

designingways

ISSUE 232

7 ELEMENTS

HOSPITALITY

ON THE TERRACE



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Caesarstone's New 2020 Colours Are Here!

5810 Black Tempal

Caesarstone has been designing and manufacturing premium surfaces for three decades, becoming a beloved household name in the process. With a colour range created by specialist designers with input from the world's leading colour consultants and trend analysts, Caesarstone is perfectly suited to all interior schemes - from traditional to contemporary.

The world's original quartz surface, Caesarstone is ideal for virtually any interior surface from kitchen countertops, bathroom vanities and stairs, to wall panelling, flooring and indoor furniture. Although traditionally used for high-end residential countertops, it also offers an attractive and versatile finish for commercial and institutional buildings. Caesarstone quartz surfacing is tough enough to handle the wear-and-tear risks of high traffic interior spaces, yet beautiful enough to complement any design concept.

This non-porous engineered surface functions well as a high-performance, hygienic countertop in hospital settings or residential installations where sanitation is of the utmost importance. Its easy-to-clean, scratch-, heat - and chip-resistant qualities, combined with a timeless aesthetic appeal, also make Caesarstone the preferred surface for anyone wanting to effortlessly increase the value of their home. Investing in your kitchen is a long-term investment decision: don't compromise with a short-term saving by installing inferior products.

This innovative, design-forward brand offers the widest range of colours available in Southern Africa, carrying all the essential international certifications for health and environmental management favoured by engineers, architects and health and safety officials. Their surfaces also come with a generous warranty. Put it this way: if something goes wrong, you'll be so glad you chose Caesarstone!

While this quartz surface is commonly referred to as "Caesarstone" by retailers and buyers, please make sure you ask for (and receive) the genuine article. Caesarstone authenticity can be verified by checking the back of each slab, where serial numbers and "Caesarstone" are printed. Be sure to check with your fabricator that you are getting what you paid for.

With proven durability and style leadership, Caesarstone is the clear choice for your next renovation, new home or commercial project. Their website is also packed full of inspiration, advice and ideas.

Caesarstone is thrilled to introduce four brand new, forward-thinking designs to their palette: 4735 Oxidian, 5810 Black Tempal, 4043 Primordia and 5151 Empira White.

www.caesarstone.co.za



5151 Empira White (20mm)
Supernatural Collection

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*Shade, movement and graining of actual product may vary from sample or image. We recommend that you select your preferred slabs at the distributor nearest you.

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by Stadl Art

Stadl Art is a lighting company that specializes in hand-made artistic lighting pieces. The artist, Johan Stadler, only uses vintage, timeless materials to create investment art.

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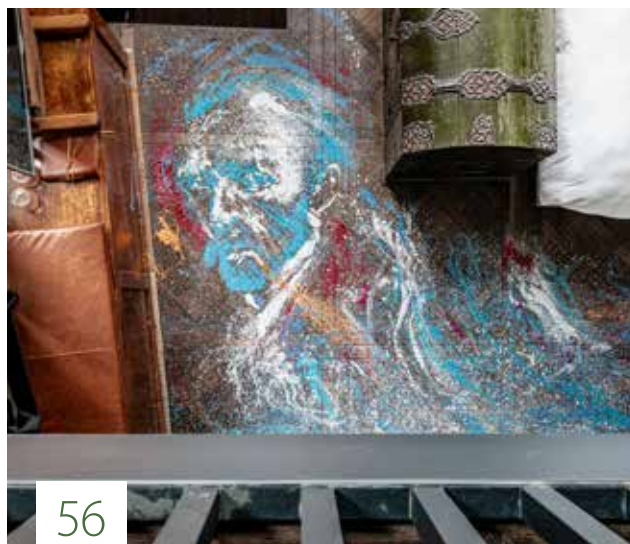
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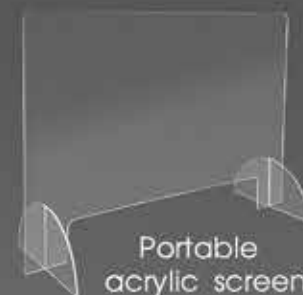


Caesarstone has been creating the ultimate interior surface since 1987. Only with Caesarstone can you feel and see the difference. FEATURED: 5810 Black Tempal.
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KOHLER brings Colour to bathrooms in Africa

A bathroom collection that injects colour and personality into the bathroom

Kohler Co. a global leader in the design and manufacture of premium kitchen and bathroom products, is thrilled to release their Colours bathroom collection in Africa.

Introducing a sense of your own personality into your home continues to be at the epicentre of the current decor and lifestyle movement. Personal choice is by no means a fad but a prerequisite for the style savvy homeowner and colour is a conduit by which to express that.


Choice, and therefore style personality, are what Kohler's latest offering is all about. 'Colours by KOHLER' is a curated mix-and-match collection (or even

match-and-match, it's up to you) of basins and toilets created to up the style ante in bathrooms across the African continent. The breadth of colours in this collection also speaks to research on the psychological benefits of colour in the home.

If you're still recovering from the 1970's avocado green, you have nothing to fear. The colours in the new collection include Peacock (the perfect shade of teal), Thunder Grey (an en-pointe shade of medium grey) and Truffle (a warm mushroom tone).

The Colours palette is available on several of Kohler's hero designs including

their Forefront, Conical Bell and Kankara basins, and their ModernLife, Replay and Patio toilets. The selection of models has been a highly considered process, ensuring an elegant bathroom aesthetic that will outlive any trends.

Kohler has taken Colours a step further by adding an accompanying mixer and bathroom accessory range to the collection. Fashionable yet timeless, finishes in Rose Gold and Brushed Bronze perfectly complement the Colours sanitaryware pieces and take the guesswork out of the consumer's journey. 

www.africa.kohler.com



Colours



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Chryso products used in award winning Battery Park project

CHRYSO's significant contribution to the successful execution of the award-winning Battery Park project highlights its commitment to provide a comprehensive range of products which optimise the placing, performance and aesthetics of concrete.

Battery Park, a 12 000 m² urban precinct at the entrance to the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town, comprises a park and piazza, as well as a concealed multi-level parking facility and pedestrian routes. A winner of the CSSA 2019 Fulton Award in the category "Buildings greater than 3-storeys", this project is a testimony to excellence in the use of concrete.

The use of different concrete elements displays the versatility of concrete. In many of these elements, CHRYSO products were used resulting in exceptionally detailed and finished concrete structures and elements.

CHRYSO® Plast Omega 122 W, a water reducing plasticiser, was incorporated in the concrete mix to optimise the workability characteristics. After placing the concrete, CHRYSO® Cure Acrylic, a water-based slightly viscous solution, was used as a curing compound to ensure colourless, stain-free surfaces.



A selection of formwork release agents from CHRYSO's range was applied according to their special attributes. CHRYSO® Dem Oleo FW, a hydrocarbon-based, recycled delayed-release agent was used for the conventional concrete works, while CHRYSO® Dem Oleo SM, a mineral-based delayed-release agent was applied to the metallic and wooden formwork used during the wet precast processes.

For the construction and expansion joints, two products from a.b.e.{R} Construction Chemicals, part of the CHRYSO group, were used. Dowsil® 890

SL, a self-levelling silicone sealant, was used to seal irregular planes between concrete paving and asphalt surfaces, with the added benefit of providing fuel resistant seals. Dowsil® 888, a non-sag silicone joint sealant, was applied to standard concrete pavement joints.

CHRYSO is proud to be associated with the Battery Park project in so many different applications. This is a true accolade not only for the quality of their products, but also for the CHRYSO sales and technical teams.

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Chris Cradock, Owner, Profile Creations



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TRADE
WINDS

Hygienic European resin flooring for S.A. Market

Acrylicon resin flooring systems, renowned in Europe, and soon to be distributed in South Africa by KBAC Flooring, offer ultra-fast curing time coupled with high compressive strength. The hygienic flooring system has shown remarkable sales growth during 2020 despite the Covid-19 pandemic, and KBAC expects strong interest in the durable system locally, particularly with intensified emphasis on healthcare facilities.

Some of the many advantages of Acrylicon flooring, developed in Norway and now produced at a high-tech plant in Germany, include:

- Hygiene: Acrylicon resin system, which does not require fine fillers, is laid at 2:1 aggregate to resin ratio compared with 6:1 in most resin systems. It therefore

provides a totally sealed and hygienic system with no pores or air holes in which bacteria can grow.

- Curing and speed of installation: Acrylicon is fully cured in two hours and can then be put into full use whereas most other resin flooring systems' setting time can take between three to 14 days.
- Chemical stability: Acrylicon resins are fully inert and stable after two hours and there is no "gassing off". The resins are used extensively by the medical profession.
- Bond strength: The special primers of Acrylicon are designed to achieve deep penetration into the substrate, and subsequent chemical bonding of the body and sealer layers ensures that Acrylicon is permanently welded to the base.
- Chemical bonding: Each Acrylicon

layer chemically fuses to the previous layer to ensure that the total system, including the primer coat, is totally monolithic.

