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Jan-Mar 2018



Cover Story

Lighting



Stine Birkeland

Design Talk

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Upholstery



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Christophe Pillet

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Born in 1959, Christophe Pillet has been working in the design field since 1986. Read on to know more about Christophe.

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Dear Readers,

New year, new way! As the New Year is here, we too are walking a new path, rescheduling the publishing dates of our magazines! Now our magazines will be quarterly, in sync with the major shows and seasons: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter!

Lights will guide us this time, as we focus on lights in the cover story of this edition. Our Feature, on the other hand is a lowdown on the trending upholstery around the world.

We must thank the team of Northern and Christophe Pillet who have shared with us their valuable inputs in order to trace the design revolution prevalent now.

Well, looking forward to March, we have a handful of shows in South East Asia and I hope to see you there! We will be travelling a lot capturing the design stories.

Until next time,

Chitralekha Banerjee



Lights & Luminaires

In the recent years of interior decoration, lights have emerged as an important aspect. When designing our homes, offices or other commercial spaces, choosing the correct lighting is a vital decision. Be it indoor or outdoor, the right amount of light is essential to the character of any space. Even the most beautifully designed décor will look dull without appropriate lighting.



According to a report by Boston Consulting Group, the lighting industry can expect to have global revenues topping \$130 billion in 2020. Market research analysts at Technavio predict that the global lighting market will grow steadily during the next four years and post a CAGR of more than 9% by 2021.

The lighting market is on a clear transition path from traditional lighting technologies to LED and the adoption of connected lighting systems. The increasing need for durable and more energy-efficient lighting systems will augment the growth of the LED lighting market, which will account for a total market share of about 75% by 2020.



LED lighting

Light-emitting diodes, better known as LEDs, are a relatively new lighting technology which is ten times as efficient as compared to incandescent lighting. Longer working life, enhanced versatility and low energy consumption: these attributes have made LEDs the preferable choice for next generation of lighting systems.

LED is more versatile than other technologies. LED lights come in a wider variety of colours, and are smaller than those of other technologies. This enables LED to be used in creative new ways. The major application segments for LED lighting market are residential, architectural and outdoor.

Residential applications for LED lighting include lighting for bathrooms, hallways, dining rooms and kitchens. The outdoor application for LED is used in roadways, traffic lights, tunnels, parking lots, and garages. The architectural application includes both functional and decorative lighting. Decorative LEDs are used to light up pools, gardens, fountains, and statues. The functional application includes landscaping and building facades.

According to a Zion Market Research report, the global LED lighting market size accounted for USD





26.09 billion in 2016 and is expected to reach USD 54.28 billion by 2022, growing at a CAGR of around 13% between 2017 and 2022.

Europe emerged as dominating the regional market for LED lighting in 2016 and accounted over 31% of market share. North America and European market is expected to show considerable growth in outdoor and residential application segments.

Lighting Trends

The type of lighting one uses can completely change how a room looks. Lighting fixtures not only highlight the important areas, but they are also a decorative element all on their own. The lighting of a room should reflect the functions and feel of each space. What works in the living room, will not necessarily work in the kitchen or the bedroom.

Like other aspects of interior designing, the lighting trends also keep changing. Some popular trends are listed below.

• Vintage

A vintage lighting fixture can add just the right touch of character to a room. The vintage trend focuses on simple shapes, raw materials, rustic finishes in neutral colours and an emphasis on metal. Vintage lighting works incredibly well in the kitchen work area, above the dining area or as a wall light. The right vintage fixture on the wall can even serve as the centerpiece of your home.

• Art Deco

Art Deco lighting boasts of a clean, symmetrical and streamlined look that





easily seduces the eye. When being used in the living space, the role of Art Deco lighting should be to illuminate beautifully while making a bold statement via angles, symmetry and lavish materials such as marble and brass.

•Modern Industrial

Industrial style has always been about rustic finishes, neutral colours and an emphasis on metal. The modern industrial lighting features sleeker metals – richer and more varied tones and alternative designs. These lighting designs are popular for places like the kitchen work area, above the dining area or as wall lighting. The fixture itself can be used as a piece of art on the wall or as a centerpiece of the home.

• Minimalism

Modern décor is based mostly on clean forms. The minimalism trend is becoming popular where homeowners are opting for simpler and cleaner lighting designs. These fixtures focus on simple geometric designs, neutral soft colours and a prominence of form over extravagant aesthetics. Modern lighting works best as a statement piece, especially when used overhead, creating a simple yet bold look. It really pops when used as a reading lamp or accent piece.

• Metallic Hues

Gold, silver, brass, rose gold or copper – lighting fixtures with a metallic finish are the ruling nowadays. Lately, there has been a spike in the popularity of soft colours. Homeowners have fallen in love with colours such as grey or soft gold. There is also the trend of combining matte, polished and hammered finishes. Mixing metals is an ideal strategy for adding visual interest and depth to any space. It can be used for overhead lighting, reading lamps, or as fixtures that attract attention to specific corners of a living room.

• Industrial Bathroom Lighting

As brass and deep colours make a comeback in the bathroom décor, industrial lighting will also be popular. From sconces near the mirror to including a small chandelier in the bathroom, both are great ways to include the latest industrial trends.

• Black and White

Ranked as one of the top trends that never go out of style, Black and White interiors have a great visual appeal. Add a black and white lamp to a room's décor and get a sense of sophistication and elegance as well. Black and white will always remain one of the best options.



The Future

The demand for smart home products and lighting control systems is still in its nascent stage, but the market is expected to increase in the upcoming years. The increasing popularity of LED gives momentum to the adoption of connected lighting systems.

Connected lighting, in easy terms, refers to any type of Smart lighting systems. It is used to describe any kind of lighting equipment that has an element of intelligence or connectivity to it. These smart fixtures are incorporating Internet Of Things into their devices for building connectivity.

The importance of lighting control systems is growing in the general lighting sector year by year due to the rising awareness of global energy efficiency movement. The shift to connected lighting will be most swift in the professional segment given that these professional systems typically control a large network of lights, so the savings are usually more significant.

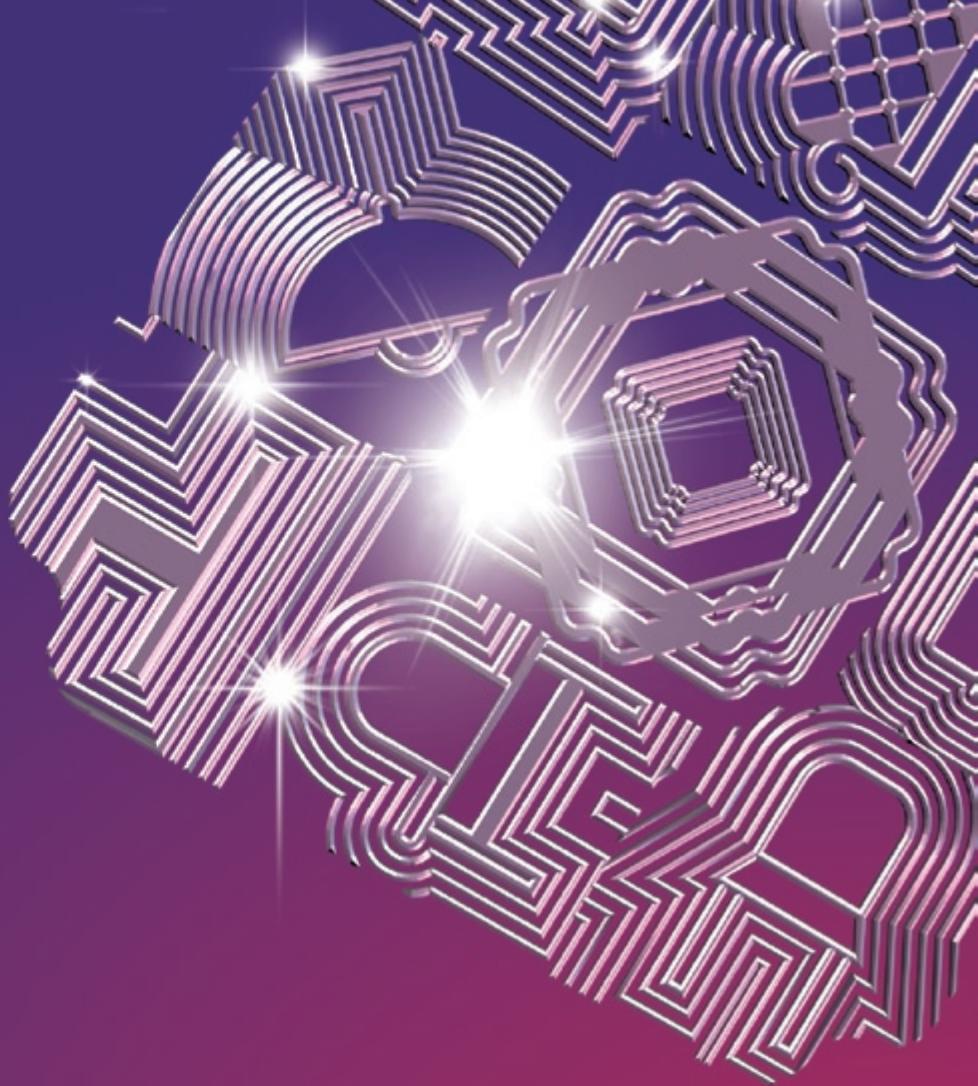




Home systems with connected lighting for the consumer market generally deliver less cost savings for the end user than to the professional segment due to the smaller number of lights in households and the lower frequency with which lights are used.

The Smart Lighting market segment is expected to reach USD 19.47 Billion by 2022, growing at a CAGR of 27.1% during the forecast period, according to a new market research report "Smart Lighting Market - Global Forecast to 2022". The growing consumer demand for energy efficient lighting systems is expected to be the major factor driving this market.

As future generations become more aware about efficient energy consumption, smart lighting and connected lighting systems are expected to become more popular.



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When Luxury meets comfort

One of the most used types among furniture and one which is a pseudonym for luxury and grandeur, upholstery implies a strong presence in the interiors. Upholstered furniture often is given the central position in a room and garners the most attention. A role of being in the spotlight in an interior comes with requited demand of being well-designed and comfortable. The design concept is subjective; however, the comfort factor depends on a host of technicalities.

Upholstered furniture is said to be an art form. Ergonomics stays elemental to the design. Right kind of seat with right materials, seat height and depth define the comfort level. Many companies have high-end upholstery products that have seats following human growth development. Human preference has to be paid equal importance. Thus a variety of products have to be made available for distinct preference groups. Some choose a seat with firmer cushion while show inclination for softer one.





Functionality with comfort:

A few years ago, functionality was restricted to shape of armrests, backrests, footrests, headrests and movement of sofa. Some years before, function of adjusting parts of the sofa was introduced. Companies and designers have come up with techniques to introduce functions in upholstery furniture in the most unassuming way. Fixtures such as rotating plates, fittings, pins, magnetic connectors, telescopic rails and other mobile parts are inherited in the sofa invisibly. The added features have taken the market by storm. Upholstery furniture equipped with electronic systems is the new trend. Few years ago, Natuzzi brought 'Brio' which requires the touch of a finger to transform into a reclining couch. The hidden Soft Touch sensor on the side of the sofa when stroked moves the backrest forward and lifts the footrest to provide unparalleled comfort. The Zero wall technology allows the Soft Motion system to be used without having to move the sofa away from the wall. Brio is available in leather and microfiber fabric cachemire effect, also in the chaise longue version with Soft motion.

Molteni&C, the design manufacturer of upholstery has been delivering a confluence of exemplary design, cutting-edge craft and great tradition, since 1934. An innovative seating collection from Molteni&C is – 'PAUL' by Vincent Van Duysen, is an unique seating system comes with elegant proportions and reassuring lines. The system includes linear sofas, corner compositions, chaises longue and islands, all with a single seat cushion.



Technology and trends in upholstery:

According to the IOL, “The hottest living room furniture trends for the coming year celebrate curvier, rounder shapes, comfort, colour and international glamour”. Like in the case of living room upholstery, curvy furniture is making a big comeback. Minimalist design is being superseded by what is being termed as “global nomadism” – a meeting of the tribal, the traveller and a global connection. Glamour is still very much in vogue, yet today’s take on this decadent trend is very different to the stark and glossy glamour that has been popular for the past few years. The notable “grey is the new black” trend is still riding the wave of popularity, and will stay trendy for some time to come. However, there will be a few new tweaks going forward.

imm cologne represented some outstanding modern and eclectic upholstery collection at this year's edition. The Prime section of imm showcased proven concepts and high-quality, classic and contemporary with comfortably modern and elegant categories of upholsteries. Comfort is the Pure segment for the multifaceted culture of comfortable seating and peaceful relaxation – alone or in company – for taking time-out, enjoyment or for spontaneous overnight guests. Virtually no other product category reflects the individualisation of furnishing preferences as much as the upholstered furniture segment does: the spectrum of products on show ranges from stand-alone sofas to





modular groupings, from generous, multifunctional sofa suites and more stream-lined lounge chairs all the way to elegant divans and media-friendly reclining armchairs. The Comfort section



represented entire range of distinctive upholstered furniture: sofa suites, armchairs, divans, stand-alone sofas and couches with special functions. The product ranges in the Comfort segment combine these qualities with stylish looks and a high degree of practicality.

Use of new technology for manufacture of upholstered products is on the rise. The designing processes are now computer-aided. Software for designing and developing upholstery and controlling the process of production are offered by main specialised companies. Moreover, customised furniture making concept has become the hottest trend in nowadays - the Art of upholstery's best asset is customised Computer Aided Design system specifically configured for the planning and designing of upholstered products. This allows them to input a thumbnail or line sketch and ultimately arrive at specific drawings and templates ready for production. This method allows them to be right first time in the development and manufacturing process without losing anything of the design or the original idea. Art of Upholstery basically makes upholsteries technically advanced and updated. By merging technology with craft they can be totally free to manufacture the products to suit customer requirements.

