries and regions seeking variety, quality and good value.

Malaysia's biggest industry exporters were back in full force this year. Buyers from Southeast Asia and other emerging markets were present, mostly comprising of wholesalers, importers, independent retailers, new furniture businesses and ecommerce start-ups seeking basic to upper mid-range products. Several overseas delegations including from Japan, Italy, Belgium, India and Germany also attended MIFF 2017.

This year's highlights of the show included Muar Hall by MIFF strategic partner Muar Furniture Association, China Hall, Taiwan Hall and MIFF Office.

MIFF Office gave the visitors of the show a chance to see the largest office furniture showroom in Southeast Asia with 100 companies showcasing from Malaysia, China, Taiwan, Korea and Indonesia.

In conjunction with the show, MIFF also hosted the 20th anniversary celebration of International Alliance of Furnishing Publications (IAFP). Over 30 members of the overseas trade media from 22 countries, including IAFP members, covered the show.





The Dubai International Furniture Accessories and Components and Semi Finished Products Show (DIFAC) was organised for the first time from March 7 to 9, 2017, at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre. The first edition of DIFAC was held in conjunction with the 12th edition of Dubai WoodShow. Both the trade shows were launched by H.E. Sami Ahmad Dhaen Al Qamzi, Dubai Director General of Department of Economic Development.

DIFAC



The launch also witnessed the esteemed presence of H.E. Helal Saeed Almarri, CEO of Dubai World Trade Centre and many other high-profile dignitaries and official visitors from both public and private sectors.

At the opening ceremony, H.E. Sami Ahmad Qamzi walked through the different exhibition halls and met with representatives of the participant companies, who had an opportunity to display and explain their products and special offerings. The efforts taken by the organisers were lauded for conducting a show of this repute and their valuable contribution was acknowledged into making Dubai a hub for such international events.



The introduction of DIFAC at the Dubai WoodShow served as a strategic platform for visitors to view and experience the latest technologies and innovations in the furniture industry. The show connected all manufacturers, suppliers and consumers, allowing companies to enter into business deals and agreements.

DIFAC 2017 showcased the latest innovations in the furniture industry, with over 300 exhibitors from 100 countries. In addition, 1000 experts were invited to present their insights and key learning of the industry. DIFAC had targeted the interior

design market which was estimated to experience a surge of over AED 32.5 billion regionally.

The new show followed the latest trends in furniture industry. As customers are more concerned about quality and comfort along with sustainability, DIFAC showcased eco-friendly furniture products which served the global customer needs. Visitors got a chance to explore some of the best practices and insights of the industry.

Dawood Al Shezawi, CEO, Strategic Marketing & Exhibitions, organisers of both shows, stated, “The 1st edition of DIFAC is a part of our efforts to confirm Dubai’s position as international hub for special trade shows and conferences. Organising DIFAC in conjunction with Dubai WoodShow has helped generate success for the show its 1st edition. In addition, the high number of visitors reaffirms people’s interest for latest innovations in the industry.”

After three days of busy activity at the show floor, DIFAC 2017 witnessed several deals and agreement between visitors and the participant companies. Connecting the suppliers with the consumers, the show served as a perfect platform to discuss and drive sales for the industry.





The 13th annual edition of Export Furniture Exhibition (EFE) opened on March 8, 2017, kicking off the buying season in Asia. After four days of successful buying opportunities at the show, EFE 2017 closed its doors with a positive outcome on March 11.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Mah Siew Keong, Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities, Malaysia, officiated the annual show that brought together 269 exhibitors



from Malaysia, Asia and ASEAN region in one of the most attractive trading platforms in the global furniture industry. A total of 10,870 visitors from 141 countries came to the EFE exhibition grounds.

The visitor figures saw an impressive 18.7% increase from the year before. There was a very positive increase of foreign visitors with a total of 7,140, an impressive increase of 20% as compared to year 2016. The top 10 visitor countries were from China, India, Singapore, United States of America, Australia, Japan, Philippines, United Kingdom, Indonesia and Vietnam. International buyers by region summed up as 37% from Asia, 21% from South East Asia, 13% from Europe, 10% from USA, 7% from Africa and Oceania followed by 6% from the Middle East.