- Chemical resistance: With full resistance to lactic acid and most other organic acids and alkalis, Acrylicon is ideal for food production environments. It is also UV stable and will not degrade in colour.
- Mechanical strength: Acrylicon flooring is resistant to the effects of cleaning chemicals and spillage in the working environment.
- Durability: In the UK, the oldest Acrylicon installation is 25 years old (Middlesbrough Riverside Football Stadium, installed 1995) and in Europe there are many over 30 years old, across many different industries. dw

www.kbacflooring.co.za



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- Digital marketing/Digital signage
- Robotics
- Workforce management
- Loss prevention
- Merchandise security
- Weighing technologies and food service
- Fulfilment/Logistics
- Smart energy management

dw

www.eurocis.com

“The Golden Record. Its mission on board the space probes Voyager 1 and 2: Connect! – Make contact with extraterrestrial civilizations. To do this, it stores visual and audio information about humanity. Since 1977, Voyager 1 and 2 have been on their way and searching – so far in vain. Good to know EuroCIS is a lot livelier than the universe.”



innovations around Smart Store and Smart Retail.

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EuroCIS community. Take advantage of this unique, dynamic network. Help ensure that the retail industry can look to tomorrow with optimism – because thanks to EuroCIS, it is well equipped to face future challenges.

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EuroCIS 2021. Intelligence in new dimensions. With topics like AI, analytics, robotics. This is where retailers need your concepts, your ideas, your innovations. All your know-how.

Ultimately, EuroCIS, like every trade fair, is all about the win-win situation between supplier and customer. About the right solutions for concrete problems. About customer loyalty and customer acquisition. In short: about good business.

Raise your profile as a highly competent performer on this exclusive high-tech stage called EuroCIS. Be present with your performance at the hotspot where those who make things happen meet. Whether revolutionary new development or ingenious upgrade of proven technology – intelligence matters!

Making the future agile.

EuroCIS 2021. Smart IT for Smart Retail. Fast, smart, contemporary. Smart tech plays a role everywhere. For example, in automation processes and IoT applications. In seamless retail and mobile communication.

This is where your courage to try something new pays off. Because retail is part of a massive evolution that encompasses all areas of life: digital transformation.

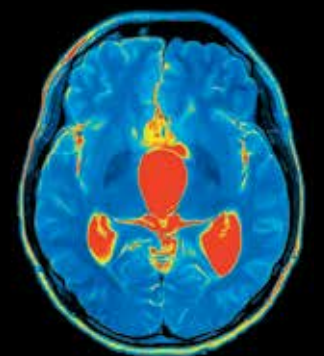
The decisive factor here: you have to be constantly on the move, always in motion. There is no arriving, no thinking that you're already there. Who knows that better than you? And who, if not you, can help retail understand this dynamic, master it and use it to its advantage?

Developers & solution Providers meet Users & decision makers.

Look forward to meeting open-minded, inquisitive people from these sectors:

- Retailers from all branches of industry
- Wholesale
- System and experience gastronomy

“The human brain (as seen in an MRI scan). An average of 86 billion nerve cells. About 100 trillion synapses. And an average of 60,000 to 80,000 thoughts per day. It's no wonder that this also generates a wealth of ideas for smart retail technologies: e.g. proximity and location-based, near response, mixed commerce or conversational.”





THE AFRICAN
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PROFESSIONS

Craftspeople and Artisans

A New IID Membership Category

Since the last AGM, the IID team has been working many ways to help our members deliver the best possible design solutions to their clients. One way is to expand our designers' resources. While we all recognize the names of global manufacturers and the prominent, long-established building and decorating firms in our areas, we may not be aware of the scores of talented craftspeople, tradespeople and artisans in South Africa, particular those outside of our immediate geographic areas.

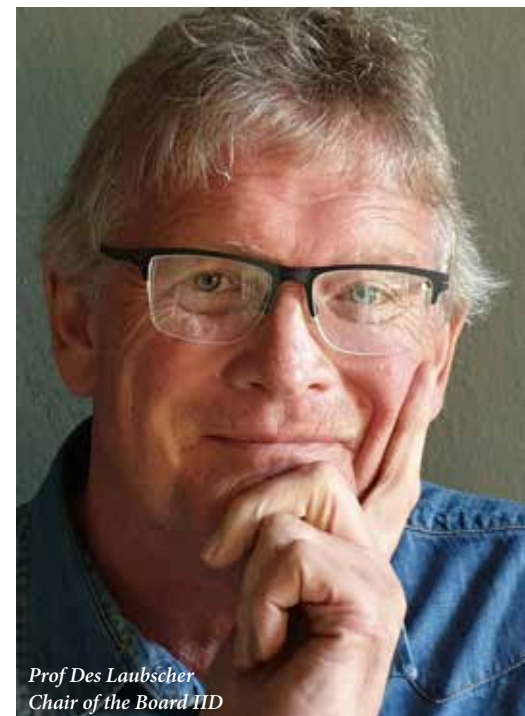
While some of these incredibly talented people have received formal training, most of them have learned through apprenticeship or on their own. They often don't know how to market themselves, relying solely on word-of-mouth to find customers. They lack an online presence and have not been able to assemble a portfolio of work that they can use to market themselves.

To that end, the IID has created a new Affiliate membership category to recognize

and promote these entrepreneurs, many of whom are responsible for what our clients ultimately see and use in their finished spaces. We believe that by sharing the names of the tilers, cabinetmakers, upholsterers, wallpaper hangers, painters, etc., we promote excellence among our designers and to the public; by promoting the myriad craftspeople – those who create custom ceramics, light fixtures, furniture, etc., we support the South African economy.

So to all IID Professional Interior Decorators, Designers and Architects: please nominate your best resources to become an IID Affiliate by writing a motivational letter on their behalf. We ask that you also sponsor their first year's membership fee of R500 as a show of goodwill, since so many of them are sole breadwinners who have struggled even more than we have during this terrible pandemic.

In return, the IID will recognise them with an official certificate, feature them



Prof Des Laubscher
Chair of the Board IID

on our website, and promote them in Designing Ways. All of us will be able to expand our network of resources. And our clients will have peace of mind, knowing that they are using the best professionals who have been thoroughly vetted.

Please contact mail@iidprofessions.org.za for more information. In the meantime, check out the first two recommendations:



Ermie Pascoe

According to Ermie Pascoe, IID Ambassador and Professional Interior Decorator, Rico Nomicos is a wallpaper phenomenon. Rico is a one-man show who personally installs about 95% of wallpapers in and around East London. Ermie swears he is quick, his work is very neat, and in the unlikely event that a problem arises after installation, he will fix it no matter what. Please consider adding Rico to your design team.

You can reach him at 071 885 2088 and riconomicos@gmail.com.



If you are looking for a decorative painting specialist, IID Corporate and Financial Manager Maria Day highly recommends Philemon Modikwe. He is a whiz at all sorts of faux finishes and other unique paint effects, such as antiquing, distressing, limewashing, marbling, ombre techniques, ragging marbling, stencilling, you name it. As Marilize Speed-Andrews and other Johannesburg-area decorators can also attest, Philemon can apply these effects to walls or furniture, and he will supply samples at your request.

Contact Philemon at 083 754 0421/082 539 3026 and pm.modikwa@gmail.com.



Philemon Modikwe

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ARCHITECT, INTERIOR DESIGNER OR DECORATOR?

DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS

When you walk into a well-designed space, all five of your senses may be delighted and you feel instantly comfortable. You may notice the wood floors and the big windows and you may appreciate the artwork and the strong wifi. You may not, however, realize the thousands of design decisions that went into its construction, nor the cutting edge knowledge about human health, technology, energy efficiency and material science that was used by the professionals who designed it.

Today's buildings require a whole team of experts who work together to create a seamless structure that is safe, beautiful, and supports human well-being. The responsibilities of architects and interior designers can overlap a great deal depending on the type of space being designed and who the client is - whether they are an individual, a company or a developer.

Both architects and interior designers:

- Undergo rigorous education, experience and examination standards
- Possess knowledge of the latest building codes, accessibility standards, fire-safety regulations, etc.
- Abide by a Code of Conduct
- Meet yearly Continuing Professional Development requirements
- Possess project management (budgeting and scheduling) and client communication skills
- Coordinate technical requirements with engineers and other consultants



ARCHITECTS

- Building siting (where the structure sits on the plot and how it is oriented to the sun and to neighbouring structures)
- Overall structure (materials and type of roof/walls/foundation, fireproofing, drainage, ventilation, waterproofing, etc.)
- Exterior openings (locations and types of doors and windows), including an understanding of "daylighting" – maximizing natural light and minimizing artificial light
- Major building systems (types and locations of mechanical, electrical, plumbing etc.)
- Overall layout (location of entrance, public vs. private areas, food prep & dining, bathrooms, staircases and elevators, etc.)

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

- Detailed layout (specific locations of interior non-structural walls, interior doors, built-in-cupboards, counters, appliances, etc.)
- Building system details (specific locations of sockets, switches, sinks, toilets, air vents, lights, etc.)
- Interior finishes (walls, ceilings, floors, counters, etc.)
- Understanding of acoustics and universal design
- Cabinetry (kitchen, bath, built-in cupboards, etc.)
- Equipment (kitchen & bath plumbing fixtures, appliances, lighting, etc.)
- Furniture (built-in and loose, office systems and ancillary pieces)



WHO SHOULD I HIRE, AN ARCHITECT, INTERIOR DESIGNER OR DECORATOR?

DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN INTERIOR DESIGNERS AND DECORATORS

So exactly what is the difference between an interior designer and an interior decorator? While both are concerned with what lies within the walls of a building, their focus and training are different:

INTERIOR DESIGNERS	INTERIOR DECORATORS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use their understanding of human behaviour and physiology to create functional, beautiful spaces support people's physical and mental well-being Interior designers work on both commercial and residential projects, due to the high level of technical knowledge and the bigger teams involved Interior designers must have a minimum qualification of three years from a CHE registered tertiary institution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use their aesthetic sensibilities to adorn a space with attractive colours, materials, furniture, art and other objects. Tend to focus on residential projects Interior decorators should obtain a qualification in a 6 month / 1 year course in interior decorating

The takeaway here is that a truly well-designed space is cohesive – the architecture, interior design and decoration all complement each other. Only then can a building be safe, useful and beautiful.

If the project involves the "shell" of a building (its foundation, structural walls, stairs/elevators and roof), then an architect must be hired. And if the project is an extensive renovation that requires extensive building system upgrades or a change in use (converting an factory to an office, for instance), it also makes sense to hire an architect.

Since interior designers are trained explicitly on user needs and experience, it's always a good idea to hire an interior designer to make sure that the details support its actual use. For example, interior designers don't just select light fixtures, they know exactly what type of lighting and what color temperature light bulb is best for a particular room (a doctor's room vs. a bedroom vs. a classroom, for example) and they make sure the light switches are located where the user can easily find them as well as figure out which switch activates which light.

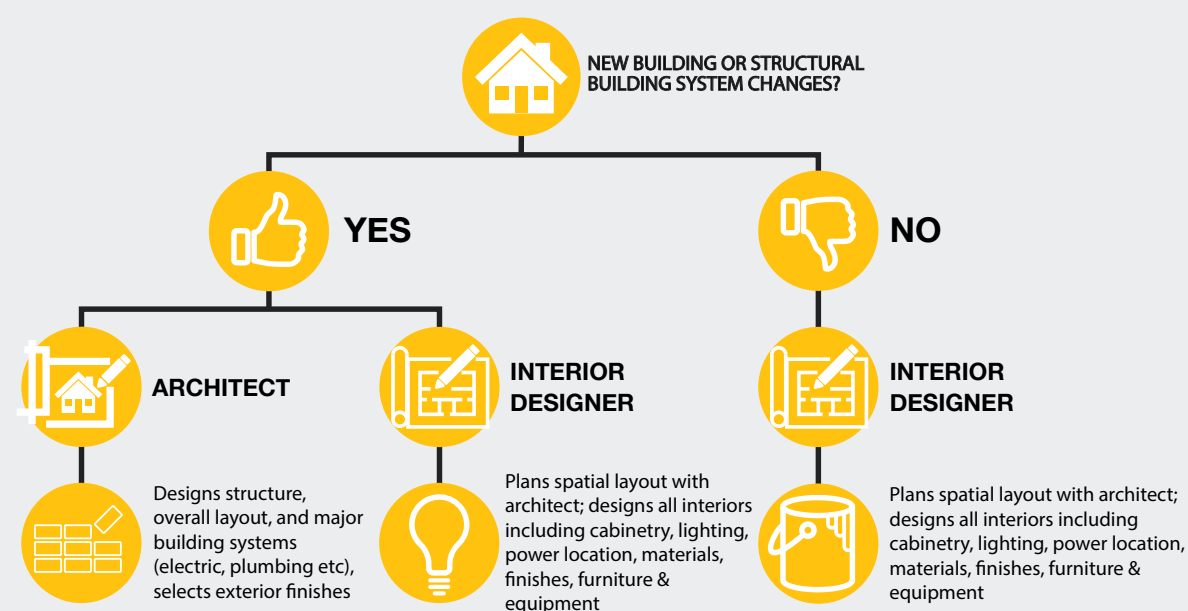
Most commercial projects - be it a school, airport, hospital, office or shop - are complicated projects and require the expertise of an entire team of experts including not only interior

designers but also acoustic engineers, IT/audio-visual consultants, graphic & branding specialists, security consultants, etc.

For simple residential projects where the exterior of the house remains intact and the major systems (plumbing, electrical and mechanical) will remain untouched, an interior designer is capable of handling the entire project. He/she can relocate non-structural walls and their doors, re-plan kitchens and bathrooms, relocate power, plumbing and light switch locations, design new cabinetry, and select new colors, finishes, furniture etc.

And if the client is seeking only a cosmetic refresh, an interior decorator can do wonders with new paint, carpet, furniture, lighting and accessories.

Sometimes interior designers and/or decorators are "subcontracted" by the architect. In other cases, the client hires the interior designer directly, who works side-by-side with an architect.



WHAT IS THE DESIGN PROCESS?

Whether an architect, interior designer and/or decorator is hired, in all cases the client is interviewed at length and often even observed, so that the professional gains an intimate knowledge of the project requirements.

Conceptual drawings are created to convey the overall space – its overall look and feel, how it flows, etc. The design is then refined and conveyed using 2-dimensional plans and elevations and 3-dimensional perspectives, and materials, colours and lighting is fleshed out. Sometimes photorealistic renderings, 3D animations and even AR/VR (augmented and virtual reality) devices are utilized so that the client gets a complete understanding of how the final space will look, feel and function.

Then, plan check drawings are created, which spell out in detail how the space will be constructed and demonstrate that the design meets code. These drawings are then submitted to Council which will review the design for adherence to various requirements. Any corrections Council requests are then made, and a final set of construction drawings are given to the builder and others who will construct and install the elements of the building.

Finally, the furniture, appliances, equipment and accessories are installed. And then the space is ready to be used!

CONCEPT
SCHEMATIC DESIGN

REFINEMENT
DESIGN
DEVELOPMENT

DRAWINGS
DOCUMENTATION

APPROVAL
COUNCIL
SUBMISSION

CONSTRUCTION
TAKE OCCUPANCY

WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE QUOTE / CONTRACT

Obtaining a thorough and formal quote is crucial to a project's success.

It should contain:

- The project schedule
- The project budget
- Detailed deliverables (drawings, samples, mock-ups, etc)
- A clear Description of the communication methods and meetings
- The complete fee structure (flat fee? hourly? per square metre? etc)
- The complete payment structure (how and when payments will be due)
- What items are excluded and require additional fee (extra revisions, physical models, renderings, "as-built" documentation drawings, etc)
- Terms and conditions - the legalities

A truly professional quote is also graphically attractive and free of grammatical errors or spelling mistakes; after all, attention to detail is a must when it comes to interior design!



WHY APPOINTING A *PROFESSIONAL* INTERIOR DESIGNER WILL SAVE YOU TIME AND MONEY

We live in a time of bargain hunting, unrealistic TV makeovers and knockoffs, where entire buildings appear to be designed, built and furnished in the blink of an eye, and being "Instaworthy" has somehow come to mean good design.

If you have read the entire article up to this point, you now know that a well-designed space is so much more than a photograph, and that professional interior designers do much more than picking colors, selecting and fabrics and shopping for furniture. Members of the African Institute of Interior Design Professions – the IID – are professionals who have received formal training in and adhering to the following:

They are **PROBLEM SOLVERS** who listen and observe to get a keen understanding of your particular needs, and not just hand you a cookie-cutter design or foist their own personal style or preferences onto you. IID members use their training and experience to devise personalized design solutions that not only look great but work great. Spaces flow smoothly from one to the other; everything is within easy reach and intuitively located. The lighting is exactly right for the intended use. The materials are safe and easy to clean. And everything just feels right.

They **SAVE YOU TIME**. IID members work faster and more efficiently than you can, because they can quickly sift through the infinite number of design choices to the ones that make sense for you. They can give you a realistic schedule and teach you exactly what goes into each step of the design.

They **SAVE YOU MONEY**. They know what things really cost so they help you develop – and stick to – a realistic budget. They can spot artificially low bids that have omitted key items which will needed to be added on later. They can advise you on what to splurge on and where you can save money. They head off problems before they occur so you don't have to fix costly mistakes later.

They have **ACCESS TO RESOURCES** that their clients are not aware of. IID members not only have extensive contacts of their own, but because they're part of a professional organization, they can also rely on a network of fellow professionals.

They are bound by a professional **CODE OF CONDUCT** that protects you and gives you recourse in case of issues.

For all these reasons, it makes sense to hire a professional to oversee one of the most expensive investments you will ever make, whether it's your home, office or shop. After all, built spaces are intended to last for years; getting the expert assistance of an IID professional will ensure that you're as happy with your design project years from now as you are when it is first completed.



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 artwork and layout Megan James | Plan-IT Design

GETTING INVOLVED WITH THE IID IS PROBABLY THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION YOU CAN MAKE TO YOUR OWN CAREER.



Why? It tells people that you're serious about interior design, interior decorating or interior architecture. It indicates your status as a business professional with valuable industry skills.