Few years ago, Lectra, has also a client base of industry leaders such as B&B Italia, De Sede, Mobitec, Poltrona Frau and Rolf Benz. Meeting the demands for the upholstery furniture industry Lectra came up with DesignConcept, 3D to 2D design



software for upholstery. DesignConcept software enables users to create models in 3D as well as develop and flatten forms in 2D so that automatic nesting and cutting can be prepared for all types of materials, whether fabric or leather. It integrates all components – structure, foam, and upholstery to allow designers to explore a multitude of creative avenues and virtual variants and evaluate the technical feasibility and profitability of a new model early in the process.

With the help of this software, virtual prototypes of upholstered products are created as per designers' sketches or 3D data imports (a major advance in CAD), and rapidly develop variants. The style and dimension can be modified with the customised component libraries. The designers can experiment with myriad designs, materials and colours before deciding on the final product.

Features such as automated 2D flattening, interactive dimension adjustment, and the creation of data ready for industrialisation (foam, leather, wood, wadding etc.) accelerate the production of the first prototypes and improve the quality of finished products. Automated market-making module enables users to estimate material consumption and production costs.

*Image Courtesy: Denicola's Furniture and Upholstery,
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Christophe Pillet

Creating Beautiful Designs

Born in 1959, Christophe Pillet has been working in the design field since 1986. Today, the French designer has won international acclaim for his work across all spectrums including: architecture, objects, furniture, and art direction. Over the span of his long career, Pillet has collaborated with several world-renowned brands like Driade, Cappellini, Emu, Porro, Serralunga, Lacoste, Jean-Claude Jitrois, Moroso, Renault, Whirlpool, and many others.

Lucidity of expression and the search for simplicity are key principles of Pillet's work. The scope and the variety of his projects share a common attitude, independent of scale. His perfect command of sensuality and refinement makes him one of the most sought-after designers.

The designer started his own agency in 1993. Speaking of his own design style, Pillet says, "Simplicity and functionality are very good way to be understood, this is why whatever is the project, simplicity and functionality are predominant in the design I try to propose."

We got the chance to speak to Chriistophe Pillet about his illustrious career, design process and some of his famous products. Read on.





FAE: What inspired you to become a designer?

Christophe Pillet: I was a fan of comics and I liked the imaginary environment created in those stories. Designing was allowing me to create imaginary environment, imaginary lamps, chairs, but also made it real. It is this imaginary and creative dimension that has attracted me more than any other characteristic of this discipline.



FAE: Can you tell us about your initial journey? How did you start your own design practice?

CP: Following this point I was inventing and designing for myself chairs, lamps, sofas, creating “decor” for imaginary lifestyle scenarios.

In the same time, as all design beginners I was working in a big studio in Milan. At the end of the 90’s it was an enthusiastic new era at that time.

So it was imaginary world at night, realistic approach during the day.



FAE: Simplicity and functionality: these are the words most associated with your work. How would you describe your own design process?

CP: I don't really have a systematic process in designing but a lot of questions do come up, such like: is this useful, is it necessary, does it need to be designed, etc. It means, that I firstly need to find a good reason for designing an object and a good way to express them.

Simplicity and functionality are very good way to be understood, this is why whatever is the project, simplicity and functionality are predominant in the design I try to propose.

FAE: What was your thought behind designing the Meridiana chair for Driade?

CP: Initially my thought with Meridiana was to do a contemporary revisiting of the typical icons, as Bertoia chair for example. I designed a shape as a plastic net but unfortunately the structure was too weak so it became a full transparent plastic shell with a geometrical graphic.



FAE: Does sustainability play a role in your mind while making new designs?

CP: Sustainability brings to me interesting new themes like:

- long lasting values - how a product can be valuable for a long period of time
- timeless value - may a product not be attached to a certain moment

These are two very important questions that directly come from sustainability.

FAE: Where did you get the idea for the Montparnasse easy chair for Offecct?

CP: The idea behind Montparnasse is a quest: is it possible to design high end, high value, luxury product, with a minimum quantity of materials. It is a quest to contradict the received ideas or stereotypes, or the classical equation that links quantity to quality.



FAE: Can you share some details about the Square Collection for Frag?

CP: For the Square collection, the purpose was to reducing the “design performance” to the max to highlight the proper qualities of materials and craftsmanship.





FAE: Please tell us more about the Berlin lamp for Oluce?

CP: Berlin lamp for Oluce is almost a non-design product. It looks like we can find a lot of this shape in the market but here the goal is sharing a mood, a slight perfume of nostalgia and ambiguity in the time. Has it been designed now? Has it been designed before?

FAE: What new projects we can expect to see from you?

CP: The next schedule for us will be Milan fair with a wide range of products for Cappellini, Driade, Emu, Ethimo, Frag, Tacchini, Varaschin.



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NORTHERN

- The Nordic Way

Northern, the design house, narrates a story that combines beauty with functionality, where creative expression meets traditional craft and where pale beauty is coupled with rough-cut contrasts. “Our goal is to create and inspire” – Northern always believes in ‘large’. That’s why the brand exceeds their dream into a furniture hub. Successful contributors, outstanding designers, extraordinary imagination are the prior reasons behind the success of Northern. Northern collaborates experience and passion to execute wonderful projects.

“The Northern brand was born in the studios of Northern Lighting, where a team of creatives has been illuminating lives for the past twelve years. We combine beauty with functionality, and prefer natural materials and genuine craftsmanship. Furniture and interior accessories are a natural fit for what we do, enabling us to express our characteristic style in a whole new scale. Northern’s debut collection is simplicity at its best, spelled out in streamlined designs that are fun to combine and easy to clash and contrast. Smoked wood, twilight

colours and strong silhouettes create subdued moods, while subtle geometries and classic sensibilities add an elegant touch. We see the interior as a flexible, creative space, and make multifunctional products that are unified in style, as well as in spirit" - Northern. With twelve years of experience, Northern is able to create such ambitious projects that led the company beyond success. 'Nordic Style' is the new concept that has the touch of laid-back luxury and cutting-edge cool. Combining the creative expression with traditional craft is one of the greatest establishments of Northern which made them 'Pioneer' in their design journey.

Northern is rapidly evolving itself and captivating the design industry with their glamorous projects. The devotion and sensation that can Northern delivers is something very individual.

Stine Birkeland, Head of PR and Marketing, bares her heart on the successful journey and brings you the story of an extraordinary talented design house.

FAE: How was the Stockholm Furniture Fair? Tell us about your experience at the show.

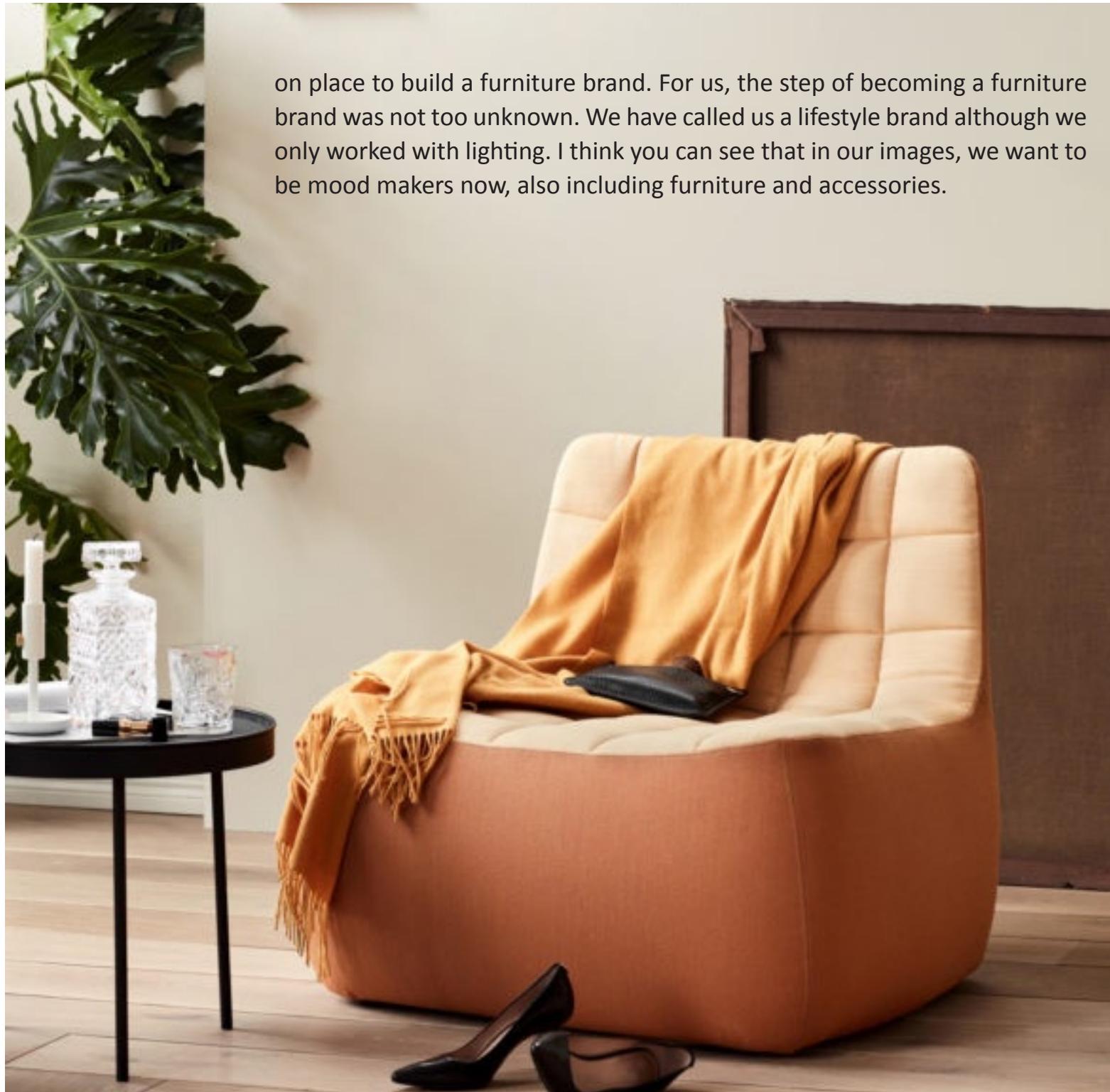
Stine Birkeland: We are excited about the show. We had a stand at Stockholm Furniture Fair together with a rented gallery in the city center. We have never had so many visitors, so it was crowded at our stand all week long. In the gallery we had small events for press, VIP customers, interior architects and other from the furniture industry.



FAE: How has been the feedback of introducing the new brand name 'NORTHERN'? How did the idea of extending Northern Lighting to Northern come in your mind?

SB: The idea of working with furniture has been with us for many years, but the timing had to be right. Working with lighting for 12 years has made us a great creative team, customers, retailer and interior architects around the world, logistics and reassures had to be

on place to build a furniture brand. For us, the step of becoming a furniture brand was not too unknown. We have called us a lifestyle brand although we only worked with lighting. I think you can see that in our images, we want to be mood makers now, also including furniture and accessories.



FAE: What motivated you to choose the design field? Share with us the idea behind the establishment of your company?

SB: We like nice things. Our goal is to create and inspire. In this new collection we work with 16 different designers, making 24 objects. Our creative reach goes beyond our Norwegian heritage to meet the modern need for laidback luxury. The 16 designers was brief by our Creative Directors Morten Skjærpe Knarrum & Jonas Norheim, to address the demand for understated luxury and the consumers need for multifunctional design.



FAE: Northern has delivered outstanding collection of designs. What has been the most unique design till date?

SB: Difficult question. It has been a journey. From our first lamp Snowball, to a bestseller Oslo Wood (in Norway) to the crazy Moo and the success of the Birdy series, which is a lamp series we relaunched. For Northern, contemporary design is most important now.

FAE: Among the Floor collection, share us something about 'Diva Floor' and 'Diva Pendant' - most uniquely beautiful.

SB: The name Diva reflects the shape of the lamp, one of our more exclusive lamp series. Design by the Norwegians Peter Natedal and Thomas Kalvatn Egset. Made from 32 individual strips of wood, the lamp is handmade using the tools and techniques of traditional Norwegian laminated wood craftsmanship.





FAE: Tell us something about 'Heat'- it looks trendy and vibrant. Is there any special material you have used for this product?

SB: Heat is designed by Johanna Forsberg, a Swedish designer and artist. The shade is made of brass metal mesh which the designer artistically transformed into a glowing cloud of fire.

FAE: Is Northern concentrating on emerging furniture markets in Middle East and Asia?

SB: We launched last week, but we do have partners in Asia and we will see at the rest.



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Luceplan – Amisol lamp



The Amisol lamp, designed by Daniel Rybakken, is an evocative and dramatic suspension lamp that blends aesthetic refinement with surprising technological complexity, in a functional bond between art and design.

Rybakkens remarkable ability to interpret light with an original, minimalist approach is channeled here into a lamp that occupies a large physical space a minimal physical volume, for easy orientation in space. A translucent white film or metalised mirror finish membrane is stretched inside a circular aluminium section. Like a solar sail, an incredibly powerful light source projects a beam of light onto the large, almost weightless disk, either diffusing or reflecting the light. Slender rods connect the two main parts: by altering their length and the points of contact of the two support wires, the disk can be rotated and set at any angle.

Amisol is a suspension lamp with clean lines and an essential language, suitable for residential use, but also for the contract and hospitality sectors. The light masterfully reflected and spread by the circular structure gives the product a theatrical and poetic quality at the same time: a creation of iconic beauty, in perfect Luceplan style.

Kettal – Geometrics Fabrics Outdoor Rugs

Diagonal lines and geometric shapes feature in the Geometrics fabric collection designed by Doshi Levien for Kettal. As a development of this abstract theme, Doshi Levien created a series of rugs that explore the interplay of different geometries.

In the first design, lines are laid over solid colours to make a spatial and layered effect, while in the second design, tiny rectangles or blocks of colour are spaced apart and repeated to create a fine mélange.



The two different rug designs, Block and Line, share the same weave technique in common which means they lie well in combinations. Designed to enrich the outdoor living, they become one with the outdoor landscape – be it a wellbeing retreat, a wild Mediterranean garden or a deep sea – mixing soft colours.