The fair covered a gross area of 32,000 square meters, at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Malaysia's leading convention facility. 269 furniture manufacturers, furnishing suppliers, exporters and designers showcased their latest and most impressive collections. This year, EFE continues to expand its global footprint by welcoming visitors from 141 countries including new buyers from Kosovo, Botswana, Belarus, Virgin Islands, Lithuania, Finland,



Iceland, Argentina, Czech Republic and Rwanda. Exhibitors had the opportunity to meet up with these new buyers for networking and market expansion.

One of the highlights of the show was the 'India Export Pavilion (IEP)' at Hall 8 with a total space of 1,002 sq m and 15 exhibiting companies. India Export Pavilion was made available with the main objective in providing their local furniture manufacturers to do export to India, the world's largest democracy. India is one of the fastest growing economies today with its furniture market worth US\$17,822 million. Malaysia has good bilateral trade with India with trade volume at US\$10.5 billion currently and poised to reach US\$25.0 billion by 2020. The Pavilion displayed furniture products made for the India market and the trade platform serves its objectives well. A survey done by Malaysian Timber Council (MTC) at IEP, concluded with confirmed/immediate sales of RM970,000 with another potential sales under negotiation of RM6,572,000.

Another highlight of EFE 2017 was the Professional Designers Programme (PDP). Riding on the success and keen interest shown by buyers and visitors at EFE 2016, PDP2 made its second debut at Hall 7. The

Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB) envisioned the Professional Designers Programme to be the furniture Design Development Project that will enable the target of RM16 billion export value to be achieved in the year 2020. PDP is fully supported by Malaysia's Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC) and funded by MTIB under the 10th Malaysia Plan.

The Professional Designers Programme second edition witnessed four professional designers namely Mr. Giorgio Biscario, Mr. Manolo Bossi, Filippo Mambretti from Italy and Mr. Stefan Schoning from Belgium working with Malaysian furniture manufacturers in the design of furniture which were displayed at EFE 2017. The programme also included nine Tanggam Designers who displayed their innovative and creative furniture products.

The exhibition is organised by EFE Expo Sdn Bhd., a wholly-owned company of the Malaysian Furniture Council (MFC). MFC is the national body which represents all the furniture manufacturers in Malaysia. EFE 2017 is a trade platform which provides opportunities for the industry players and its related industries to do export and networking to expand their businesses.

Buyers were kept busy with the wide displays of newest products and selections from Malaysia, China and the region. The show offered the full range of furniture with extensive selections of modern and contemporary styles for dining, bedroom, living room, office, occasional, children, outdoor as well as furniture fittings and hardware.

All in all, EFE 2017 has impressed the industry once again with a multitude of trade opportunities and design-centric elements. The trade fair continues to draw new buyers and visitors to source for its furniture. Another significant appeal is it is getting more high quality buyers from all over the world. This underscores the continuing appeal of EFE and how it remains relevant in the global furniture market.

FIMMA Brasil

FIMMA Brasil – the International Fair of Machines, Raw Materials and Accessories for the Furniture Industry – took place from March 28 to 31, in Bento Gonçalves, Rio Grande do Sul. The first two days of the show welcomed around 12,000 visitors. The fair was successful in bringing together the main players of the furniture sector at one place. The three-day event is estimated to have reached approximately 25,000 visitors.

At the inauguration, the President of the fair, Rogério Francio, spoke about the challenges of holding the event in one of the worst economic times experienced by Brazil and by the productive sector, with recession, the domestic market shrinking, political and institutional crisis, high tax burden, unemployment, lack of credit and investments.

In his speech, the executive stressed the importance of FIMMA Brasil and the features that are defining the edition 2017: professionalism, resilience, management, innovation and opportunities.



Speaking on the importance of the fair, Francio stated, “The participating companies have the chance to exhibit their products in a global showcase, strengthening their brands globally, expanding their contact network and building up strategic alliances.”

To give exhibitors greater visibility, FIMMA Brasil carried out the Image Project, which brings opinion makers and professionals from the international press to the event to present and promote the potential of the Brazilian furniture industry and, consequently, develop the creation and enhancement of the industry image abroad.

The 2017 fair edition brought together about 30 journalists and opinion leaders from Brazil, India, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Italy, Chile and Argentina.