- The IID is the only registered professional body representing the interior design industry in South Africa.
- Professional Recognition and Status. Membership gives you credibility: by belonging to the Interior Design professional body, identifying that you are serious about what you do.
- Professional Contracts and Fees.
- The IID and SACAP Partnership that is continuously growing.
- Free Marketing. Share content in our newsletter: Fridays for the following week's Social Media platforms, 15th of the month for the following month's content. Contact national@iidprofessions.org.za for more information.
- IID Events and Networking. Great opportunity for you to stay visible, exchange ideas and rub shoulders with some of the leaders in the profession.
- Discounted Rates for Design Shows,

Workshops & Relationships with media partners.

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

KSA update



We are pleased to see our members getting into a rhythm being back at work. Work has been steady in the industry but mostly with work that had been planned from before lockdown. New work has been harder to come by. There was a big flood of enquiries when the industry opened with many consumers seeing the need for work in the home having been confined to their houses. Sadly, with the spike we have seen in the virus many consumers have put those plans on hold out of fear of having contractors on their property. Health and Safety protocols are of paramount importance to our members as is the safety of their staff and customers. We would encourage consumers to engage with companies about their protocols and this may help to allay some concerns.

The spike has not meant that we have been quiet. Things at the KSA have been very busy. We are pleased to say that

this last month has been instrumental in strengthening our ties with the IID. After several meetings we have exciting plans in the making for how we can work together to assist in the education of design students, and in offering ongoing education and CPD points to industry professionals.


Accountability assisted our members by running a very helpful seminar on effective debt management. A huge thank you to Louise and the Accountability team for their sage advice and guidance. In touch times like these it is vital that SMMEs keep a tight reign on their debtors' book.

We were proud to host REHAU's first ever online launch via our Zoom platform. REHAU introduced their stunning new range of Rauvisio Crystal edged board – a glass surface laminated onto board. The range will definitely inspire the SA design market. It is not only trendsetting but highly durable and will be an elegant

addition to any home. REHAU also launched their new flip-door and Crystal-line roller door systems. These too are the height of elegance, and easy to install and use. Both systems have met great success in Europe and REHAU are sure will do well here in South Africa too.

Our team has been looking into more effective ways to communicate with our members. We launched our KSA app via the D6 communicator at the end of June. We are excited to see how members embrace this new way of staying in contact with us. Not only does the platform offer us an easy way to ensure members are kept up to date with what we are doing with an online calendar and messenger, but the resources portal means our member can access all our member resources from their phones.

KSA members Eclipse – now Blum SA- have moved with the need for ongoing online education and made their Dynamic Space workshop available

JOIN THE KSA FOR OUR FIRST EVER ONLINE NATIONAL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING!

Date: 22 July 2020
Time: 3.30pm
via Zoom

RSVP to stephanie@ksa.co.za by 20/7/2020

to the industry online. You can now take yourself through the course via a series of videos.

For more information visit:
www.eclipsegroup.co.za/dynamic-space-5/

Enroll here:
www.blumza-courses.thinkific.com/collections

SA Décor and Design Guide has also been updating its online platform and we have been working with Marcia and Ian to ensure the KSA and its members are properly represented on the platform. They have definitely put a lot of thought and effort into the new platform and it is a must see for industry and consumers alike who are looking to get an online décor and design marketing and sales platform.

We are currently preparing for our AGM which will be held on the 22 July.

Our AGM is a very important national event as it gives us an opportunity to give vital feedback to members and plan with them the way forward for the next financial year. With FY21 having so much uncertainty this kind of member engagement is essential.

We are looking forward to holding more online events for members in August and September and encourage you to keep an eye on our social media for details.

www.ksa.co.za

Surface Solutions

There is a growing interest in brave yet tasteful surface solutions for the kitchen, bathroom, breakfast nooks, coffee bars, walls, floors, dining room and coffee tables.

Combinations of vibrant colours with natural woodgrain and stone are proving to be a very popular choice.

Materials chosen for external surfaces need to be durable, sturdy and strong enough to deal with changing conditions and harsh weather.

Along with this, the surfaces should also be visually appealing as they lend a distinct identity to the structure they are cladding.

A good quality and contemporary work surface is a key component when revamping a kitchen.

Things to consider when choosing a kitchen work top:

- Cost – always consider the worktop material that fits the available budget. Make sure of any additional costs, so it is best to discuss this with an experienced kitchen designer.
- Space and installation. Space dedicated for the work top - length plus depth - is very important.
- Colours, texture and finish – most popular materials for kitchen worktops are laminate, quartz, granite, wood, glass, composite stone and stainless steel. Consider colours that contrast with the choice of cabinet – dark work tops with light cabinets.



- Maintenance – Choose a low-maintenance and hard wearing top.
- If renovation – Is it the right time? Renovation takes time and can be quite stressful. Choose a time when there are no other priorities; the less stress involved with ripping out, replacing or re-installation, the better.

Solid Surfaces:

Advantages of solid surfaces as a material for kitchen work tops:

Non porous – will not stain as it will not allow any substance to penetrate surface; installed with seamless joints, making it ideal for large kitchen islands and long runs of work tops; hygienic and also looks beautiful; renewable and repairable, so any accidental damage can be repaired.

Steel:

Stainless Steel work tops are extremely hygienic, easy to maintain and hard

wearing. Some manufacturers now produce a stainless steel work top with a tactile, velvety matt finish. The benefits of matt finish steel is an elegant, calm and beautiful appearance.

Bathroom counter tops:

Bathroom counter tops have a monumental effect on how your bathroom looks, so it is important to choose a material carefully.

There are many counter top materials to consider, from classy marble to homely granite, sleek quartz to affordable laminates, and many more.

Most materials look drastically different from one another, so choosing the wrong look can throw out your design. When choosing a counter top, is must be able to service multiple purposes. It should fit into the design of the bathroom, be beautiful, strong enough to support surface weight, light enough for the vanity or lower cabinets, durable to handle everyday use and resistant to withstand water and humid air.

2.Flooring surface solutions:

Flooring is hardly subtle, it's on display at all times.

It's not too much of an understatement to say flooring can have a big impact on the impression the kitchen or bathroom makes on someone that walks into either room.

Things to consider when choosing flooring for a kitchen or a bathroom:

- Traffic flow– A space that's going to have a lot of daily floor traffic will benefit more from flooring that's designed

to be resistant to wear and tear. One hundred percent moisture resistant and long lasting vinyl, vinyl is a great choice for high-traffic areas.

- Durability– Wood tile flooring may be a good choice to consider to optimize durability and should be made from harder wood since these are the woods that often last longer. There are also plenty of budget friendly flooring materials, such as high-pressured, plastic laminates, that can offer similar results in a kitchen and bathroom.
- Room size– Plan each room's available space – lighter floors tend to make a kitchen cosy or bathroom feel larger. Lighter hues can also brighten up darker areas of a home. With wood, larger and wider scale planks, and larger tiles, can make a smaller space seem bigger.
- Available light– Available light is worth considering. Potential glare problems in a kitchen that's naturally bathed in sunlight can be remedied with flooring that's darker or in the mid-tones. Another option is to go with a pattern that alternates between light and dark shades of the same colour. Lighter materials also reflect more natural light from windows and skylights.
- Adaptability– A bathroom and kitchen should also include natural and neutral colours. Natural designs, especially what's available with wood tile flooring can easily match different decorative touches and wall colours.
- Colour and Style– The plus point about today's flooring choices for kitchens and bathrooms is the assortment of colour selections. Always consider

rest of décor and intended focal point before choosing the colour of flooring.

- Maintenance– Low-maintenance is a top requirement for kitchen and bathroom flooring. Black matte tiles in the bathroom can ensure that dust and water spots won't be a concern, while multi-colour slate and granite has a mottled surface that can hide dirt and various imperfections.
- Budget– Vinyl flooring, available in either tiles or sheets can fit into most budgets. Laminate flooring can be equally affordable, offering a wide range of colours and styles. Bamboo is an appealing alternative to hardwood, porcelain tiles are an affordable alternative to natural stone, and vinyl planks can mimic hardwood flooring.

Wall surfaces:

Since walls form the largest area of a home, shop, office, restaurant, coffee shop, and more, with all the products available, the proper choice can heighten the desired decorative effect, camouflage faults and hide uneven wall surfaces. The most economical way of decorating a wall surface is with paint.

Wall coverings other than paint are available in a variety of materials. The type of covering to be used will depend on two factors: The condition of the walls and the decorative effect desired. Sometimes, highly patterned or three-dimensional textures must be used to camouflage the faulty surfaces.

Wallpaper:

Wallpaper has made a comeback – and this time, it's for real.

There is a vast variety of wallpaper colours and styles to choose from. Vinyl is great for areas with a lot of moisture such as kitchens and bathrooms. For bedrooms and hallways it's best to use non-woven papers and fabrics.

3.Wood panelling:

A timeless way to add character to a wall. Wood panelling is back with a renewed, modern twist, bringing the natural world indoors.

Wood has long been used to cover and decorate walls. Carved wood panels of mahogany, oak, walnut, or even pine can be applied to dress up a wall.

Intricate dark wood panelling, when used in full panels can feel imposing. But, dado height are a subtle option and can be painted in a soft shade to add warmth.