The rugs are available in two different sizes, 2×3 meters and 3×4 meters.

Mutina – Cover tile collection

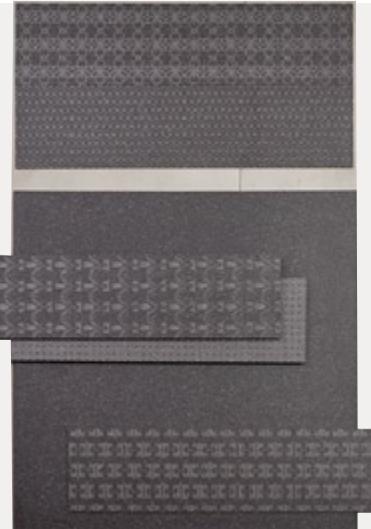
Cover marks one of Patricia Urquiola's first ventures with large ceramic slabs. The collection came about from an experimental project using the Continua Plus technology.

The clay is blended with a mixture of micro-grit, which is then used as a base for the coloured patterns applied using the silk-screen method. These may be irregular, figurative or geometric. This technology was necessary in order to obtain a compact material with powders, grains and flakes, without the addition of colour or digital applications. To pursue this objective, Mutina has carried out specific research that makes Cover a unique product in the field of large ceramic slabs.



Patricia Urquiola remarked, "We have strived to achieve new material properties on our large slabs. The body of this material is already designed to contain a natural grit, a light blend that acts as a base for slightly contrasting materials, with modern patterns and modules applied using the silk-screen method. Large slabs with irregular large patterns, with different intensity and density of colour, that are reminiscent of the variable landscape of the sky in which the clouds move around continuously."

In the basic version, the collection consists of unglazed porcelain stoneware body (UGL), while in the versions decorated using the silk-screen method, the bodies are glazed (GL). Cover is available in the nominal sizes 120 x 240 cm, 120 x 120 cm, and 30 x 120 cm with rectified edges.





Vibia – Halo lamp series

The Halo collection, designed by Martín Azúa for Vibia, represents the seamless merging of light and matter. Powered by LED that remains invisible within their simple, translucent moulds, the light flows freely from its source.

The Halo Circular lamps, features circular inspired compositions. The Halo Circular collection personifies the fusion of light and matter through the ingenious and invisible use of technology. The incorporation of LED lights affords the Halo Circular hanging lamp collection visual and formal restraint. The lighting effect provided by the pendant Halo Circular light can be controlled by a dimmer.

The Halo Lineal lamps are based on linear light compositions. The Halo Lineal collection brings together light and matter through the ingenious and invisible use of LED technology which lends the collection an ethereal and visually restrained quality. The lighting effect provided by the hanging Halo Lineal lamp can be controlled by a dimmer.

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de Sede – new 2018 collection



DS-1000

Design: Ulrich Kössl and de Sede Design Team

A suspended chaise longue to lie on, the futuristic layer DS-1000 is a constructive masterpiece and represents a new form of relaxation. Masculine and revolutionary, it invites to a new kind of lying experience: thanks to the intelligent architecture you lie on with a soft, springy feeling as if you were floating.

Knowledge, experience and passion form the basis for the de Sede Design Team under the lead of Ulrich Kössl. Original ideas and drafts are masterfully translated into reality. Familiarity, traditional craftsmanship and modern technologies are just as important as the passion for outranging quality for the natural product leather.

DS-515

Design: Greutmann Bolzern

Slim, light and of simple elegance: DS-515 presents itself as an unconventional upholstered



chair, designed by the design duo Greutmann Bolzern. The refined sub construction, the slender upholstery and the leather workmanship in its highest perfection, give already a hint to the high seating comfort. The young design with straight lines and beautiful details in form of cross leather lacings make DS-515 as a perfect companion at the dining table, in the home office or in the conference room. Where the stylish upholstered chair appears, it impresses with a confident performance.

Whether with or without upholstered armrests, DS-515 appeals optically light, of high comfort and with a timeless aesthetic. The upholstered chair can be used in the private as well as in the object sector. With a special cover the chair can also be installed outdoors.

DS-777

Design: Bruno Fattorini



The dining table series DS-777 by Bruno Fattorini concentrates on a simple, reduced form: four stable corner legs carry the distinctive table top, which can be up to four meters long. The focus lies on the materials giving the table a revolutionary aspect. Fattorini created a new surface, especially for de Sede. Thanks to special material mixtures, it is possible to produce table-top models that have never been produced before.

The material "MARMOR CARRARA" consists of white marble dust from Carrara, which is mixed with brass flakes. The finished material looks like pure marble and for the first time enables the production of a three- to four-meter-long table in a marble look. The material "LAPIS LAZULI with BRASS" consists of brass flakes and lapis lazuli, while the material "JADE" is a mixture of jade and brass flakes.

The new DS tables are also available in "IRON" and "BRASS-IRON". This material is made of iron and brass dust. The "OAK" material variant uses old oak stocks, which are more than 2000 years old.

Laufen – Sonar collection

With the Sonar bathroom collection, Laufen presents the third generation of SaphirKeramik. The collection of washbasins, washbasin bowls and bathtubs has been designed by Patricia Urquiola that has created a distinct formal language full of finesse, giving the ceramic material a three-dimensional texture.

Laufen's thin-walled SaphirKeramik has set a real design trend for bathrooms. Patricia Urquiola has



embraced the revolutionary material - designing the Sonar collection for Laufen. Her aim was to explore the formal and functional properties as well as the material's decorative aspects, and turn them into an elegant, innovative collection.

Expressive yet minimalist, Sonar's formal language plays with arcs and angles, emphasising the slender lines of SaphirKeramik. To emphasise the lightness of

the objects even more, Urquiola and Laufen developed a fine, three-dimensional texture for the washbasin bowls' external surfaces. The textured version can be selected as an optional alternative to the traditional smooth surface and is reminiscent of sound waves propagating in water.

Patricia Urquiola says, "As a metaphor, the name Sonar is linked to water: in this form of echolocation, acoustic pulses are emitted to identify items under water. I liked the idea of using the little waves generated by sound. The texture on the outside of the washbasin bowls was modelled on these waves. I not only wanted to work with the lightness of the ceramics, I also wanted to find a way to design its surface."

The combination of purity and formal simplicity with the energy and dynamism of a natural phenomenon gives Sonar a bold, unique look in the bathroom. The strict geometry also optimises the flow of water: The sloped surface of the basin base gently guides the water to a transversal recess. From there, it flows out through a conventional drain outlet, elegantly hidden from view by a ceramic cover.



The cover can be removed quickly and easily for cleaning.

The Sonar collection includes floor-standing and wall-mounted washbasins, two washbasin bowls and a double washbasin bowl, all made of SaphirKeramik. All washbasin bowls can be ordered with textured or smooth surfaces; the washbasins are only available with smooth surfaces. A bathtub in the characteristic collection design completes the ensemble. It has an integrated storage tray and is made of Laufen's high-tech Sentec material.

Boca Do Lobo – new 2018 products

Empire Center Table

The Empire Center Table is to find itself in the very heart of the most memorable of events and celebrations. It begs meaningful conversation and years of toasts, symbolising the union of friendship and the celebration of life. Designed and built to make an impression and deliver an unmatched experience, this exquisite piece will add a breathtaking touch of elegance and glamour to your luxury living room.



Supernova Chandelier

Supernova Chandelier was born from the cataclysmic explosion of a massive star. The instant of a bright starburst that was suspended into a fascinating lighting design. Supernovas can briefly outshine entire galaxies and radiate more energy than our sun will in its entire lifetime. The suspended brass particles of Supernova Chandelier will offer a timeless, brightest and magnificent setting.

Lapiaze Sideboard

The Lapiaz Sideboard originates from one of Boca do Lobo's iconic design pieces. Based on the same aesthetic that created a legacy, the Lapiaz Sideboard takes exceptional craftsmanship and design to a new realm. Consisting of two individual modules, the Lapiaz is finished in polished stainless steel that portrays a perfect mirror, with a poplar root wood veneer interior.



Metamorphosis Sconces Lamp

Metamorphosis Sconces experiences new unexpected design techniques, noble finishes through a meticulous artistic process. The two main finishes marble and brass blend in a pleasant and graceful conversation between the roughness of brass and the elegance of marble. Metamorphosis Sconces like a luxury jewel are the most sophisticated lightning accessories for your home.

Convex Metamorphosis Mirror

The Convex Metamorphosis Mirror is more than just a simple piece of art. It represents a living tribute to the beauty of an uncompromised mindset, breaking creative boundaries and taking Boca do Lobo to unknown territories never explored before. Playing on the concept of evolution, and challenging the notion of beauty, the Convex Metamorphosis Mirror takes a clean form and transforms it into an exceptional piece of luxury furniture.



Petite Friture – new launches

THIN nesting coffee tables



Spanish designer Max Enrich has contrasted simple, geometric panels with bulky, tubular legs to create a trio of nesting steel coffee tables. The THIN tables include three different shapes: a square, a rectangle, and a triangle.

Steel is used to create both the tubular legs and the slender surfaces of the tables. They all stand at different heights, so that they are able to nest inside one another, creating a more complex shape when combined.

The designer says, "I create furniture pieces with a purely aesthetic intention. They are objects to be observed. Objects in the form of a chair, table or lamp, but objects that play with visual elements, such as form, colour, light or geometry."

The tables are coated with grained epoxy paint in a range of colours, including white, burgundy, black, and blue.

The DOJO series



Paris-based design firm AC/AL Studio has created the Dojo series comprising of a chair, arm chair and a dining table, with forms influenced by the practice of martial arts.

The designers say, "Dojo, the result of two years of work, is characterised by a rigorous outline. In reference to the Dōjō, a place dedicated to the study of meditation and the learning of martial arts, this collection emerged from a search for essence, and harmoniously unites structural tensions and the fluidity of the lines."

The Dojo chairs are characterised by their curvilinear silhouettes that recall the form of classic bentwood chairs. While the legs and seats are made from beech, the chair backs are made from steel. Similarly, the Dojo table features a top made from beech, while the legs are beech at the bottom and steel at the top.

The combination of two contrasting materials participates in the fluidness of the curves. The Dojo collection marks the design studio's third collaboration with Petite Friture.

VITA copenhagen – Furniture Feelings collection

The lighting brand VITA copenhagen is all set to launch its first-ever furniture collection named as “Furniture Feelings”. This is the first time they are introducing furniture and accessories to their product range.

The Reader armchair

The Reader armchair has been designed as a place for letting one's body sink into and relax. The armchair's special curved shell is inspired by traditional Danish crafting techniques and helps to reduce surrounding noise, offering a place of shelter and reflection. With its light form and bold organic curves, The Reader is a standout design piece in any setting and just right for enjoying a good book or engaging conversation.



Lounge Around sofa

Lounge Around is a multifunctional, flexible sofa designed to be the centrepiece of one's living room. After a busy day it's the perfect place to lie back, relax and recharge. Developed with comfort in mind, Lounge Around is a sofa to linger on, whether sitting alone, with friends or lying down fully stretched out.





Audacious cabinet

Audacious is a cabinet with personality designed as a place for displaying one's favourite pieces. Its special tambour doors slide around the edge of the cabinet, letting one choose how much of the interior one want to put on show. The position of the sliding doors can be changed to create new displays and uses.



Hang Out coffee table

Underneath the table top, a special bag is suspended across Hang Out's three legs like a hammock. The stylish two-sided leather and textile bag is perfect for storing one's remote controls, telephone, book, tablet, magazine or other smaller items.

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EMKO – New Collections

Aye Aye! candle holders

Aye Aye! – created by etc.etc. design studio – is a fleet of rugged, round and bold iron cast candle holders inspired by the time of adventure and discovery, when the enthusiasm of the Industrial Revolution revealed the world to travellers and fortune seekers.

The fleet is composed of four sizes – from a small tugboat with one funnel to a hefty steamship with four big ones. All navy-themed colours are available: red, blue, black and grey. Each funnel is designed to fit either a tea-light candle for cosy harbour light or a taper candle as a pillar of steam.

Aye Aye! vessels can be combined in any size and number and create various themes that will be easy to adjust to different happenings and backgrounds. One narrow piece will look pleasant on a window sill and distract the solitude.

Aligned in a row the pieces will resemble a naval fleet, lighting a fire within. Scattered on a dining table the vessels will seem to sail into an archipelago of plates sparkling good mood for conversation. Because of its shape and mental connections Aye Aye! family feels dynamic although it doesn't float allowing for any composition, let it be carefully made or left over from last night.

Drawing its inspiration from Industrial Revolution the Aye Aye! family is iron cast and powder coated for its colours. Additional space around the candles acts as an extra safe-zone. Being iron cased the vessels are quite heavy, therefore, stable and hard to flip. Each vessel is sturdy as a rock and a bold design item yet simple enough not to become distracting.



SUNrise/SUNset wall lamp

Life as we know it is a revolving cycle around the Sun. Since the dawn of time, the Sun's stages shaped the way we interact with the world around us. The skies have become a mirror to humans' ancestral ways, tied to our well-being, our emotional balance and everyday life activities. Crisp bright blue mornings followed by the red-orange-purple of the sunsets give us energy and joy. On the other hand, a few days of grey cloudy skies or months of short winter days and our mood begins to shift. It doesn't take much to feel under the weather.

Add to that the modern life style, which has slowly pulled us away from the Sun's natural cycles as we have moved our activities towards the indoors, inside closed spaces which have shut off our contact with the elements, and our longing for the natural benefits of the Sun increased.

Created during the dark Lithuanian winters comes "SUN-rise/-set", a lamp that puts the Sun's colours in the palm of your hand. Winner of the International exhibition Furniture 2012 from Vilnius and the Red Dot Design Concept Award in 2014, this interactive object gives its user the possibility of choosing the right colour palette to suit the desired mood effect according to the moment of the day or personal preference, by gently sliding the light source over the coloured panel. It brings the vibrant and refreshing coolness of bright mornings inside your office or the warmth of cosy evenings to your living room.