Another activity held during the show was the FIMMA Joiner project, attended by more than 1300 people. The project aimed to spread the entrepreneurial culture among small entrepreneurs and, therefore, had a team of speakers who brought to the fore important issues, creative and innovative on the segment of the woodwork.

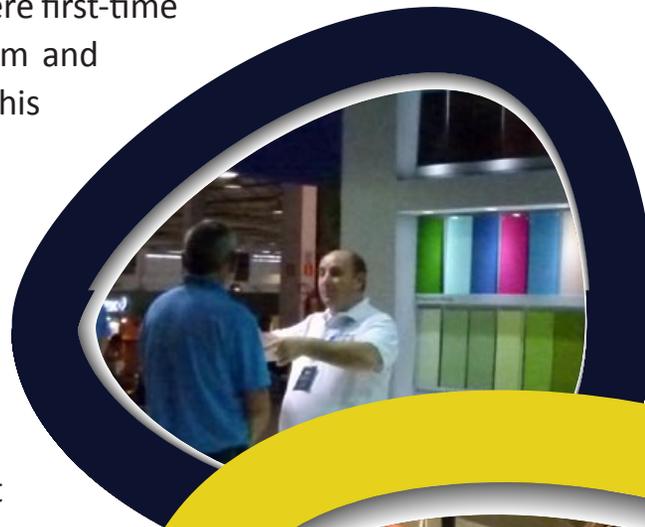
There were lectures on “Quick Change Tools” by Fábio Lopes Ferreira, the SENAI Institute of Technology in wood and furniture; “Craft Joinery” by Fernando Mendes; and “Joinery in the Digital Age” by Jucielton dos Santos. The duo Alexandre Luis Franceschi and Márcio Zaffari, the Wirutex, talked about “New Technologies Tools for the Furniture Sector”; the designer Eduardo Nuncio, addressed “The Joinery in Salon Design” and to end, Carlos Eduardo Hoffmann, of the Woodwork New Area, presented “Production in Connected Joinery.”

The woodworking industry also received an incentive through the Buyer's Project, which enabled direct contact between importers of machinery, raw materials and accessories for furniture and Brazilian exporters.

This year, the Buyer Project carried out 1200 business rounds – 50% more than the amount held in 2015 edition. The strategic action brought to Brazil 50 international buyers from countries such as United States, Mexico, Panama, Chile, Colombia, Peru, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, Argentina, Uruguay, Bolivia and South Africa.

At FIMMA Brasil 2017, about 360 exhibitors and 500 brands were present. Of these, 30% companies were first-time exhibitors at the fair. From the enthusiasm and positivism shown by the participants of this edition and by the professionals attached to furniture chain, FIMMA Brazil becomes a lever for improvement in the Brazilian domestic market business.

To Francio, this year's show was characterised by the spread of information and knowledge on current issues, technology, innovation, new products related to the sector and also the good business results. In end, he concludes, "We are pleased to see the amount of business - from micro and small, to large - focused on improving the quality of their companies."





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Fritz Hansen reports of a financially strong 2016


 Republic of Fritz Hansen has released positive financial statements for 2016 with a turnover of DKK 602m and an 8% growth rate. Profit before tax amounted to DKK 125m, which is 16% increase compared to 2015, and the best result in the company's 145-year history. The result should be seen as part of the growth plan aimed at ensuring a turnover of DKK 750m for the company in 2018.

The greater part of the realised growth derives from the Danish domestic market, which has experienced an increase of 7%, and from the US and Asia with an increase of 20 and 31%, respectively. In the US, there is an increasing interest in Danish design, particularly in the contract market where the growth derives from a number of large project orders for both new Fritz Hansen designs and classics.

In 2016, the company also celebrated the 60th anniversary of Poul KjCBrhoim's iconic PK22 chair and PK61 table, and the collection's turnover increased by 24%, particularly as a result of some large US contract orders. This

was also the case with Jaime Hayon's designs RO and FRI, which had an increase in turnover of 32% compared to 2015.

Fritz Hansen's 2018 plan identifies three areas to drive growth towards the goal of a turnover of DKK 750m. These are: constant innovation and relevance in time of the company's classics, such as Series 7, an expansive retail strategy as well as an extension of the product portfolio by acquisition of the lighting company LIGHTYEARS and the accessories collection Objects.