How to decorate wood panelling without painting it:

- Bring in solid colours of furniture;
- Create multiple focal points;
- Use eye-catching art;
- Layer in texture and pattern.

dw



Colour Trends

A.I.AQUA

This shade is the star of the palette and the Key colour of the season. It is inspired from the arrival of 5G and the phone apps palette where we can often find this shade of blue: Facebook, Twitter or LinkedIn.

According to the companies' analysis, this blue is the most inspired by technology elements among all of the palette. In addition to offering a digital quality, this saturation works on the human psychological, helping in the concentration of intense activities. Blue is also a colour which suppresses the hormones making you sleep and makes you focused and energetic.

Blue, used prominently by technology companies, should become more immersive and emotional. This colour is also expected to have great commercial appeal.



1. WATER COLOUR BY KIM KNOLL 2. ILLUSION BLUE BY TAPET FORUM 3. MANSFIELD BAR CHAIR BY ESSENTIAL HOME



LEMON SHERBET

After Millennial Pink, yellow is the colour to rise. "Yellows must-have status has been cemented by data, being the fastest growing colour in the US womenswear market this year with sales up 29% years over years," says Hannah Craggs in a WGSN report. It also stands here for victory in a sport context.

Despite being a risky colour, yellow has fallen in the public's taste. This softer hue seeks to bring the comforting feeling of being in the sunlight, while at the same time provoking stimuli of calm and relaxation. This colour may also be a possibility for products that seek to escape the separation by gender.



1. GIVENCHY SS20 2. TOILET PAPER MIRROR BY SELETTI 3. LEBON DELIENNE MINNIE FIGURINE 4. NAMIB ARM CHAIR BY BRABBU

GOOD GRAY

This colour is the quiet one and represents the end of the journey, the warming down after an exercise. This minimalistic colour slowly back in fashion is also the one you obtain when you recycle plastic and melt all the colours together. It is a colour of sustainability.

The WGSN x Coloro survey also indicates a neutral tone for 2021. Good Gray brings a gray that serves as a counterweight to the other vivid colours in the palette. This nuance brings aspects of minimalism to you, while acting by stimulating centred and calming reactions. Gray also refers to the sustainability factor, since it resembles the final colour after mixing recycled materials.



1. CREDITS TO THE OWNER 2. MATHENY WALL LAMP BY DELIGHTFULL 3. NEO WOVEN NEOPRENE YARN BASKET 4. SABOTEUR BAR CHAIR BY LUXU





1. JEAN - PAUL GAULTIER 2. VENINI ZOE WALL SCONCE BY DORIANA & MASSIMILIANO FUKSAS 3. SHOULDER BAG BY SAINT LAURENT 4. VERSAILLES ARM CHAIR BY BOCA DO LOBO

OXY FIRE

Red is more and more popular lately and is a very stimulating shade. In this palette, it also represents the moment during exercising when you are at the top of your game.

This colour was inspired by the already evident success of orange and bright red. It is the extroverted colour for the season, according to WGSN x Coloro.

The energy present in Oxy Fire promises to generate a reaction to the first public eye and presents itself as a good alternative to invigorate and bring life to products and collections.



QUIET WAVE

Green has been present in most colour trend palettes in recent years, always referring to nature. Quiet Wave is a clinical green and a long lasting version of the well known Neo Mint. This time, the inspiration is more about technology and this forecast proposes that this tone brings futuristic qualities and cooler and paler nuances. Thus, Quiet Wave becomes a perfect air freshener for the beginning of a new decade. It embodies here the mental preparation before exercising.

dw

www.trendesignbook.com



1. TOM FORD FW20 2. ELLEN ARM CHAIR BY ESSENTIAL HOME 3. SHOULDER BAG BY CHLOÉ

Glorietta

Sydney, Australia

Inspired by the client's love of all things Italian, Glorietta is a bar and 220-seat restaurant designed to shape a corporate precinct into a Eurocentric agricultural memory. Glorietta involved the challenging transformation of a stark, voluminous, glass box within a new landmark tower; void of history and restricted by poor street visibility.

As the podium tenant, Glorietta presented various key constraints. A cold and commercial character, including an open ceiling to allow for the base build utilities to remain effective and compliant. These obstacles made our teamwork to craft a sense of identity, intimacy, and warmth.

Brief, Design Solution and Challenges

The owner had ambitious plans for a new Italian inspired Sydney restaurant and bar: it must be a catalyst for change, inspiring hospitality offerings into a corporate area previously lacking any. Contemporary yet classic, it must be a 'come for a drink, stay for a meal kinda place' and create a warm agricultural ancestry and tone, all within the building's pre-established constraints.

The client was keen to deconstruct the vast, open, and commercial space into separate, more intimate zones to encourage various functionalities and dining options. A key challenge presented itself in the form of the space being void of any existing character; to counterbalance this, zoning was achieved by applying a range of floor treatments to contain each space.

From polished concrete around the bar and northern dining areas to timber boards in the central dining space and concrete slabs surrounding the kitchen, each variation in materials helped to distinguish the separate zones - as well as build personality and interest. The large scale, volume, view, and elevated floor area also became an advantage to creating theatre and spatial uniqueness throughout the venue.

In support of this, the clever use of five different seating options further established each zone. From the high timber tables and stools at the bar, long communal tables and the built-in olive-green leather banquettes, rust-red-toned tables, and individual bentwood chairs. Varied seating options offer intimacy and choice depending on patrons dining and drinking needs.

A visible, traditional pizza oven and open kitchen capture the energy of a classic Italian restaurant and the theatrics that accompany this. A dining counter and bar ribbon the entry - which not only frames the entry but adds to the atmosphere and visual intrigue. A central bar was strategically positioned for maximum street visibility and to contain the venue's footprint, scale, and proportion.

An earthy, organic, and warm palette was achieved via the careful selection of contemporary, yet durable, furnishings and fittings. Tonally gentle design elements soften the space. Recycled timber, olive and apricot leathers and tiling, rust-red





tables, brass, creams, and wheat-colored linen curtains encircle the venue, while a vaulted rattan 'cloudscape' obscures the impact of the silver ceiling panels and offers yet another layer of warmth and natural texture to the space.

Glorietta's narrative is one of soft agricultural nostalgia which seamlessly enhances the otherwise hard-edged commercial volume. The innovative transformation of Glorietta from an amorphous commercial venue, into an intimate restaurant now appeals to the afternoon spritz seekers, late-night diners, and the casual pizza crowd.

Glorietta plays an important role in acting as a cultural reference point for the business precinct it resides in, encouraging other businesses into the area and further activating the surrounding locale.

Innovation, Sustainability, and Beauty

Due to Glorietta's elevated position, civic scale, and commercial character, the building's tenancy had no sympathetically inherent texture or softness, no history, and no context on which to draw the design concept from. Faced with a blank canvas and multiple challenges in building an inviting, friendly intimacy and warmth, the team set about crafting a design beneficial to patrons, floor staff, and the wider local community.

Elements such as the bar, which ribbons either side of the entry, were purposefully positioned and hugely beneficial in attracting street traffic and space activation, building room density, and in containing both footprint and scale. While the inclusion of other key elements such as a traditional pizza oven, open

kitchen and dining counter all gave the framework to build a lively environment and the ability to incorporate separate zones.

In terms of beauty and aesthetics, Glorietta was softened with tonally gentle materials and colour palettes. Timbers, olive-hued leathers and tiles, rattan banquette with apricot tones, rusty red tables, brass, cream render and paint, and cream linens covering the windows are all evidence of a beautiful and considered space.

Sustainability played an important role too, materials were kept to a minimum, all-natural, designed for longevity, and sustainably harvested where possible. An ingenious, vaulted 'cloud sky' of woven rattan covers the majority of the ceiling, providing additional warmth and

organic shape while enclosing the whole restaurant by lowering the room-scale and warming the lighting. Rattan is one of the fastest renewable tropical woods available and is manufactured in low-tech non-polluting facilities.

Within Glorietta, beauty and sustainability collide with the salvaging and application of materials. Reclaimed hardwoods feature as bar cladding, with old stone slabs salvaged by the builder used as kitchen surround flooring. In a final, decorative flourish, a round Art Deco-inspired family table with sentimental value was inserted as a corner feature.

In an innovative sense, Glorietta's story is a social one that highlights the effectiveness of combining clever interior design practices within a venue's surrounding context.

Glorietta is a lively and inviting hospitality space that will generate a ripple effect in driving other dining and drinking venues into the area to ensure ample social and commercial benefits for the local community. This outcome of connecting with the community and reinvigorating the Australian hospitality industry is particularly important during these uncertain times. dw

www.glorietta.com.au



7 Elements of Interior Design & Décor

‘Design elements are basic units of any design and décor which form its structure and convey visual messages.’

Colour, space, line, form, light, texture and pattern form the 7 elements of interior design and décor.

Colour:

Colour is the result of light reflecting from an object to our eyes.

Colour harmony, often referred to as a “measure of aesthetics”, studies which colour combinations are harmonious and pleasing to the eye, and which colour combinations are not.