Pulpo – New Products

Stellar Lighting



Stellar is a series of spherical glass pendant lamps, designed by Sebastian Herkner, that contrast clear curved ridges with smooth frosted glass. Each lamp is composed of two translucent hand-blown glass hemispheres that are joined either horizontally or vertically. While one half is sandblasted to create a smooth frosted finish, the other features clear curved ridges that are designed to recall the surface of the moon.

Available in various colours and finishes, the Stellar pendant lamp collection is inspired by stars as seen through a telescope. The pieces come in four sizes between 180mm and 390mm diameter.

Delight Tables



Turkish delight, also called Lokum, is a jelly-like sweet that is traditionally dusted in icing sugar. Sebastian Herkner was inspired from the dusted surface of this sweet while designing the new collection of frosted glass side tables for Pulpo.

With a bulbous, toadstool-like form, the translucent Delight tables are made from blown glass with a matt, translucent finish. The Delight side tables are available in both small and large sizes as well as a choice of colours including transparent, smoky grey, white or aubergine.

Walter Knoll – new 2018 introductions

Bundle Sofa – EOOS Design

In the popular children game "Buuuuuun-dle!" of Great Britain, it is pure bliss when one piles up clothes and blankets, shouts "buuuuuun-dle" and dives right into the soft make-shift cushions.

This promise of happiness is inherent in the new sofa designed by EOOS. The soft upholstery looks like a large folded blanket, a design idea supposedly as simple as it is ingenious. The end result is a sofa which unites all the sensorial qualities of a well-designed piece of upholstered furniture. It is softer, gentler, homelier: a pure bundle of joy.



Moualla Table – Neptun Ozis

The finesse of apparent simplicity could be the motif of the Moualla Table. The table – in solid oak or nut wood – is characterised by unique lines, free-hand drawn by the architect in an unusual yet harmonious way. And, as is so often the case, magic is in the detail: the table top, seemingly floating over the framework, gives the model a sense of stable lightness. The signs



of exceptional craftsmanship are omnipresent here, coming to life in the impressive longitudinal grain and accurate edge finishing of the table top.

Neptun Ozis, architect and designer from Istanbul, designed the Moualla Table for Walter Knoll as a tribute to the painter Fikret Moualla (1903-1967).

375 Chair – Walter Knoll Team

The 375 Chair is a perfect manifestation of three valuable characteristics: elegance, style and understatement. With these virtues, the chair also remains exceptionally comfortable. As a dining or low side chair, this velvety armchair lends the dining room the qualities of a lounge.

The 375 Chair with its dining and low side chair models complements the 375 family, composed of the Lady's and the Gentleman's Chair.





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Malaysian International Furniture Fair



The Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) is going to be an exciting must-attend event for global furniture buyers, ready to take place from March 8 to 11, 2018.

Exhibitor space in most of the 18 halls is nearly fully booked. Major suppliers have taken up bigger booths to upgrade their displays with more variety and new products at Putra World Trade Centre and new co-venue, Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC).

Covering an extensive range of home and office solutions and as well as Malaysia's renowned wood furniture, MIFF 2018 has already signed up 550 Malaysian and foreign exhibitors including a third new companies and Malaysian industry big names such as Poh Huat Furniture, Lii Hen, Merryfair, Eurochairs and Wegmans.



With the show expanding by 25% to 100,000 square metres from last year, the overall number is set to surpass 600 exhibitors.

Almost 20,000 visitors from 132 countries attended the 2017 edition. More are expected to pack this year's show sporting the lively tagline "Design Connects People".

The focus on design to drive business growth sees new features such as designRena with a dedicated 15,000 sqm show floor for 50 top Malaysian manufacturers, the return of MIFF Office following its successful run as the largest office solutions in Southeast Asia last year and the new to launch MIFF Timber Mart to connect manufacturers with global timber suppliers.

Buyers can expect more unique exhibits and more minimalist European design, in particular Scandinavian style furniture that was extremely popular during the 2017 show.

Ms Chua Yew Ting, marketing manager of Ivorie International said more consumers are looking for environment-friendly furniture with natural colours and Scandinavian designs are a winner with new home owners and young people, also in part because of the affordable prices.

"We foresee modern classic and Scandinavian trend will still be shining in 2018 with colours more focused on smoother and comfortable hues," said Mr B.K.Aw, marketing executive of Deesse Furniture.

The variety of exhibiting companies ranging from manufacturers, exporters, wholesalers and independent niche products suppliers will provide plenty of value and attractive options for buyers seeking large or small quantities of stock.



The Sofa Hall, a popular attraction in the show, will be enlarged at its new home in MITEC to accommodate more exhibitors. Companies confirmed so far include SWS, Isella and Fella Design.

To facilitate and further enhance visitor experience, show organiser UBM Malaysia is paying extra attention to ensure a seamless flow through the rearranged exhibition halls in the two venues to make it a breeze for buyers to source and find the right suppliers.

Ms Karen Goi, MIFF General Manager, said, "We will create greater interactive experiences for visitors as the show is significantly bigger. MIFF 2018 promises buyers greater opportunities for them to source all the furniture they want under one roof. We already have a big list of exhibitors lined up – the best of Malaysian manufacturers and suppliers – bringing their latest new products and innovative designs and more are expected."



Indonesia International Furniture Expo

Indonesia International Furniture Expo (IFEX) is Indonesia's flagship event and international showcase for furniture industry. It is strongly supported by the industry and the government of Indonesia and is recognised as one of the leading furniture exhibitions in South East Asia. It attracts thousands of professional buyers from Indonesia, Asia, Europe and the world.

From March 9 to 12, 2018, the fifth edition of IFEX will be held at the Jakarta International Expo venue. Carrying the theme "The Essence of Infinite Innovation", the upcoming IFEX

2018 will feature a wide range of products from around 500 exhibitors showcasing finest rattan, outdoor furniture and home decor in the 60,000 square-meters space.

IFEX 2018 will offer the largest range of specialty furniture and craft products which discover the perfect blend of good design and fine craftsmanship inspired by the natural wealth of Indonesia. It serves as the nation's biggest meeting place for buyers, traders, manufacturers and contract project purchasers where buyers can buy directly from the makers.



Last year, 454 exhibitors participated at the show and attracted 11,225 buyers from 111 countries. The outstanding success of previous year's event confirms the growing strength and popularity of Indonesian furniture in the global market and has set the stage for an even larger show during the upcoming edition.



IFEX, the biggest business-to-business (B2B) furniture and craft exhibition in Indonesia, will be hosted by the Indonesia Furniture Industry and Craft Association (HIMKI) in collaboration with Dyandra Promosindo.

HIMKI Chairman, Ir. Soenoto, said that IFEX is the proper exhibition for the local manufactures to show off and has managed to establish itself as the much awaited exhibition for global and local furniture and craft industry players. He continued, "There is many efforts to introduce IFEX to global audience, and beginning to gain promising results. Each and every year we receive positive feedbacks from both local and international buyers and industry players."

IFEX 2018 will be the right event to introduce the excellence of Indonesian products. It serves as the perfect momentum for local manufacturers to display their finest products to global buyers. European, American, Asian and African markets highly value Indonesian rattan-based and wood-based furniture.

International Furniture Fair Singapore



Regarded by industry experts as Asia's premier design-led sourcing platform, the International Furniture Fair Singapore (IFFS) will be taking place from March 8 to 11, 2018 at the Singapore EXPO. Co-located with the ASEAN Furniture Show and NOOK Asia, beyond, IFFS 2018 expects to house a comprehensive portfolio of quality international exhibitors from over 30 countries, and features a diverse range of design-rich pieces across the entire furniture ecosystem that will attract over 20,000 trade professionals across the globe.

Combining timeless favourites and new features, visitors can expect innovative and inspired design and high-quality furniture, interiors and fittings as IFFS remains committed to curate a multi-sensorial show experience that introduces technology, celebrates design and facilitates connections.

To enhance its position as the region's international benchmark for furniture trade exhibitions and to embrace a transformative approach based on digital technology, IFFS 2018 will be the first furniture trade exhibition within the region to launch the augmented reality (AR) zone. Adopting this simulation technology, 20 leading exhibitors will showcase an expanded product range and extend their brand presence beyond the physical constraints of their booths. Visitors can enjoy an interactive 4D experience of participating exhibitors' products by scanning the respective logos on the Show Directory with their smartphones.

The visually attractive and aesthetically pleasing curated space by renowned architect Giulio Cappellini, themed as "The Italian New Renaissance" will also

be unveiled at the IFFS 2018. The idea is to recreate a typical Italian noble house where all environments will be displayed around the courtyard,

including the living room, kitchen, dining room and the bedroom. Visitors can look forward to an immersive experience by walking through the classic line of rooms, a

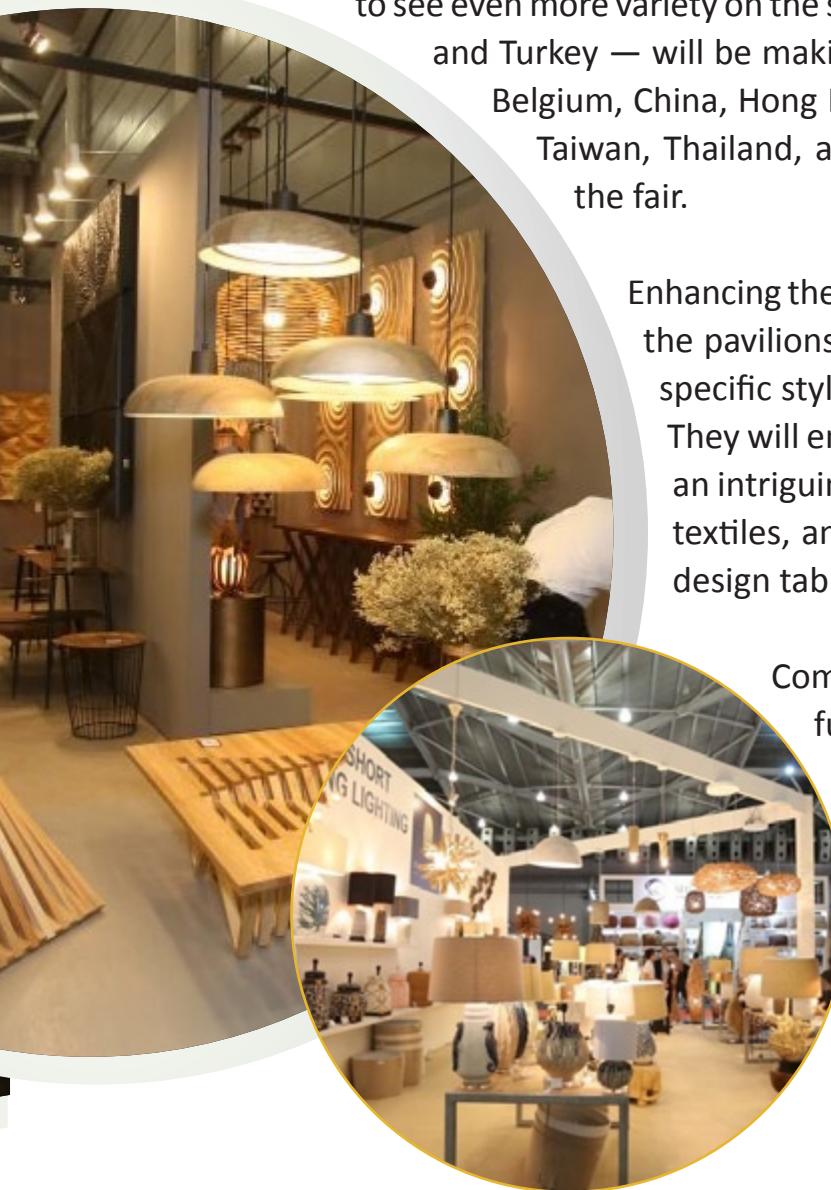


container of great atmosphere in which reviving emotions, colours and finishing - typical of the noblest Italian tradition as in the villas of the Renaissance.

With a record-breaking total of 15 National Pavilions at IFFS 2018, visitors can expect to see even more variety on the show floor. Four countries — France, Japan, Portugal, and Turkey — will be making their debuts at the event. 11 other countries — Belgium, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Italy, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam — are familiar favourites returning to the fair.

Enhancing the fair's position as a truly international trade platform, the pavilions will allow visitors to easily narrow their search for specific styles or for products from certain geographic regions. They will engage visitors with chic, contemporary showcases of an intriguing array of furniture, interior lighting, finished home textiles, and decorative accessories such as pottery, high-end design tableware, and cutlery.

Commenting on the show's focus to deliver a more fulfilling show experience, Mr Ernie Koh, Chairman of IFFS Pte Ltd, said, "We're injecting new perspectives this year by working with some of the design industry's best minds and weaving the latest technological advances into the fair. It's a pivotal move in IFFS' development as Asia's premier sourcing event, and it'll help to keep things fresh for both the participating exhibitors and visiting buyers."



Kiev International Furniture Forum

One of the most significant events in the furniture and interior design markets of Ukraine, covering all segments in modern and classical design, the KIFF – Kiev International Furniture Forum is going to be held this year from March 12 to 15, 2018 at Kiev International Exhibition Centre (IEC).



KIFF is the largest and furniture and interior design trade show in the territory of Ukraine. Exhibitors can get significant experience by showcasing their products at KIFF. The show will figure out the advantageous situation in the furniture market, growing activity of the retail sector, positive dynamic of the furniture industry development and much more. KIFF has the timeless interest to the quality and

style made in Italy, moreover, the show has the collaboration, common events with the leading Ukrainian and foreign mass media. The leading furniture fair in Ukraine embodying all aspects of modern market, an unmistakable navigator in the world of ideas and trends, a launching platform for the manufacturers of furniture, lighting, interior design items.

Due to an optimal organisation of the exhibition space, well -focused advertising campaign and new ways of products promotion and sales, KIFF will become an ideal meeting place for manufacturers, distributors, salons and showrooms, designers and architects.