CFO at Republic of Fritz Hansen, Lars Torp Madsen, emphasises the acquisition of LIGHTYEARS and the establishment of a separate lighting division in the Republic as an important contribution to the positive results of the financial statements, which showed a growth rate of 10% in 2016. "Since LIGHTYEARS was founded in 2005, the company has experienced nothing but growth, and with Fritz Hansen's global distribution network and close relations with the contract market, the potential is laid out for further growth," Lars Torp Madsen says, and adds: "We have spent all of 2016 getting the company integrated in the Fritz Hansen family, and against this background we expect further growth in 2017," he concludes.

Salone del Mobile 2017 closes successfully



As the 56th edition of Salone del Mobile.Milano 2017 came to a close on April 9, Claudio Luti, President of the Salone del Mobile, remarked, “A stand-alone moment at which culture and industry become an international benchmark and an exemplary model for an Italy that works. It’s been an exciting week, full of positivity and enthusiasm from the companies, which showed themselves off to best advantage, from the creative genius displayed by the architects and designers and from the huge numbers of visitors who flocked to Milan to check out the latest innovations at the Salone and experience the buzz of the city”.

343,602 attendees in 6 days from 165 countries: The figures confirm the positive trend evidenced in the Salone del Mobile and the biennial EuroLuce and Workplace3.0 pavilions right from the off, marking a 10% increase on the 2015 edition, the last time the lighting and workplace biennials were held.

The results are further confirmation of Italian President Sergio Mattarella’s remarks from the

opening ceremony of the 2017 edition: “This is not merely a display of exhibits, but also of a business culture that symbolises a method of working together with a particular approach to modern manufacturing.”

More than 2,000 exhibitors overall, 34% of them from other countries, were split between the Salone Internazionale del Mobile, the International Furnishing Accessories Exhibition, EuroLuce, Workplace3.0 and SaloneSatellite. This edition has served more than ever to underscore the Salone’s powerful synergy with the city of Milan.

Salone president Claudio Luti continues, “Enormous numbers of visitors, not necessarily with links to design, have made their way to Milan to experience the thrill of this Salone and of the city itself. Thanks to the collaboration of all the institutions working in the city, Milan has been even more beautiful and welcoming than ever. Milan alone can lay claim to the Salone del Mobile and its industrial enterprises with their links to the creative and publishing world and close ties to the city.”

This last edition marked the 20th anniversary of SaloneSatellite, in which more than 650

designers and 16 design schools took part, further celebrated by a special exhibition at the Fabbrica del Vapore, which runs until 25th April.

La-Z-Boy opens up new UK headquarters

The new UK headquarters of La-Z-Boy Inc. was officially opened recently by Kurt L. Darrow, the Chairman, president and CEO of the company.

Kurt travelled from the company's corporate office in Michigan, USA, to meet the full UK team at the Maidenhead base. This is his first visit since La-Z-Boy acquired the licence for the UK and Ireland earlier this year.

Kurt says, "The new headquarters is looking fantastic, with the development of our showroom well underway. It's been great to visit the premises and meet the team. Everyone is working hard to expand the brand in this territory. I congratulate the team for a fantastic start to 2017 and we are looking forward to building the business in the months and years ahead."

La-Z-Boy's plans in the UK for 2017 include a new showroom, the launch of the Originals collection and in-store galleries, as well as the opening of a

European manufacturing facility.

MD of La-Z-Boy UK Ltd, Keith Wilson, adds, "We're really grateful to Kurt for taking the time to officially mark the opening of our UK headquarters. This is a very exciting time for the brand. We're in a fantastic location which we hope will be convenient for our customers to visit once our showroom launches. We have a car park and could not be closer to the railway station, so we'll be more than happy to welcome anyone along."

100% Design readies itself for 23rd edition

100% Design, one of the UK's largest trade shows for architects and designers, returns to Olympia, London from September 20 to 23 for its 23rd edition. The show welcomes hundreds of exhibitors and more than 27,000 visitors to Kensington over four days as the commercial heart of London Design Festival, helping to foster relationships between some of the world's biggest architects, designers, specifiers, retailers and developers.