Colour harmony is a main concern for designers and decorators given that colours always exist in the presence of other colours in form and space.

When a designer or decorator harmonizes colours, the relationship among a set of colours are enhanced to increase the way they combine well with one another.

Colour harmony can also be achieved by simply combining colours that are considered compatible to one another as indicated on the colour wheel.

A satisfactory design product is often accompanied by a successful colour scheme.

Use of Colour:

- Colour is used to create harmony, balance and comfort in a design;
- Colour is used to evoke the desired mood and emotion;
- Colour is used to create a theme in a design;
- Colour holds meaning and can be symbolic. In certain culture, different colours can have different meanings;
- Colour can create identity for a certain brand or design product;
- In the architectural design of a retail environment, colour affects decision making which motivates consumers to buy a particular product or products.

Space:

Interior designers and decorators have the luxury of working within a three dimensional space (length, width and height).

This three dimensional space can be filled or left empty, depending upon what needs to be achieved from a functionality and design perspective.

Space can be split into two categories: Positive and Negative space.

Positive space is space containing objects, whilst negative space is the open/empty space (including any space between objects). Striking a balance between the



negative and positive spaces of a room is essential to avoid overcrowding, or on the other end of the spectrum, sparseness.

This balance will be influenced by the client's needs in the specific area/room and its required functionality.

Line:

Horizontal, vertical and dynamic lines help to shape a room and guide the eye.

Creating lines using the room's

furnishings and structural design can form harmony, unity and contrast.

- Horizontal lines, created by tables and other surfaces, give a sense of stability, formality and efficiency.
- Vertical lines, created by features such as windows and doorways, evoke feelings of freedom and strength.
- Dynamic lines refer to diagonal, zigzag or curved lines. Such lines can be found in stairs, for example, and provide energy and movement.

Form:

Form is the shape of the room, as well as any objects within the form. It relates to the physical form or anything that is three dimensional.

Forms can usually be described as either geometric or natural.

Geometric refers to hard line and square edges, often looking man-made, while natural relates to organic forms that seem to be created by nature.

Consideration with form is the proportions and scale of the room compared to the objects being placed within it.

Light:

Natural or man-made light is a critical aspect of any space. Without it, all other elements would not be able to shine at their full potential.

Lighting can be broken into three groups: Task lighting (defined purpose), accent lighting (emphasising objects) and mood lighting (adding ambience).

Texture:

Texture, the tactile surface of an object or finish.

Texture has the ability to bring a unique dimension to a room.

Just like mixing colour and pattern, interior designers and decorators mix the textures within a space to give a subtle sense of depth.

“Think glossy, coarse, smooth”

From furniture to accessories to fabric, texture has the ability to add interest and detail, making it visually pleasing to the eye, it gives a room feeling.

Pattern:

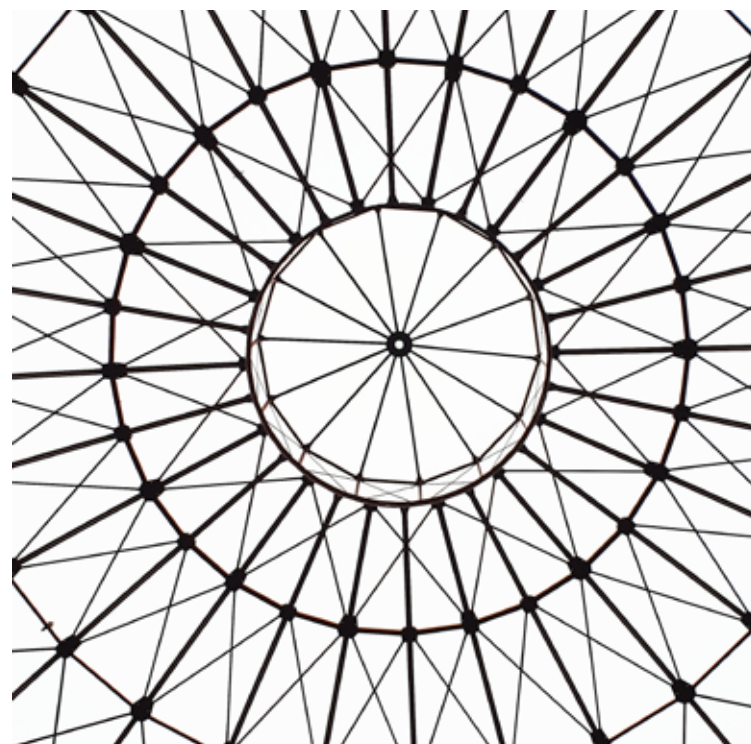
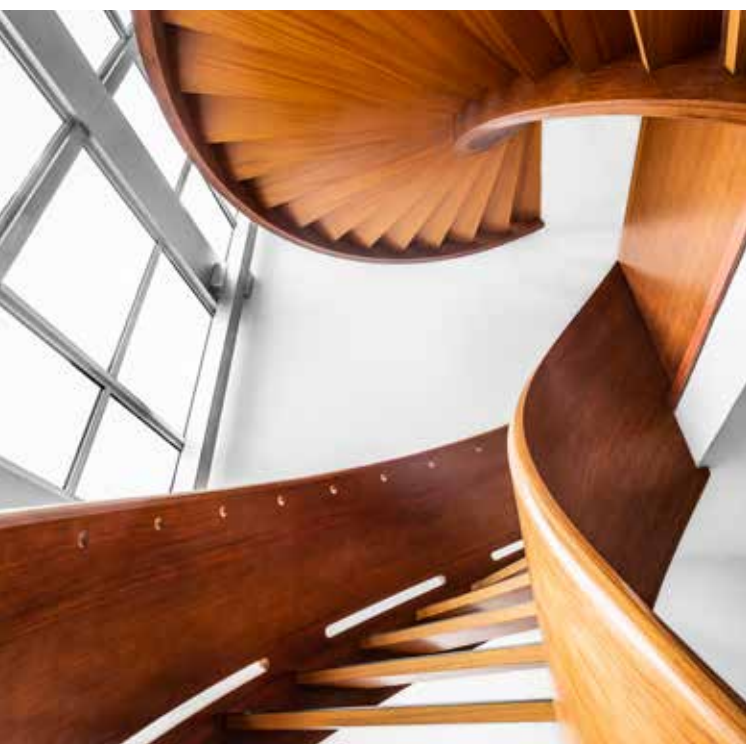
When implementing pattern, it's best to firstly consider the size and style of a room.

Paired with colour, pattern offers a similar use to texture in that it can add appeal to a room. A pattern is created by the use of a repetitive design and can be found in wallpaper, soft furnishings, rugs and fabrics.

Pattern comes in various types, such as stripes, geometric, pictorial, organic, motif and animal print.

Pattern can bring a room to life, but it's best to include a maximum of three patterns, all drawing from the same colour scheme.

dw



Natural light

The fabric of an ancient culture

A Tour To Explore And Discover The Art Of Textiles In India

by Michele Immelman

India has a rich and varied textile tradition that dates back to even before the beginning of history - references to the craft of weaving and spinning appear in ancient Vedic literature, the oldest Hindu scriptures, and the origins of block printing and resist-dyeing practiced in ancient Egypt have been traced to Gujarat.

Indian Textiles

While the world has successfully managed to turn textiles into a common commodity, Indian craftsmen and women faithfully preserved their textile traditions as a time-honoured art form in the face of ever-shifting fads, fancies and fashions. Reflecting the vibrancy of Indian customs, culture and colours, Indian textile artisans in the central and northeastern parts of India produce some of the best cottons in the world, and at a cost that makes them affordable to everyone. Commonly

known as 'Cashmere', Pashmina is made from the wool of sheep that roam the Himalayas. And textiles woven from the finest silk reputedly pre-date even the earliest-known Chinese silk dynasties.

The dyes that are used to bring out all the bright and vibrant colours include Indigo, as well as the Madder dye, created from the root of a plant called 'Clay' that gives the glowing red that is found in many of the patterns.

To have the dye adhere to the fabric, Mordant is applied in various patterns to create a washed design and to bring out the vibrant colours. Batik, on the other hand is a process of stamping mud brick or wax on the fabric so that the dye cannot penetrate.

These are only some of the many techniques developed by Indian textile artists over the centuries and that are still being practiced today. While some use wax, others apply dye in layers or use

embroidery to create timeless textiles that are unmatched in both design as well as quality.

Curious Journeys Textile Tour India

The tour was inspired by my love of India and my passion for exploring the lesser traveled rural areas where the informal textile artisans ply their daily trade.

Although the tour affords the traveler an opportunity to explore the architecture and historical sites of the areas visited, the main focus is to experience the hand block printing of hand woven textiles.

The journey starts in Jaipur, where we visit the Anokhi Museum, an old restored Haveli (traditional, ornately decorated residence) which documents the art of handblock printing.

While printing design onto fabric most likely originated in China about 4,500 years ago, it was on the Indian subcontinent where hand-blocked fabric reached its highest visual expression. In the villages of Bagru and Sananger a few kilometres outside of Jaipur, we will see carvers squatting outside small studios, chiseling designs into teak blocks. In the centre of the village, hand block printers

stand in front of long tables covered with textiles, dipping the teak blocks into colour and stamping them with a thump thump of the hand to ensure a strong print on the fabric.