KIFF 2018 offers:

- target audience: designers, architects, wholesale and retail buyers, owners of the furniture showrooms, representatives of the contract sector, end consumers from all regions of Ukraine and abroad
- effective tools for one's brand promotion and business development, fruitful methods to increase the sales and generate the profits
- innovative events, installation and projects
- valuable contacts
- Buyer programs, event for the professional audience
- favorable conditions for entering the Ukrainian market

This year KIFF has arranged appropriate booth construction to present one's products effectively. There is special exposition area for Ceramic Tile manufacturers.



The show is hosting some special projects, events, contests and exposition in KIFF this year. Some of them are:

The Italian exposition of KIFF will reflect the elegant style and refined way of life, sophisticated and welcoming atmosphere, where the Italian factories will present their new products: furniture, lighting, decor and interior design items, floor coverings, ceramics, household appliances, - all excellence of Made in Italy. The Italian exposition is organised in close cooperation with Federlegno Arredo Eventi Spa., organiser of the International fairs (Italy), among which Salone del Mobile in Milan, iSaloni World Wide Moscow.



Kitchen Trend SET is demonstrative and communication platform for the suppliers and manufacturers of kitchen furniture and objects for kitchen space arrangement, designers and architects, developers and suppliers of household appliances. Specialised Forum will highlight visual products presentations and ready interior solutions of modern kitchen space organisation. While in the central auditorium in the format of presentations and discussion there will be identified the trends of modern kitchen arrangement.

Ukrainskyi Prostir is the project, allowing young Ukrainian companies to present all their

capabilities. It's a unique synergy of materials, design and production. The prospective Ukrainian companies in strate co-operation with designers and architects will present trendy products - the original, fashionable, comfortable, and most importantly – the products produced in Ukraine. The project is organised in partnership with the companies Furniture Technologies and BLUM.

The Best Furniture of Ukraine - UPGRADE! The most prestigious contest of the furniture industry in Ukraine is updated and is coming to the international arena! From now on, it's BEST MEBEL UA, presenting not only the best products by the Ukrainian furniture manufacturers, who successfully implement modern design and use different production solutions, but also the event allowing to show one's achievements to the professional audience from other countries.

Buyer Program, organised within the frames of KIFF, guarantees the presence of industry professionals not only from all over Ukraine, but also from near and far abroad (Kazakhstan, Moldova, Bulgaria and other countries), allowing the exhibitors to expand the geography of their activity. Numerous events and design projects are organised together with the leading specialised editions of Ukraine (Salon, ID.Interior, Dom and Interior, Le Classique, Prima Interior, NM House, Domus magazines etc.); lectures, presentations and workshops to be held by the world famous guru of design.



Mobile Expo



MOBILA Expo, the show gives the opportunities to explore and innovate and offers the platform to choose one's own home style. The show will run from March 8 to 11, 2018. This event is dedicated to the general public, offering a wide variety of classical and modern house and office furniture, sofas, arm chairs and mattresses. Mobila Expo 2018 will take place in one of the new exhibition areas that Romexpo has opened in the fall of 2017 – Pavilion B1! With a total area of 11,905 square meters, the Pavilion B1 is the ideal location for hosting international fairs and exhibitions.

The show is different because it comes on the Romanian market with a new approach, offering the visitors the opportunity to purchase the exhibited items, while benefiting, at the same time, from special offers and discounts which are only available for orders and contract signed at the fair. Mobila has some particular goals and mottos. Like: The pre-event publicity of the exhibitor companies' offers and discounts by means of the event's website and special newsletters.



The show has also a target of increased number of sales in a short period of time. The show is held at the biggest Exhibition Centre in Romania, ground zero for the trade fairs and exhibitions market of the country. This event comes to complete the facilities and services offered by the trade fairs and exhibitions which are organised at the same time: Construct Expo, Ambient Expo, Romtherm, Romenvirotec, Expo Flowers & Garden and Antique Market. These milestone events have gathered, in 2017, over 480 exhibiting companies from 21 countries, on a total surface of 18,000 sqm, while being the main point of interest for over 20,000 visitors, both specialised and from the general public.

The meeting provides a highly valuable educational experience and an opportunity to network with primary minds in the field, as well as an international community of around 17000 Furniture and Home Furnishings & Home Textiles professionals from every subspecialty.



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Interior Design Oman

Interior Design Oman (IDO) is a décor, design and lifestyle exhibition happening alongside The BIG Show Oman. It covers the spectrum of products and services required for the design, fit out, and upgrade of residential, hospitality, office, and retail spaces.

The show will introduce three sub-sectors: Artisan, which features a variety of designer, modern, and ethnic handmade crafts and objets d'art; Contemporary Collection, which focuses on contemporary





furniture design; and Sleep, which showcases bedding, mattresses, linen, and related furnishing, fittings and accessories. Oman is experiencing a surge of investment in tourism, hospitality and infrastructure, which are, in turn, contributing to the expansion of the building, construction and interior design industry. Interior design is presently benefitting from these ever-expanding markets, which are now billion-dollar industries. A large percentage of budgets and investment are being directed towards the interiors and interior products and services segment, resulting from the influx of new luxury, boutique, high-end retailers and property.

Interior Design Oman (IDO) will attract the leading names from Oman, GCC region and international market offering a broad range of products and services required for the design, fit out, and upgrade of residential, hospitality, office, and retail spaces. The products and services that will be showcased include:

- Furniture and Furnishing** - IDO will feature an elegant selection of products and services ranging from rugs and carpets, curtains and drapery, fabric, and upholstery to beds, bed linen, bed frames, sofas, dining tables, and more. All these will add the final and most vital touches to complete a home, office or hotel, and create style and liven up the ambience of your living, dining and bedroom spaces.
- Lightings** – One can create an enhanced atmosphere and embellish one's living and work spaces by adding various options for lighting.

Visitors get witness to the latest stylish interior light fixtures from top brands for commercial lighting, such as area lights, emergency and exit lights, shop and strip lights, wall packs and wraparound lights; home lighting for your living room, hallway, dining room and bedroom, such as ceiling lights, chandeliers, floor and table lamps, lamp shades, and bar lights.

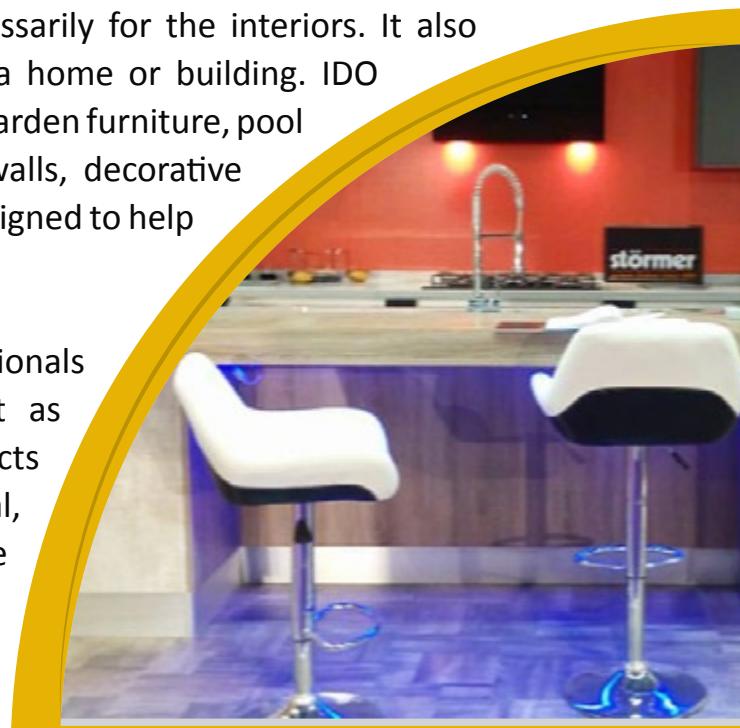
For outdoor lighting, there are area lights, landscape lights, security lights, deck lights, wall lights and post lighting to brighten up your landscape as well as ensure security. Accent and decorative lighting also helps to give your spaces cosy and elegant illumination.

- **Decorative Objects**
- **Kitchen and Bathroom** - The kitchen and bathroom, whether home or hospitality, are often overlooked spaces in interior design. Care should be taken in order to transform these spaces into places of beauty and comfortable and cosy retreats.

From small to big kitchens and bathrooms, from simple to extravagant ones, take ideas and inspiration from the display of the latest furniture, lighting, and objets d'art that will help your spaces become more inviting and functional.

- **Outdoor Design** - Interior design is not necessarily for the interiors. It also applies to exterior or outdoor environments of a home or building. IDO presents outdoor design ideas with a collection of garden furniture, pool systems, water features, tiles, lighting, feature walls, decorative torches, planters, day beds, and many more, all designed to help one explore outdoor living ideas.

IDO will attract interior design industry professionals from Oman, regional and international market as well as the buyers who are seeking design products and services for residential, office, commercial, retail and hospitality segments. It is a unique platform that will bring the service providers say the interior designers, manufacturers, suppliers and distributors, and the decision makers from the buyers' side face-to-face for exchange of information and networking leading to increased business opportunities.



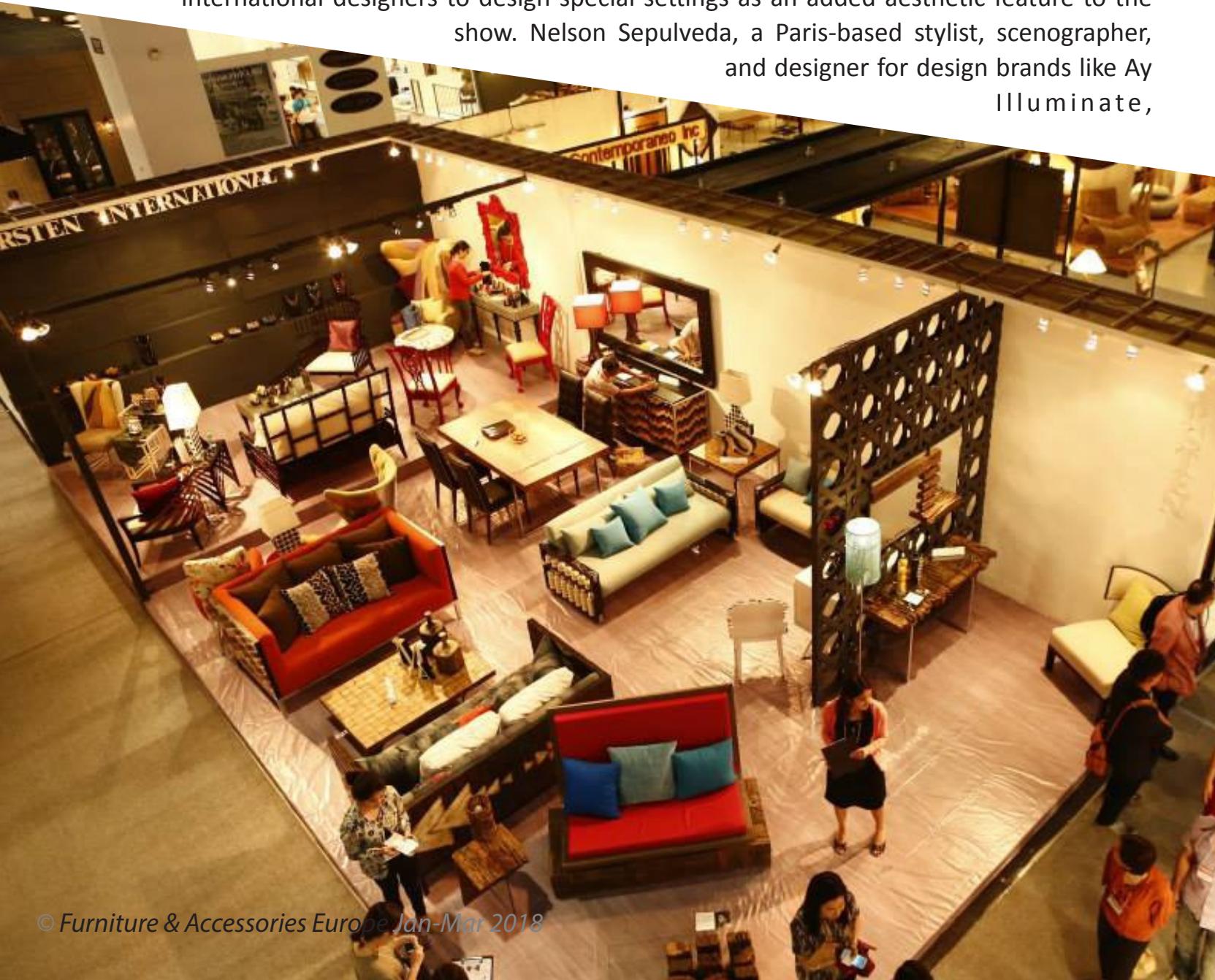
Philippines International Furniture Show

The show, a celebration of Filipino creativity and ingenuity, is going to kick off its gates this year from March 8 to 10, 2018 at the SMX Convention Centre in Manila. The show is completely dedicated to the talent and craftsmanship of Filipinos. For many years, Filipino designers have had a reputation for creativity and innovative use of natural fibres and locally available raw materials. International design trends currently lean very heavily on 'green' production and natural feel, so the Philippines is ideally placed to meet the demand being set internationally for clean lined contemporary resort style furniture.



The companies that participate at PIFS are also keen to meet the demand created by the boom in development of tourism projects within the Philippines. These local manufacturers and designers are confident that they can meet the demands of city centre hotels, island retreats and eco lodges.

Three main furniture trade associations in the country – the Cebu Furniture Industries Foundation Inc. (CFIF), the Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP) and the Pampanga Furniture Industries Foundation (PFIF) are going to organise the show. Last year, PIFS collaborated with two international designers to design special settings as an added aesthetic feature to the show. Nelson Sepulveda, a Paris-based stylist, scenographer, and designer for design brands like Ay Illuminate,



ABC Pottery, and Cinq Étoiles has curated a special showcase inside the exhibition hall. And Shigeki Fukuda, a designer from Tokyo and Founder of Latitude Ltd. organised a lobby setting featuring hand-picked pieces from the exhibitors. At the show, the top ten foreign countries represented during the show were, by rank: United States of America, Singapore, Japan, Malaysia, United Arab Emirates, China, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Germany and India.