Each year 100% Design adopts a theme, which is reflected across its installations, features,

talks programmes and show design. For the 2017 edition this is Elements, which considers everything from the fundamentals of design to the component parts that make up a product, the materials used to the stories and processes of development.

Now in its 23rd year, 100% Design remains one of the most prestigious events during the London Design Festival and with over 600 exhibitors launching hundreds of new products – the show is at the epicentre of contemporary design in the UK. Last year's event again showed an increased attendance, with 27,387 delegates representing a combined spending power of £3.9b, reflecting the show's professional, international audience.

100% Design is the only independently-audited show during London Design Festival. With the latest UK product launches from an array of brands and designers, 100% Design occupies a crucial place as the commercial heart of design in the UK. With five distinct sections, Interiors, Workplace, Kitchens & Bathrooms, Design & Build and Emerging Brands, 100% Design is unique in its cross-sector appeal to professionals including interior designers, architects, specifiers and dealers.

Roman Showers listed among Europe's Fastest Growing Companies



Leading international shower designer and manufacturer, Roman, is among the

FT1000 – the list of Europe's Fastest Growing Companies, compiled by the Financial Times.

The FT1000 Companies have been officially announced on 21st April, in a special supplement in the Financial Times. There was in depth research carried out to find the 1000 fastest growing companies. This research included not only public calls for participation but also intensive database research as well as direct contacts with tens of thousands of companies. A plethora of companies provided and formally confirmed the validity of the required revenue information. Many months were spent finding the outstanding companies among the millions of existing European enterprises. At the end, just a thousand made it to the list, including Roman.

The entire FT1000 ranking is featured in a Special Report of the Financial Times which was released on April 24.

David Osborne, Managing Director of Roman, commented: “We are truly proud to be one of the FT1000 Companies and to be named one of the fastest growing Companies in Europe – what an achievement. We have seen Roman go from strength to strength and there has been significant growth of the past five years. We are incredibly busy and clearly this is a great position to be in and our growth to be recognised by the Financial Times is something to be proud of.”

Decorex Champagne Bar to be designed by Shalini Misra

D | DECOREX INTERNATIONAL Shalini Misra has unveiled a striking concept for Decorex International’s prestigious Champagne Bar. The design, which is inspired by one of the world’s most famous exhibitions, will take centre stage at this year’s show. Decorex returns to Syon Park in London from September 17 to 20, 2017.

The Great Exhibition of 1851 saw London’s Hyde Park transformed into a showcase of the latest in international invention and design. Housed in a glass and iron building known as

the Crystal Palace, the show attracted more than six million visitors.

As one of Britain’s most celebrated showcases of design and innovation, Decorex International follows this great tradition of exposition – celebrating the works of leading UK and international brands alongside upcoming talents. The Crystal Palace, therefore, was a natural inspiration for Shalini Misra when designing the Bar for the show’s 40th anniversary year.

Based on original paintings, drawings and advertisements, Shalini Misra will create four sweeping structures, reminiscent of the roof of the palace, that will rise up above the space. Inside, the hexagonal central bar will feature backlit metallic detailing inspired by radiator grills and a dramatic central canopy.

Rich velvets will be paired with geometric and figurative motifs, palace ironwork and Victoriana finishes for a contemporary take on the original design. The heritage colour palette will be complemented with finishing flourishes, such as decorative screen dividers and palm plants. As the centrepiece of the Fair, the bar will be a luxurious location for

relaxing with friends as well as a place for the meeting of creative and innovative minds.

Shalini says: “Inspired by a key moment in design history, the Great Exhibition of 1851, the farther backward we look, the further forward we are likely to see. In the spirit of international collaboration and scenic stage design we will create a contemporary interpretation of a glasshouse infused with graphic pattern, luxe detailing and curiosities.”

Scandinavian Business Seating acquires complete shares of OFFECCT

OFFECCT Scandinavian Business Seating AS has acquired 100 percent of the shares in the OFFECCT AB group.

The deal was completed on May 5, 2017. Founders Kurt Tingdal, CEO, and Anders Englund, Design Manager, will remain active in the company in the same positions as before.

The sale is a part of realising the founders’ vision to become a leading international player with in the furniture and design of meeting places. Through the acquisition, SB Seating is strengthening the Group’s offer and position in overall solutions for activity based meeting

places.