We then make our way to Ahmedabad in the state of Gujarat to attend a demonstration of Kalamkari work done by the Vaghri community before we depart for Patan, a city rich in historical and architectural monuments. There we will visit the Rani Ki Vav, a fine example of an ancient stepwell and the Mother Sun Temple.

This follows a visit to the museum of the Salvi Family where we will get to experience the weaving of what is known to be the most expensive sarees, known as the Patola Saree.

The most important town of the Kutch region, Gujarat, is Bhuj, an important textile destination. Although an earthquake reduced much of the city to rubble in 2001, it is a paradise for those who love to shop for handcrafted jewellery and textiles. A full day is set aside for workshops in local villages around Bhuj. In the village of Sumrasar, we will visit the Kala Raksha Trust, an NGO dedicated to the preservation of traditional arts with



Rani Ki Vav Gujarat



Gujarat Homestead



Bagru Textile

"If we have the 'khadi spirit' in us, we would surround ourselves with simplicity in every walk of life. The 'khadi spirit' means infinite patience. For those who know anything about the production of khadi know how patiently the spinners and the weavers have to toil at their trade, and even so must we have patience while we are spinning the thread of Swaraj" ... Mahatma Gandhi

an emphasis on empowering women in the region.

In the Banni area of Kutch villagers subsist mainly doing quilting, patch work and handmade embroidery. Artisans of 'Banni Handicrafts' have been honoured with national awards for their work.

We visit two very famous Textile and Crafts Museums. The first one is the Living and Learning Design Centre, established to preserve, revitalise and promote the craft heritage of Kutch.

The Calico Museum is one of India's finest textile museums featuring textiles that represent the varied and remote regions of India that exemplify textile over five centuries, with some stunningly beautiful pieces. dw

www.curiousjourneys.co.za/textile-tour-india-2021



A typical rural hand spinning wheel which has been industriously assembled for informal cotton weaving.



The Designer Fabric Collection

The Designer Fabric Collection is a vibrant collection of texture, patterns and colours. Make a luxurious statement with our designer prints and patterns. Playful contemporary prints for kids but also for grown-ups!

The Designer Fabric Collection can be made up into Roller Blind, Roman Blind and Sliding Panel Blinds. The Collection offers you the opportunity to have some fun with your blinds.

Add warmth and contrast to your interior with layers of colour, textures and fabrics. dw

www.blinddesigns.co.za





Introducing our new Jardin Range In store now

Spring is fast approaching and with it spring cleaning and a new look and feel. Design and decor becomes such a “buzz of thoughts” in our minds during this time. Things like “What to decorate next?”, “Which part of the home to spruce up?”, “Which wallpaper will I need?” all come flooding into our thoughts.

But don't despair! At Wallpaper Inn, we have made it easy for you to be inspired - with the launch of our gorgeous new range of floral wallpapers – Jardin! A fabulous collection of botanicals, textures and geometrics.

Fall in love with bold botanicals, roses in bloom and abstract geometric designs. Create a fresh and elegant atmosphere in your home - effortlessly. Choose from a wide range of colours, including dusky pinks and peacock teals, to striking blues and greens.

Floral wallpaper is a great way to create a soft, calming look and feel in your home, and you are spoilt for choice with our Jardin Range. If it's soft texture and geometry you prefer, then you won't be disappointed either, the range includes a selection of subtle prints to enhance any space.

Suitable for the bedroom, living room, and hallway, incorporate an elegant feature wall or create an all-encompassing indoor garden-inspired design. Be inspired and start planning your Spring Look!

Jardin is available on our website, in store, and with our distributors across the country. dw

www.wallpaperinn.co.za





Hospitality in the New Age

By Mila Crewe Brown

Our need as humans to escape, unwind and switch off isn't going anywhere; in fact, it could be said we need it even more with an increasingly always-on lifestyle. However, the ingredients for those getaways have changed. A focus on conscious design practices has swept over the hospitality industry, as a new generation of holidaymakers demand responsible practices and experiences that speak to context. Our definition of luxury is evolving too...no longer defined by silver service dining and overpriced cocktails; quality, craftsmanship and authenticity are the new luxury.

Hotels have a responsibility now more than ever to support local. That means 100% linen by a local weaver, butter from local farms, gin from the distillery down the road and artworks by that country's darlings. Not only does this make sense from a logistical and sustainable standpoint but it gives international

visitors a taste of the local landscape before setting foot out the door.

Last year saw the opening of Home Suite Hotels in South Africa with their first address, Bristol in Rosebank, Johannesburg's leafy streets. The group's notion that today's hotel experience should be a combination of high-end design with an atmosphere that's as welcoming as home, is right on trend. With the hotels' art focused, colour saturated design scheme executed by none other than Tonic, the space features an open plan kitchen-dining area with a communal feel, as well as a resident dog. Though they may not be everyone's cup of tea, pets are a huge part of this return to comfortable hospitality experiences and we've seen them starting to appear at hotels of all sizes globally.

For lodges, it's about connecting to what's outside, so gone are the days of dark, thatched establishments in a wash of insipid browns and themed interiors.



Today's lodges open up to the outdoors through wide glazed doors and windows and use honest, understated architecture to strip away unnecessary distraction. They're also conscious of their footprint, so recycling initiatives, outreach programmes, green energy and thermal control measures are all part of the fabric. And, since we tend to go on holiday to escape our social calendars, those lodges and boutique hotels offering only a handful of rooms stretched well apart from one another are getting it right.

Durability is a non-negotiable in hospitality interiors, where hard knocks and constant foot traffic are par for the course, but that no longer means these spaces have a contract look to them. Advancements in performance textiles mean that you can source on-trend materials that are as tough as nails. Some of these include Chlewich's Plinyl, an extruded woven yarn which is washable, Larsen's new patterned Performance Collection designed by Jack Lenor Larsen which recently won a 2020 HiP Hospitality award, and of course Sunbrella, who have proved themselves to be a trend setting market leader in the contract sector.

Is there anything better than climbing into a plush hotel bed made up of the most crisp natural fabrics? We think not. That experience is synonymous with the best quality linens and cottons on the market. Brands like Heavenly Feather are paving the way with their supreme quality 300 thread count Egyptian Cotton made locally to order.

The use of natural materials, preferably those gathered locally, is high on the list for conscious establishments. Think local stone, planting that's indigenous to the area and locally sourced timber, all of which offer a strongly rooted sense of place which is key to the new generation hotel experience.

Last but not least, tech is also shifting hospitality to newer, more efficient heights at the touch of a button. Smart hotels offer guests a seamless experience by letting the user control everything from room temperature and light quality to the automatic opening and closing of curtains and timed wake up calls. This concept extends into Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality, Robots, Chatbots and Virtual Reality tours via headsets. Having said that, we personally still love the notion of a human concierge.

dw

Meeting the challenges that face the hospitality industry

The challenges currently facing the hospitality industry in South Africa and across the world are immense, so why, you may think, would a change of beds make any difference?

Well, when you consider that it's a bed that your guests will likely spend the most time on during their stay, it makes sense to provide one that is not only exceptionally comfortable and welcoming, but also one that is reassuring in terms of health and safety.

That is where our beds demonstrate their clear superiority. With ranges that are specifically made to meet both the demanding needs of the hospitality industry and the desires of discerning guests, there is the guaranteed comfort that comes with having made the right choice.

Bravo Group Sleep Products manufactures three of the country's most well-known and beloved brands – Sealy, Edblo and Slumberland – each with their

own distinct character and construction. But when it comes to what's required to meet the rigours of the hospitality industry, they all have a few vital features in common.

Durability.

Guests come in all shapes and sizes and they can be tough on beds, so it's critical that our beds are made to last and deliver consistent levels of support at all times. To achieve this we add an extra level of robustness into the manufacture of our hospitality beds.

Comfort.

The last thing any establishment wants is for a guest to have an uncomfortable night's sleep. Our bed brands are built with a well-earned reputation for comfort – the kind that makes it a delight to go to bed at night, and a reward to wake up the next morning rested and refreshed.

Healthy.

Perhaps more important than ever before, establishments need to reassure their guests that their beds are hygienic to sleep on – an area where our beds truly excel. No matter which of our brands you choose, your guests will enjoy the benefits of anti-microbial, anti-bacterial, bug shield protection.

Incorporating the latest advances in health-promoting fabrics and long-lasting protective treatments, our hospitality beds will provide guests (and you) with a high level of healthy reassurance at a time when it's a top priority.

Given the heightened need to reassure guests that every step towards enhancing their protection and comfort has been taken, it would be a strategic move for establishments to replace their existing beds with ones that are made to meet the needs of a changing world. And to make it a selling point.

www.bravogroup.co.za



Photograph of Jao Camp taken by Crooks and Jackson

Kiwinet

Kiwinet is based in the quaint village of Stanford and environmental issues are very close to our heart. So when we were approached by Silvio Rech and Lesley Carstens Adventure Architecture to assist with a fresh and contemporary mosquito net design for the rebuild of the exquisite Jao Camp we jumped at the chance. Jao Camp, is committed to the pristine environment around them. Minimising footprint and allowing guests to experience the Delta in its fullest sense is one of their priorities. Rech & Carstens, who love adding an element of surprise and delight in an ever-evolving architectural language, created a perfect opportunity for Kiwinet to create and design an innovative, elegant and distinctive mosquito net – spacious and beautifully styled, not merely functional but a feature in itself. With creative juices flowing we proudly presented our version of their vision.