PIFS is known as a show of great variety, a place where young designers work alongside their well-known colleagues; it is where technologically advanced manufacturing is displayed beside the traditional hand crafted, where one-off high design meets world standard bulk manufacturing. It is as varied and diverse as their islands, it truly reflects the Philippines. Over 6,000 trade visitors of around 40 countries are participating this year. The great and the good in Filipino design and furniture manufacturing will gather together to show just what their industry can do, and to demonstrate why they have a worldwide reputation for excellence and innovation.



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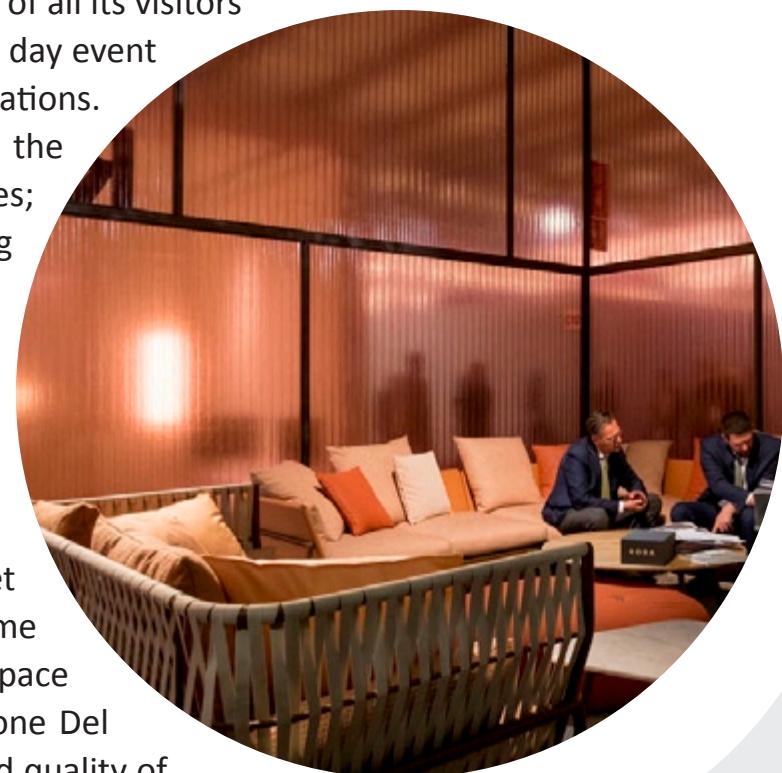
Salone Del Mobile.Milano

Salone Del Mobile.Milano is going to open up its doors from April 17 to 22, 2018 with over 2,000 exhibitors participating at the fair. The global benchmark for the home furnishing sector, the fair is a platform of classic and modern design, a trendsetter of the latest and innovative - showcasing thousands of home furnishing, lighting, collective workspace products, and exotic furniture.

Preparations are in full swing for the next edition of the Salone del Mobile.Milano, which will be back from this April 2018 with a packed programme of innovations, appointments and surprises. All unmissable.

“Design is emotion. Milan is the heart it springs from. What connects these two things is the Salone del Mobile, which creates new frameworks and hosts new creativity at each edition, because the important thing is that this event is not simply the leading showcase of both Italian and foreign furnishing and design, it also shines a light onto developments within the industry. The Salone del Mobile’s great strength is that it is the best demonstration of creativity and also the most important business attraction. This is how we work together to strengthen Milan’s role as the global capital of shared culture, design and innovation”, said Claudio Luti, President of the Salone del Mobile. More than 2,000 exhibitors will be presenting outstanding products and solutions for contemporary

living with an informed eye to the future and which combine design, technology, flexibility and sustainability. A vast array of exhibits that marry quality and creativity, thanks to the hard work, commitment and investment in research of the top companies within the sector. The Salone made its first appearance in 1961, designed to promote Italian furniture and furnishing accessories on the export market, and it has continued to do so, with half of all its visitors coming from around the world. The six day event will showcase distinguished innovations. Manufacturers at the fair will be from the sector of bedrooms; beds; wardrobes; dining rooms, dining nooks and living rooms; hall furniture; children's furniture; occasional furniture; tables and chairs; rush and rattan furniture; upholstered furniture. The iSaloni is formed on the furniture and interior fashion trends that are determined by the development of the furniture market in the upcoming years. Thousands of home furnishing, lighting and collective workspace products will be previewed at the Salone Del Mobile, which thanks to the variety and quality of its exhibits, is held year after year.



The Salone Internazionale del Mobile is being held concurrently with the International Furnishing Accessories Exhibition again this year, split into the following style categories: Classic: Tradition in the Future, Design and xLux. The two annual exhibitions this year are flanked by the biennial EuroCucina and its collateral event FTK (Technology

For the Kitchen) and the International Bathroom Exhibition bringing together an increasing number of companies from both sectors that recognise the great value of business and connections.

As always, the concepts at EuroCucina and FTK (Technology For the Kitchen) determine the trends and spark inspiration: tomorrow's kitchen will be an interconnected, multipurpose and professional place, yet one where emotions always run high. What distinguishes the furnishing and built-in appliances that mark out the kitchen as the central hub of the home, the true original domestic hearth, are contemporary design, technological innovation, next generation performance, energy efficiency and ease of use. Shapes, colours and materials will help designate the kitchen as a place for conviviality and socialising, working and interacting with the outside world at all times of the day. Equally, the wide range of extremely high-end products at the International Bathroom Exhibition caters to the increasingly pressing demand for high-performance products geared to rest and relaxation. This edition will highlight, as never before, the companies' innovative focus on sustainability. Cutting edge products for modern bathrooms reflect today's strong demand for efficiency and energy saving, with the accent on water efficiency, indoor pollution prevention and personal health. Needless to say, there has been no



skipping on the ergonomics, colours and accessories that stimulate the emotions and underscore the feeling of wellness achieved in this particular space.

The 21st edition of SaloneSatellite, dedicated to the under-35s, has chosen a powerful and fascinating theme: "Africa / Latin America: Rising Design – Design Emergente". Young designers from all over the world will present work harnessing the new technologies and craftsmanship, a return to the origins of design and contemporary influences. SaloneSatellite will thus throw the spotlight on the Southern Hemisphere: Africa and Latin America are both enormous melting pots of creativity and design and, therefore, of inspiration. This year marks the 9th edition of the SaloneSatellite Award, geared to the interface between demand and supply, between entrepreneurs and designers, and between creativity and manufacturing.

The 57th edition of the Salone del Mobile will also extend into the city, spreading its wings into the heart of Milan with an important event, testament to the fact that there is more to the fair than just business. Far from it. There is a burning desire not to neglect the importance of emotions, of dreams, of everyday life, and of the beauty of the world around us. A distinguished curator will take visitors along a sensory path in search of wonder and surprise, an immersive experience that will awaken all five senses.



VIFA EXPO



Vietnam International Furniture and Home Accessories Fair – the VIFA EXPO 2018 is a specialised exhibition for all kinds of furniture and furniture accessories, a meeting forum to generate new ideas in interior design, interior architecture, woodworking machine and materials suppliers and furniture. This year the show is going to kick off its gates from March 7 to 10 at Saigon Exhibition and Convention Centre, Vietnam. The exhibition aims to bring together different styles, classic and contemporary furniture. To create a variety of opportunities helping the customer find answers or make a choice among the selection of leading Vietnamese producers and representatives of foreign brands.



Since 2007, VIFA EXPO are held together, thus enabling businesses and end-consumers to see everything for furniture industry in one place – from machinery and equipment for furniture production, plus material and accessories, up to finished products.

The latest edition of both exhibitions had 9,635 local and international visitors from 82 countries and territories. The exhibitions were attended by 253 local and international companies that presented their products and services over a total exhibition space of 19,000 sq m with 1,243 booths. This year in 2018, with the scheduled scale of over 2,000 booths in a total area of 30,000 sq m, the buyers will easily find expected products with competitive prices and establish business directly with expected 350 exhibitors of the fair. Foreign visitors are from more than 79 countries and territories.

VIFA EXPO offers quality furniture at discounted prices. They have famous brands of sofas, beds, mattresses, dining tables, chairs, and other pieces of furniture. With one decades in the business as fair organisation, VIFA EXPO has established strong relationships with the trusted furniture brands in the world. The show connects the Vietnamese and International companies together, so that they will make more chances and profits.

VIFA EXPO strives to beat the competitive prices of other retail furniture stores in the world. The show

can help one find the best deal for a sofa, bed, table, kids and office furniture, or any other item one is looking for in furniture fair.

Vietnam's wood processing and furniture manufacturing have typical tradition in the history. And they are officially known as an industry about 15 years ago. In 2015, Vietnam exported 6.9 billion worth of wooden furniture products, an increase of 10.7% over 2014, turning Vietnam into the 5th biggest wooden furniture exporter in the world after China, Germany, Italy and Poland. Vietnamese producers place increasing emphasis on innovating their technology so as to improve productivity while staying economical, thereby satisfying market's requirements in terms of both quality and quantity. Moreover, not only do Vietnam's businesses pay attention onto the quality of its product hardware, but efforts are also focused on products' ecological quality.

VIFA EXPO is a most wide platform that gives plenty of opportunities to explore and showcase both for visitors and exhibitors. Visitors can meet and establish business directly with hundred of exhibitors in the fair. The exhibitors will be ready to take their potential customers to have a visit at their showroom/factory. Hundred of new products and designs will be displayed at the fair. Moreover, the exhibitors will be ready to make samples upon demands.

With a well-organised and professional international fair such as VIFA-EXPO, exhibiting can be the most efficient, effective and successful marketing activity for all exhibitors. Exhibitors can create the chance to have hundreds of face to face meeting while also benefiting from brand exposure and thought provoking seminars. The show gives exhibitors the opportunity to not only show products or describe service, but also create that all important first impression to enhance a company's image or brand. Joining VIFA-EXPO, exhibitors can reach targeted customers and exploring new potential markets.





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DIFAC



Exhibitors from all over the world will showcase their latest products and innovations at the second edition of Dubai International Furniture Accessories & Components & Semi- Furnished Products (DIFAC) Show, to be held from March 12 to 14, 2018, in conjunction with Dubai WoodShow 2018 at the Dubai World Trade Center, Dubai, UAE.

The exhibition showcases innovative furniture technologies, products and brands. At display by the global players of the furniture industry, it gives the visitors a chance to educate themselves about the latest products in surfaces and fittings, elements and systems, semi-finished products and materials, furniture fabrics and upholstery materials.

The addition of 55,000 new housing units in Dubai in 2017-18 will boost the region's US\$17.7 billion fit-out sector as thousands of families move into their freehold homes that require furniture, household items as well as interior décor products.

A total of 25,000 residential units are expected to be delivered in Dubai this year and a further 30,000 in 2018, according to Jones Lang LaSalle, a global real estate advisory.

According to Ventures Middle East research, interior-based design and fit-out spend in the GCC has risen from \$15.5 billion in 2016 to \$17.7 billion this year.

In order to capture this growing market, more than 300 exhibitors from 100 countries are all set to showcase their innovative solutions at the next edition of DIFAC Show in 2018, which will showcase new designs, style and product innovation on managing home space in an innovative ways.

Dawood Al Shezawi, CEO, Strategic Marketing and Exhibitions, organiser of the DIFAC, says, "As the economic growth accelerates with an increase in oil price, we see a strong growth in the region's furnishing, accessories, components, interior fit-out, home furnishing, home textile sectors, especially when home buyers move into their new homes, they are expected to spend more on decorating their homes to suite their tastes. DIFAC provides a wonderful opportunity for the industry and other stakeholders to showcase the best on offer in the market."

Shezawi says, the growth of the furniture and interior fit-out industry will also be driven by innovation and creativity and the greater comfort



and convenience provide by the manufacturers to the home owners.

He added, "Smart furniture or space-saving furniture that helps families to save space would be in high demand in the years to come, or foldable or wall-mounted beds that could be tucked on to the wall during the daytime and released through a lever to be used as a bed at night, offer greater convenience and extra space within a small budget home."

In addition to the residential sector, Dubai will add 40,000 hotel rooms and service apartments to meet the growing demand of tourists as part of the build-up to the Expo 2020, which is less than three years away.

Dubai currently has 100,000 hotel rooms and service apartments. By October 2020, the emirate will host 140,000 hotel rooms and service apartments.

Shezawi remarks, "Hotels and hospitality assets are also customising their interior décor based on customer choice and trends. While some opt for traditional look and feel, others are looking at young and trendy as well as green products to make hotels more environment-friendly. Hotel operators also look for wall paintings, stuffs like flower vases and fresh flowers, small water fountains and water features to offer freshness within the four walls. Customer tastes will also create a demand for new products in these sectors."

DIFAC is attended by senior management and decision makers from the furniture industry who are seeking to develop new trade opportunities and establish strong business partnerships. The show acts as the perfect networking platform where both local and international professionals interact and exchange valuable know how, information and new ideas.





3F Furniture Fair

The Famous International Furniture Fair in Dongguan, commonly known as 3F, is the semi-annual event and regarded as the representative of furniture exhibition in China.

More than 70% of the leading furniture manufacturers from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan unite under the name of 3F and are committed to bring to the visitors an unparalleled furniture experience. This year the show is going to take place at Guang Fong Modern International Exhibition Center, Houjie, China from March 16 to 20.

This furniture fair basically showcases every essential category in the segments like Living room furniture, Dining room furniture, Bedroom furniture, Office furniture, Children furniture, Upholstered furniture, Woodworking machinery, Hardware furniture accessories, Furniture components, Paints and sprays, Wood and plywood, Veneer.