Kurt Tingdal, Offecct CEO, says, “Having a new owner like Scandinavian Business Seating AS gives us access to an increased technical competence, broader global distribution channels, as well as an international network and cooperation. The decision regarding new ownership is a strategic choice to secure the Groups and the brands growth, on which we have focused for a long time. In SB Seating, we have found the right partner. We have many common denominators in our business philosophies regarding design, the future and integration of sustainable development.”

Anders Englund also adds, “There is great innovative know-how in the Group. With the strategic focus our new owner has chosen to develop further, that is furniture for tomorrows activity based meeting places, it is natural and inspiring for us to contribute to that kind of development.”

SB Seating aims for a long-term growth by broadening the Group towards overall solutions for activity based working and meeting places targeted at the world market. The acquisition of the design company Offecct is a part of this strategy.

Lars I. Røiri, CEO of SB Seating AS, shares, “We are genuinely proud that Offecct wishes to become a part of Scandinavian Business Seating. Offecct with its clear philosophy, corporate culture and sustainability focus with high design is a perfect match with what SB Seating is already offering today. Offecct has a strong product portfolio, is well established in its segment and has a great potential in the markets where SB Seating has its business. At the same time Offecct has a strong position within the segment of lounge and meeting furniture. An area of products that SB Seating will focus further on.”

M&O PARIS names Tristan Auer as Designer of the Year



For every January and September edition, MAISON&OBJET PARIS honors the most outstanding names on the international design and interiors scene by electing a Designer of the Year for each show. In September 2017, MAISON&OBJET PARIS will recognise the talent of interior architect and designer Tristan Auer.

After training with the greatest names in interior and product design, Tristan Auer has

developed his own style: bespoke creations, featuring a bold combination of classical references and avant-garde design. This approach lends coherence and originality to his creations, which favour user experience and wellbeing: the very point of art de vivre. Today, his name is associated with elegance and French style all around the world.

Being named as Designer of the Year for MAISON&OBJET PARIS September 2017 edition, Tristan Auer is set to exhibit his work on a stand entirely dedicated to him, located in Hall 8. Naturally, he decided his scenography would provide a stage for French art de vivre, which combines uncluttered classicism and sensuous modernism.

After spending days scouting the aisles of the fair, visitors will find there a place to rest and marvel – a magical time-out. Suggested by perfect architectural features (arches), light hues (white and pastel green), and a few vibrant colours, the concept develops around a selection of symbolic elements: a bar in the middle, which brings an element of fun and elegance; a vintage car, symbolising travel; and, to echo his interest in cinema, a series of recesses showing objects in cinematographic compositions.

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Media Ten

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Nigeria DecorExpo

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The Manchester Furniture Show
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 Clarion Events Company
www.manchesterfurnitureshow.com

Sep 11-14, 2017

CIFF Furniture Fair
 Shanghai, China
 Fair Window
www.ciff-gz.com/en/



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www.intermebelexpo.ru/rus/





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BIFE-SIM

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Romexpo S.A

www.bife-sim.ro

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Habitat Valencia

Valencia, Spain

Feria Valencia

www.feriahabitatvalencia.com



Oct 05-08, 2017

For Interior

Prague, Czech Republic

ABF

forinterior.cz/en/

The logo for Ambienta is a circular emblem with a white center, a yellow inner ring, and a dark purple outer ring. The word "ambienta" is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with the "a" in red and the rest in black.

ambienta

Oct 11-15, 2017

Ambienta

Zagreb, Croatia

Zagreb Fair

<http://www.zv.hr>

Oct 23-25, 2017

The Home Show

GEC Events

Muscat, Oman

<http://www.homeshow-oman.com/>

The logo for Home & Building Show features a stylized black roofline above the words "HOME & BUILDING SHOW" in a red, hand-drawn, sans-serif font. The text is set within a circular emblem with a white center, a yellow inner ring, and a dark purple outer ring.

**HOME &
BUILDING
SHOW**

The logo for Decofair is a circular emblem with a white center, a yellow inner ring, and a dark purple outer ring. It contains the lowercase letters "df" in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by the word "decofair" in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font. Below this, in a smaller font, it reads "SAUDI ARABIA'S EXCLUSIVE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN TRADE EXHIBITION".

df decofair
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