3F Furniture Fair Dongguan is one of the finest furniture sector trade shows in China. The event enjoys the official support of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council and the Ministry of Commerce of China and is attended by an impressive number of industry leaders and decision makers from this sector. The popularity of the event can be gauged by the fact that more than 1,02,700 visitors participate in the event on a regular basis. A vast range of home furniture items, decoration equipments, textiles, lighting accessories, upholstery items and other related products are put on exhibit at the show and informative seminars and conference sessions are also held here. The event boasts of more than 10,520 foreign attendees as well. Over 1,022 exhibiting companies are present at the show, which is held over a period of five days.

The fair draws in more than 1,022 exhibiting companies, looking to showcase a large array of furniture products and accessories to the visitors at the show. Some of the main items of exhibit at the show are living room furniture, bedroom furniture, wall decorations and woodworking tools. Lighting accessories, home textiles, carpets, upholstery items and home decoration themes are also showcased here. Other high quality home furnishing products and components are exhibited during the event as well. Several top companies come to exhibit at the show, including Carve Furniture Co. Ltd and Nanyi Furniture Factory.



Export Furniture Exhibition



Export Furniture Exhibition held in Malaysia, better known as EFE among the industry professionals, is scheduled for its 14th edition of the fair to be held from March 9 to 12, 2018. The show will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Malaysia's leading convention centre, strategically located in the heart of Kuala Lumpur.

Growing bigger and better with each year, the four-day event will be spread over 35,000 square meters of exhibition area. With a comprehensive portfolio of over 350 high quality exhibitors from Malaysia and the region, the show will feature a diverse range of products with design-rich variety and a wide range of furniture and fittings. Exhibitors will get the opportunity to reach retailers, interior designers, contract buyers, architects, developers and more.

EFE 2018 is expecting quality buyers from over 140 countries. Visitors will find all the main Malaysian and many international brands at the show, giving them a complete in-depth representation of all that is available in the furniture and furnishings industry today. EFE also offers Buyer Introduction Program to international buyers who visit EFE for the first time.

The Professional Designers Programme, making its 3rd debut (PDP3) at EFE 2018 will excite and engage visitors with contemporary showcases of intriguing array of furniture inspired by European and Australian designers including our local designers from Tanggam. Hosted by the Malaysian Timber Industry Board (MTIB), PDP has since added value to the event and has progressively brand Malaysian furniture designs internationally.

This bodes well for Malaysia as a nation and its designers for their creativity in furniture design.

In encouraging furniture design, the Malaysian Furniture Creativity Award (MFC Award) takes on a new upgraded name, replacing its past 'Best Product Design Award'. MFC Award aims to showcase Malaysian companies' creativity in furniture design along with its innovation skills and talents by the industry players. This award will not only brand and promote Malaysian products internationally but will also be for business growth. It is also an avenue to our aspiring Malaysian designers to show their talents and creativity.

EFE 2018 promises to give a latest display of top quality modern and contemporary furniture showcasing the latest designs for bedrooms, living areas, kitchen, children, office, outdoor living, hotel lounges including furniture parts and accessories. Regarded by industry experts as one of Asia's premier sourcing platform, EFE is known to be a great show that attracts great customers, providing a platform for incredible trade opportunities.





Furnidec Business



The international furniture exhibition, Furnidec Business, is scheduled from March 9 to 11, 2018, at the Thessaloniki International Exhibition and Conference Center. Furnidec Business is a meeting point for all businessmen in the furniture and decoration industry and at the same time gives the opening mark for the new exhibition year. Its steady goal remains a successful event that will meet the needs and requirements of exhibitors and visitors.

Particular importance is given to the targeted and complete promotion of the "made in Greece" furniture as well as to the smart and flexible proposals that meet the specifications of each project. The presence of the areas of interior and industrial design is also important with suggestions and alternatives that correspond to the facts that are shaped by the modern way of life.

A key element of excellence and a distinctive feature of Furnidec Business is the diversity in the categories and styles of products and services that are presented. Besides, the wide range of visitors includes professionals coming from different sectors, such as furniture and decorators, as well as architects, designers and hoteliers.

For the last edition in 2017, Furnidec Business recorded visitors surpassing 6,000 – the final figure were 6,170 visitors. Significant was the presence of foreign business visitors from Albania, Australia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Germany, FYROM, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Spain, the Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

At the same time, hosted buyers amounted to 155, representing the largest brands in the furniture and furnishing industries.

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FOR INTERIOR



The ninth edition of FOR INTERIOR, the international trade fair for furniture, interiors and home accessories, was held from October 5 to 8, 2017. Domestic producers, representatives of foreign brands, as well as small and larger interior studios, showcased their product offerings in four exhibition halls.

The opening ceremony was greeted by the presence of many special guests: vice president of the Chamber of Commerce and president of the Czech Confederation of Commerce and Tourism

Marta Nováková, director of the office of the Minister of Finance Milena Hrdinková, Deputy Managing Director of CzechTourism Miroslav Klusák Chairman and ABF, Inc. Pavel Sehnal.

FOR INTERIOR has evolved into the largest and most prestigious trade fair of furniture, interiors and home accessories on the Czech market. A total of 252 exhibitors participated at the show, of which there were 15 foreign exhibitors representing 7 countries. The autumn edition of the fair was attended by 29,724 visitors.

Visitors had the opportunity to get acquainted with current trends and novelties, compare a wide range and choose from a variety of styles and materials.

Supporters of natural materials, timeless style and wellness facilities learned more in the Well-Being Living exhibition – “Green Island” and in the follow-up lectures.

The accompanying program included:

- Seminar WATER TRENDS: AWARENESS OR WITH OWN ORIGINAL STYLE?
- Design of the house and its interior according to the principles of Feng Shui
- Best of Interior 2016
- Well-Being Living
- WOODEN BRIDGES by Martina Patřičného
- Housing consultant and professional consultant florists



Decofair Jeddah



Organised by Reed Sunaidi Exhibitions, Decofair 2017 took place from November 6 to 9 at the Jeddah Hilton Hotel. The ninth edition of the fair was inaugurated by HRH Prince Fahd bin Muqrin bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

Decofair is Saudi Arabia's exclusive international design trade show. It is a platform for industry professionals and high net worth individuals looking to source products and do business. They also get the opportunity to know about latest design trends from around the world.

Decofair 2017 welcomed more than 6,000 attendees and featured the first professional design awards in Saudi Arabia, Decofair Design Awards. The awards are endorsed by the Architectural Committee-Jeddah Chamber of Commerce.

The show presented 118 exhibiting brands from 10 countries, including Italy, Portugal, France, Turkey, Egypt, and many other countries. Among the exhibitors present, 31% were from Furniture sector, 12% from Lighting sector, 27% from Home Decoration, and 28% from Design Materials & Services.

91% of exhibitors were satisfied with the quality of visitors at the event. Helder Barbosa, CEO of Douro Deck from Portugal, commented, "It's my first time here in Decofair, I think the result is positive, I like so much the people here. The visitors were interested in our products. I had good and positive connections."

86% of exhibitors said they found new clients and new partners. Bora Ozdemir, Owner of Barbo Design, Turkey, said, "This is our first time in Decofair and we like it a lot, actually the quality of the visitors is quite high. So, it's definitely above our expectations. We would like to enter furniture market in Saudi Arabia and Decofair introduced us well."

Among the visitors, 73% of them came to Decofair to make deals and meet with companies they are considering doing business with. 41% of trade visitors were either business owners, high net worth individuals or decision makers.

Decofair 2017 also saw the second edition of the Business Matchmaking Program. It connected trade visitors and investors with exhibitors, where buyers can schedule their meetings before the show. This edition received 317 attendees.



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Northern Lighting relaunches itself as lifestyle brand Northern



Northern Lighting will no longer be a designer and producer of lights alone. With the launch of new lifestyle brand Northern, the company will now produce a remarkably broader repertoire of products offering a fresh vision for

Nordic design.

Ove Rogne, founder and CEO of design studio Northern Lighting, announces, "Northern was born out of Northern Lighting. Furniture and interior accessories are a natural fit, allowing us to explore our ideas in a whole new scale."

Launching on February 6, 2018 at the Stockholm Furniture Fair, Northern will be launching a holistic range of furniture, lighting and interior accessories that add flexibility and creativity to the interior. The new brand launches with products from leading designers as well as up-and-coming rookies, making the debut collection democratic in style and playful in tone.

The Northern brand is characterised by a bold approach to shape and materials while addressing the consumer need for understated

luxury and multi-purpose products. Although Northern's style resonates with classic forms, the products challenge the status quo and take Scandinavian design in a fresh direction.

Kvadrat opens new flagship showroom in Copenhagen

kvadrat

Kvadrat's new Copenhagen showroom opened on November 23. Designed by Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec, it reflects the respect for materiality that characterises the company's textiles and rugs.

The new Copenhagen flagship showroom marks the latest chapter in a long collaboration between Kvadrat and Bouroullec Studio. Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec have previously designed visionary products for Kvadrat such as Clouds, Ready Made Curtain, Roller Blinds, several textiles and a rug, as well as showrooms in Stockholm and the firm's first showroom in Copenhagen.

Erwan Bouroullec says, "The concept we developed is focused on materiality, which is at the heart of the Kvadrat brand. For instance, the showroom aims to deliver total flexibility to create scenes with large pieces of textiles and rugs. Doing so provides a deep insight into

the weave, weight, transparency and quality of each design."

Large windows flank three sides of the showroom, which provides panoramic views over an industrial harbour towards the centre of Copenhagen. Inside, two opposing rows of brick walls, topped by transparent glass screens, run parallel through the heart of the space.

This layout creates a bright, airy gallery area, with the office desks on one side and shelving for textiles and rugs on the other. A conference room, kitchen, reception, bathrooms and IT room are also integrated into the space.

Ultra Violet announced as the Pantone Colour of the Year 2018



Pantone Colour Institute has announced PANTONE 18-3838 Ultra Violet as the Pantone Colour of the Year for 2018. A dramatically provocative and thoughtful purple shade, PANTONE 18-3838 Ultra Violet communicates originality, ingenuity, and visionary thinking that points us towards the future.

Leatrice Eiseman, Executive Director of the Pantone Colour Institute, said, "We are

living in a time that requires inventiveness and imagination. It is this kind of creative inspiration that is indigenous to PANTONE 18-3838 Ultra Violet, a blue-based purple that takes our awareness and potential to a higher level. From exploring new technologies and the greater galaxy, to artistic expression and spiritual reflection, intuitive Ultra Violet lights the way to what is yet to come."

Complex and contemplative, Ultra Violet suggests the mysteries of the cosmos, the intrigue of what lies ahead, and the discoveries beyond where we are now. The vast and limitless night sky is symbolic of what is possible and continues to inspire the desire to pursue a world beyond our own.

Enigmatic purples have also long been symbolic of counterculture, unconventionality, and artistic brilliance. Nuanced and full of emotion, the depth of PANTONE 18-3838 Ultra Violet symbolises experimentation and non-conformity, spurring individuals to imagine their unique mark on the world, and push boundaries through creative outlets.

Historically, there has been a mystical or spiritual quality attached to Ultra Violet. The colour is often associated with mindfulness practices, which offer a higher ground to those

seeking refuge from today's over-stimulated world. The use of purple-toned lighting in meditation spaces and other gathering places energises the communities that gather there and inspire connection.

Laurie Pressman, Vice President of the Pantone Colour Institute, remarked, "The Pantone Colour of the Year has come to mean so much more than 'what's trending' in the world of design; it's truly a reflection of what's needed in our world today."

Ultra Violet in Home Décor

In interiors, Ultra Violet can transform a room into one of extraordinary self-expression, or conversely its polish can tone down a room with subdued, modern pairings. Adding spice and brightness, Ultra Violet calls attention to a tufted couch, piece of art or accent wall. As a colour that can take someone in so many directions, Ultra Violet makes a statement in any space, whether it's one of tradition and elegance or unexpected boldness. In hospitality, we are seeing purples like Ultra Violet take center stage in interior spaces as large and small hotels harness colour and design to entice travelers and stay relevant.

Awa Lighting Series from TEO wins German Design Award

TEO – Timeless Everyday Objects – stands for



high quality products designed with a simple beauty and a passion for detail, suitable for everyday life. Its product portfolio comprises lighting, furniture and home accessories.

TEO is delighted to reveal that Awa Lighting Series, designed by Lena Billmeier and David Bau, has been honoured with the German Design Award 2018 in the category of lighting.

The Awa Series's design is inspired by inflatable Japanese construction site lamps and by the concept of blowing itself, like to blow glass or to blow up a bubble-gum. In Japanese, Awa literally means bubble and as the name refers to the soft volume of the glass body in contrast to its delicate and minimalistic fixture system.

Awa is built modular, the same fixture can be used for large and small pendants, as well as for table and floor lights.

The Jury Statement says, "The Awa provides lovely atmospheric lighting thanks to its large, convex glass luminaires. The simple frame creates an exciting contrast with the luminaire per se, and the holder connects the two elements in a harmonious and flowing fashion."

Calligaris acquires majority stake of Ditre Italia



As part of an industrial and commercial integration plan aimed to expand its presence

in the furniture sector, the Italian furniture company Calligaris has acquired a majority stake of Ditre Italia, a Treviso-based company founded in 1976 by the De Marchi family, present in the Italian market and abroad with forty years of experience in the production of upholstered furniture.

The group of Manzano (Udine), which celebrates in 2018 the ninety-fifth anniversary of its foundation, thanks to the acquisition of an 85% stake in Ditre, completes its offer and at the same time stands as a driving force for the Venetian company, thanks to its widespread distribution network scattered over ninety countries.

An acquisition marked by respect and continuity, and of which both parties seem deeply satisfied.

Michele De Marchi, second generation at the head of Ditre, continues to act as the CEO of the company and joins the Calligaris Board of Directors, in order to better communicate during the integration process.

On the other side, Alessandro Calligaris, president of the namesake company, says "I am certain that the synergies that will originate will bring a exponential growth to the Group in the context of global competition in which the so-called "critical mass" is becoming a crucial element to face the market in a effective way".

Salone del Mobile.Milano 2018 gets ready for 57th edition



Preparations are in full swing for the next edition of the Salone del Mobile.Milano, which will be back from April 17 to 22, 2018 with a packed programme of innovations, appointments and surprises.

More than 2,000 exhibitors will be presenting outstanding products and solutions for contemporary living with an informed eye to the future and which combine design, technology, flexibility and sustainability. A vast array of exhibits that marry quality and creativity, thanks to the hard work, commitment and investment in research of the top companies within the sector.

Claudio Luti, President of the Salone del Mobile, said, "Design is emotion. Milan is the heart it springs from. What connects

these two things is the Salone del Mobile, which creates new frameworks and hosts new creativity at each edition, because the important thing is that this event is not simply the leading showcase of both Italian and foreign furnishing and design, it also shines a light onto developments within the industry. The Salone del Mobile's great strength is that it is the best demonstration of creativity and also the most important business attraction. This is how we work together to strengthen Milan's role as the global capital of shared culture, design and innovation."

The Salone Internazionale del Mobile is being held simultaneously with the International Furnishing Accessories Exhibition again this year, split into the following style categories: Classic: Tradition in the Future, Design and xLux.

The two annual exhibitions this year are flanked by the biennial EuroCucina and its collateral event FTK (Technology For the Kitchen) and the International Bathroom Exhibition bringing together an increasing number of companies from both sectors that recognise the great value of business and connections.

The 21st edition of SaloneSatellite has chosen a powerful and fascinating theme: "Africa / Latin America: Rising Design – Design

Emergente". Young designers from all over the world will present work harnessing the new technologies and craftsmanship, a return to the origins of design and contemporary influences. SaloneSatellite will thus throw the spotlight on the Southern Hemisphere: Africa and Latin America are both enormous melting pots of creativity and design and, therefore, of inspiration.

Testament to this will be an exhibition on the wealth of design in both continents, for which the Latin American part will be curated by brothers Humberto and Fernando Campana, designers who have been active for some time in the social rehabilitation of marginalised people, and the African part by the Franco-Moroccan designer Hicham Lahlou, founder of the Africa Design Award & Days, committed to promoting the up-and-coming generations of African creatives. The aim is to showcase design of vernacular derivation and what is on offer today, or could be on offer, to deal with social and environmental emergencies and foster an informed way of life for the future.

Zucchetti. Kos wins 2017 GOOD DESIGN Award

The Closer collection of single-lever mixers, designed by Diego Grandi, has won the prestigious 2017 GOOD DESIGN Award in the

Bath/Accessories section.



Every year since 1950, the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design, in partnership with the European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design and Urban Studies, has assigned one of the world's most prestigious design awards, the Good Design Award, to the year's most innovative creations.

In this 67th edition, the innovative spirit of the Closer collection was selected over thousands of projects from 55 countries all over the world. This triumph once again demonstrates the excellence of the Zucchetti. Kos group's bathroom design, thanks to on-going research in technology and form for the creation of beautiful, desirable objects: proposals for the complete bathroom, capable of interpreting the demands of contemporary living, increasingly oriented toward wellness.

Harmony of form on the basis of overall equilibrium, rounded corners for a simple, ergonomic hold, joints designed to permit unimagined possibilities for rotation in space: these are the intrinsic features of the Closer project.

Dynamism, freedom and flexibility continue

to be the shower head's strong points, also applied to the design of the single-lever mixer through an unmistakable combination of joints and rotations.

The underlying conceptual matrix is designed to reinvent everyday gestures linked with water, giving form to a customisable, practical form of well-being.

Closer presents a level of comfort, practicality and aesthetic impact that goes well beyond the norm, surpassing the limitations of the classic tap. Rather than designing material, it designs water, and takes it where you want it.

Closer taps will become a part of the Chicago Athenaeum Museum's Permanent Collection and be published in the 2016-2017 Good Design Yearbook.

TON's Alba collection wins Good Design award



TON's new upholstered collection Alba, designed by Alexander Gufler and introduced at last year's Salone del Mobile trade fair, has been appreciated by industry experts once again. On occasion of the 67th Good Design awards program, the collection has won in the Furniture category.

Good Design is the oldest and most prestigious worldwide awards program in design. Established in Chicago in 1950, the awards program is organised annually by The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design in collaboration with the European Centre for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies. The program evaluates the most innovative and cutting-edge industrial, product and graphic designs from all over the world.

Jan Juza, TON's Marketing Director, says, "After being named a Winner in the German Design Award 2018 and receiving the Best New Furniture title at Designblok 2017, Alba's Good Design Award is another confirmation that we got it right with our first fully upholstered collection. In addition to the designer, we must praise our colleagues in the manufacturing department, especially the upholsterers."

One of Alba's greatest appeals is its quality and comfort, made possible by precision finishing work and the use of pocket springs and PUR foam. Used in orthopaedic mattresses, the materials allow the furniture to hold its shape and remain firm and stable even with intensive use.

The Alba collection combines timeless design with a range of fresh details. Alexander Gufler says, "Alba's defining elements are the unity of

the seat and the wooden leg construction. The bottom of the backrest hugs the base of the armchair and extends below the oval-shaped seat."

B&B Italia opens store in Shanghai



B&B Italia inaugurates a new monobrand store in Shanghai, in partnership with Area Living. B&B Italia Shanghai is situated in the beating heart of Xintiandi, one of the most exclusive districts of Shanghai, characterised by a blend of history, tradition and luxury shopping streets. Xintiandi features numerous vintage houses rebuilt or renovated in line with the traditional Chinese 'Shikumen' architecture.

The new store, designed by Citterio-Viel & Partners Interiors, is the brand's first Asian store to adopt the materials and look of the new exhibition concept first introduced in the showroom at the B&B Italia headquarters in Novegrate and subsequently used in the flagship stores of New York Madison Avenue, Paris and London. The space, covering a total surface area of approximately 700 square meters, is distributed on two floors connected by a striking circular staircase. Displaying the B&B Italia collection on the lower floor and the

Maxalto collections on the top floor, the store offers a selection of solutions for the living and sleeping areas that express the international lifestyle of the company's products. Both floors may be accessed from the shopping mall that hosts the store.

The stylistic choices, the interior project, the blend of architectural details and materials, and the interplay of light and shadow, give rise to a setting full of personality, with a strong, original and international image rich of ideas, proposals and solutions. Black and white wallpapers, sophisticated dividing elements in metal mesh, reflective false ceilings made with an innovative material, oversized back-lit scenographic backdrops and two large greenhouse like expanses of glass with luxuriant tropical plants contribute to create a unique atmosphere.

The layout presents multiple areas of different styles that range from the minimalist to the decorative, but always with the accent on contemporary living. A sophisticated interplay of architecture and graphic design, monochrome and colour, create the perfect setting for presentations with deep impact and intense atmosphere, initiating a harmonious dialogue with nature. The aim is to create ambiances evoking moods, trends and emotions rather than arranging the spaces as conventional

rooms. The setting is spontaneous, intuitive and welcoming at the same time and the resulting mood is surprising, spectacular, and expresses the refinement and elegance that is so typical of B&B Italia.

For this new opening, B&B Italia has signed a new partnership with Area Living, B&B Italia's distributor in Shanghai. Thanks to the experience of Area Living, the new store aims to be a platform of quality and professionalism, and to represent an important showcase on a market that is increasingly sensitive to design. B&B Italia Shanghai provides not only the top notch B&B Italia's collections, but also a highly qualified service to the country's customers, architects and developers, both for residential and contract projects.

Flexform Flagship Store opens in Taipei



Flexform Taipei, the first flagship store of the Italian brand in Taiwan, was inaugurated recently.

The showroom is located within an elegant residential building complex adjacent two major gateways, in an area sure to become a point of reference for culture and art and which is going to promote contemporary

design through many activities in partnership with the adjoining Jut Art Museum.

The Flexform display space benefits from a direct view onto the park and has many windows which make it light-filled besides creating a lovely interaction with the greenery outside. The interior design project takes after the retail model that mirrors so well the Flexform brand identity in its flagship stores all over the world and the showroom presents a selection of the most representative products chosen from the wide company collection.

Thanks to the opening of Flexform Taiwan, the sales network of the company in Asia grows bigger and stronger, with fourteen flagship stores which offer a comprehensive and consistent brand experience.

Two DEDON products win ICONIC AWARDS 2018



Two innovative new lighting collections: THE OTHERS by Stephen Burks and LOON by Sebastian Herkner were announced winners in the 'Innovative Interior' category.

In addition, THE OTHERS also received the much sought-after 'Best of Best' recognition.

A balloon-like reservoir of light, suspended on a pedestal of premium teak, LOON brings indoor sophistication and personality to outdoor lighting. A natural companion to Herkner's celebrated MBRACE collection, LOON has been designed to complement the entire DEDON range. A winner of the prestigious ICONIC AWARDS 2018, LOON casts a warm, ambient light that's ideal for creating atmosphere in the garden.

THE OTHERS is an anthropomorphic lantern collection that ventures into decorative art. Playful, colorful, sculptural and sophisticated, THE OTHERS consists of a variety of hand-woven lanterns that, presented individually or arranged in totem-like stacks, take on the appearance of illuminated characters. Pairs of hand-made acrylic eyes, available as accessories, gaze back at the viewer with humor, curiosity and even a little mischief.

IKEA Founder passes away



Ingvar Kamprad, the founder of IKEA and Ikano, and one of the greatest entrepreneurs of the 20th century, peacefully passed away, at his home in Småland, Sweden, on January 27. Surrounded by his loved ones, he died at the age of 91, following a short illness.

Ingvar Kamprad was born in 1926 in Småland in southern Sweden. At the early age of 17, he founded IKEA - the business that became his lifelong commitment. Ingvar's driving force was the vision of creating a better everyday life for the many people.

Torbjörn Lööf, CEO and President of Inter IKEA Group, says, "We are deeply saddened by Ingvar's passing. We will remember his dedication and commitment to always side with the many people. To never give up, always try to become better and lead by example."

Ingvar Kamprad was a great entrepreneur of the typical southern Swedish kind - hardworking and stubborn, with a lot of warmth and a playful twinkle in his eye. He worked until the very end of his life, staying true to his own motto that most things remain to be done.

Since 1988, Kamprad did not have an operational role within IKEA but he continued to contribute to the business in the role of senior advisor, sharing his knowledge and energy with the IKEA co-workers.

Jesper Brodin, CEO and President of the IKEA Group, comments, "We are mourning the loss of our founder and dear friend Ingvar. His legacy will be admired for many years to come and his vision – to create a better everyday life

for the many people – will continue to guide and inspire us."

Ingvar Kamprad will be missed and fondly remembered by his family and by IKEA and Ikano co-workers all over the world.





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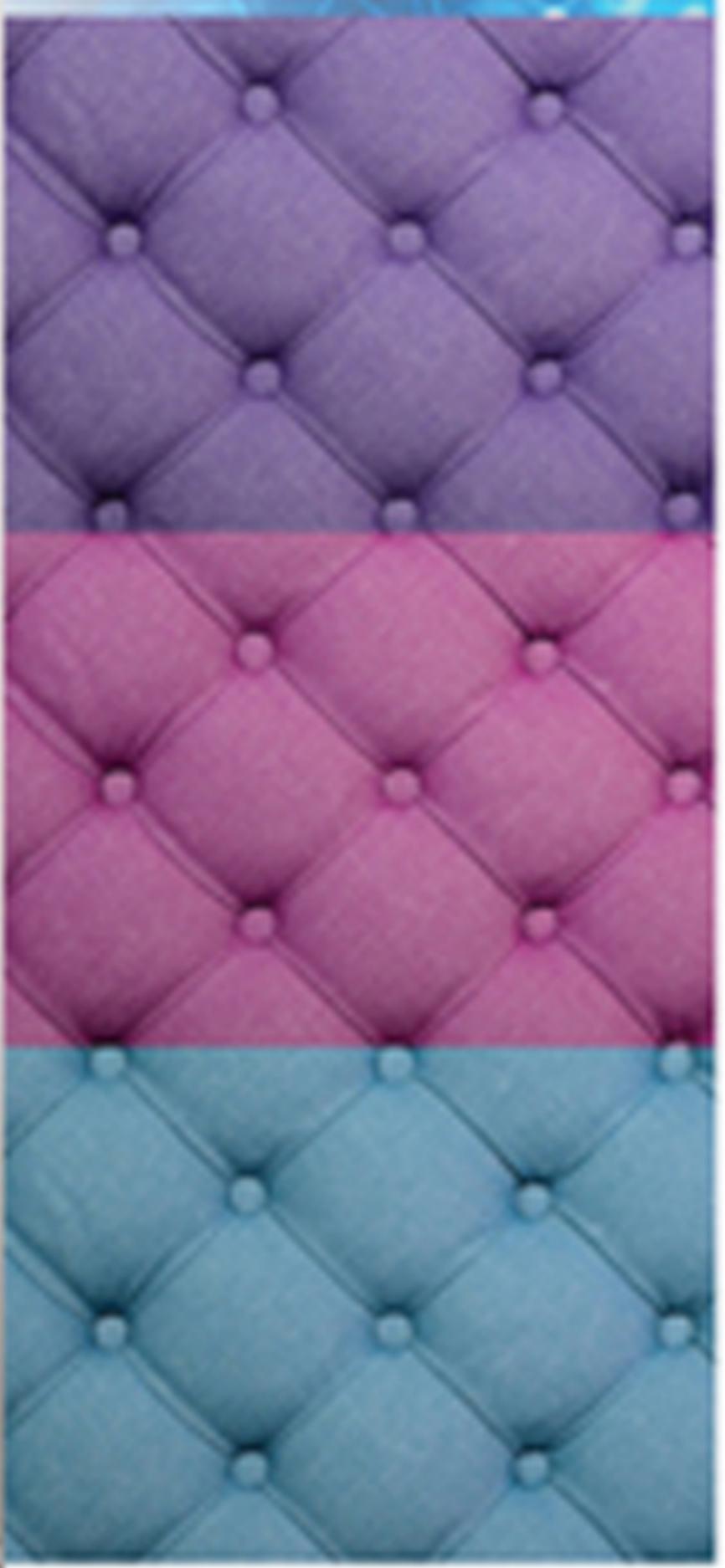


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