We are delighted to be able to share our Kiwinet effect globally – our name stretches far and wide from the African Plains to the Caribbean Islands and back home to our local private residences. Kiwinet specialises in both standard sizes and custom-made nets, and takes pride in ensuring personal and professional service to our valued clientele.

www.kiwinet.co.za

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www.sevens.co.za

Hotel The Craftsmen opens doors in Amsterdam

Amsterdam, Netherlands

After a year of extensive renovations, a landmark 17th Century building on one of Amsterdam's oldest canals has reopened its doors as Hotel The Craftsmen. The 14-room boutique hotel celebrates historical Dutch crafts with cleverly designed themed rooms. A stay at Hotel The Craftsman offers the luxury and comfort of a boutique hotel, combined with a unique design, rich history, and craftsmanship.

Spread over three historical properties, the hotel offers fourteen distinct and well-appointed rooms. Each room is given the name of the various craftsmen, such as the Boat Builders Signature Suite, The Instrument Makers Single Room, and the Bike Builders Deluxe Double Room. Together, the three buildings are listed



Blacksmith Family Room - Gas burners and an old mangle wheel are reused to create this handsome pendant lamp



The original sleeping alcove, a so called bedstead, in the Boat Builders Signature Suite

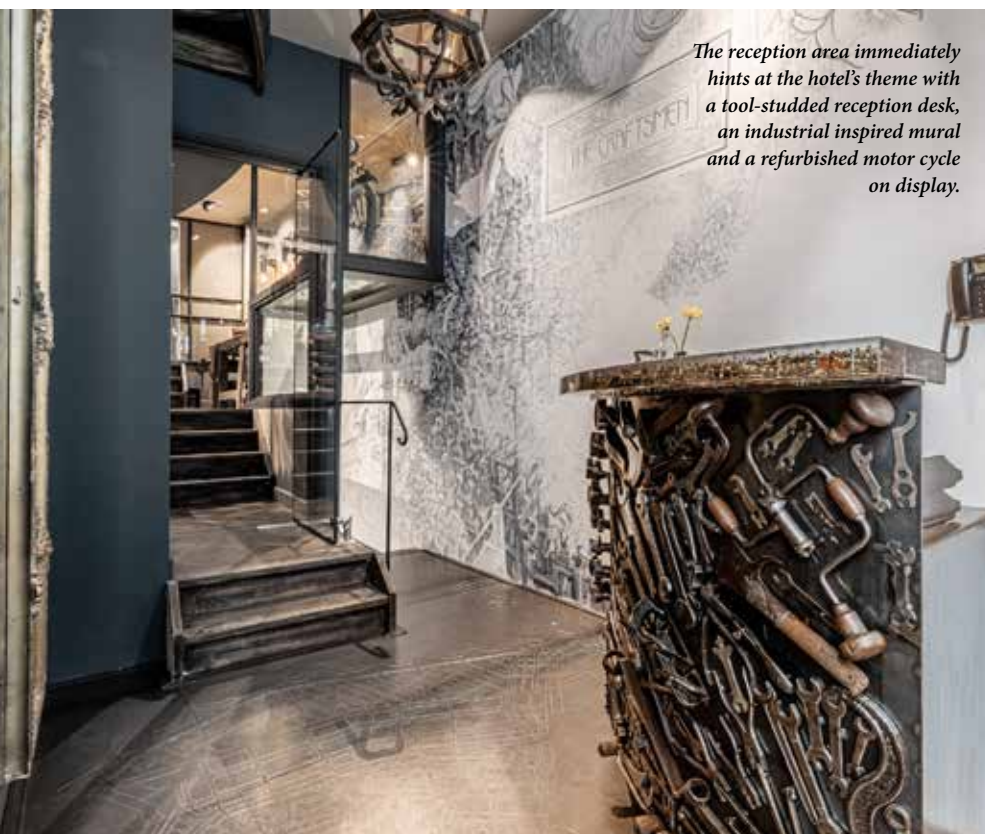
as a national monument dating from 1652. During the extensive redesign, authentic elements were either preserved or meticulously restored. Any new design elements respect the distinct historical character and charm and pay homage to the hotel's name. Period Delft blue tiles, bedsteads, monumental floors, and

the original staircase pair perfectly with beautiful antiques, vintage finds, modern materials, and clever reuse of craft related items the designers introduced to offer the comfort of today.

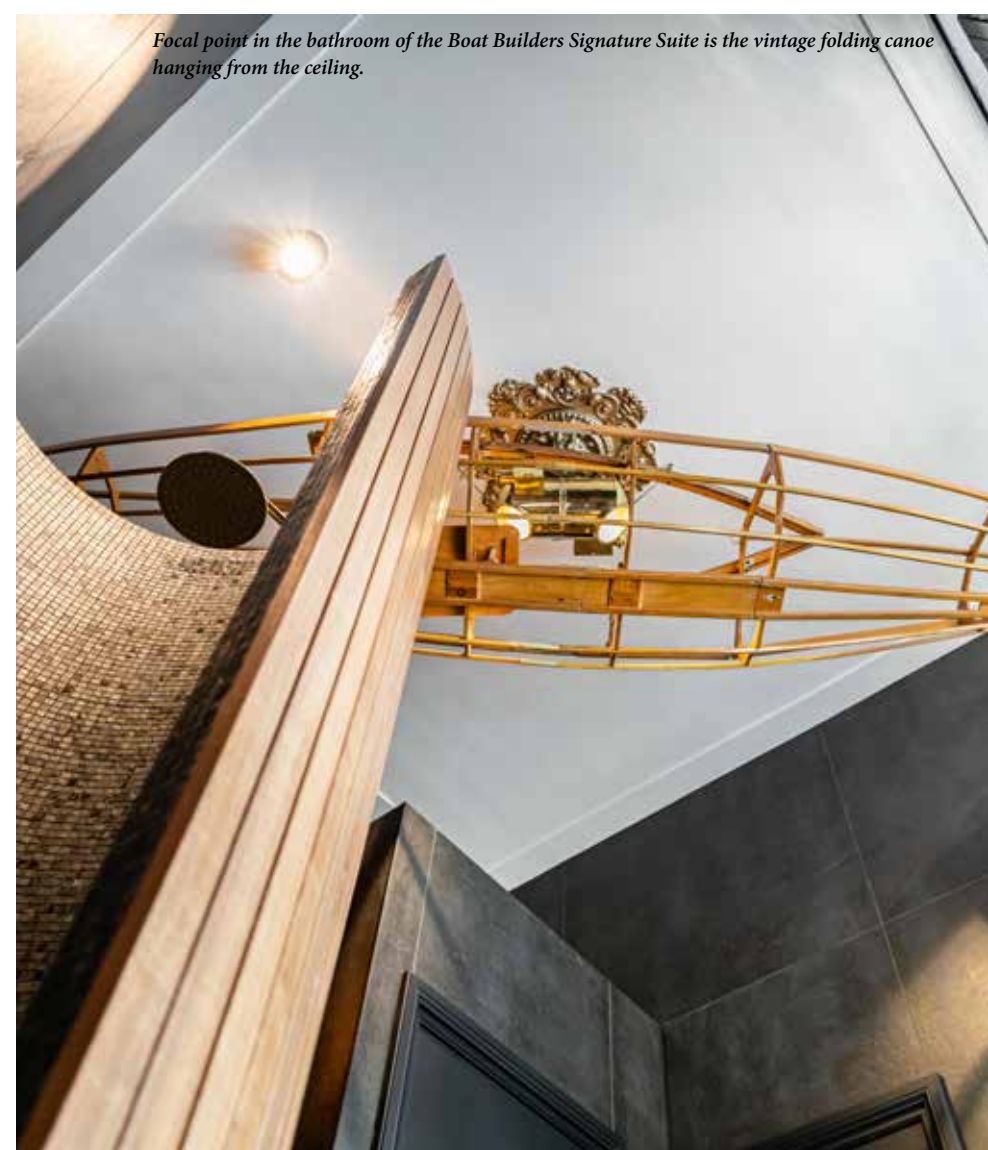
True craftsmanship meets alluring design

Twelve of the fourteen hotel rooms boast impressive views of the Amsterdam canals. The other two are located in the back of the hotel and overlook the vibrant Lijnbaanssteeg alley. Each room has its own unique design, representing a craft while respecting the historical context of the building.

To achieve this, the owners turned to artist Stef van de Bijl, who brought in more local craftsmen such as illustrator Aart Taminiau and steel designer Joram Barbiers. Together, they implemented original and imaginative design elements for which they often repurposed vintage materials befitting the theme. With their collective expertise and craftsmanship, they have given antiques and curiosa a contemporary and practical function within the hotel. Amongst the unique elements are an old canoe serving as a ceiling lamp, a wardrobe made with the emergency exit door of a Fokker F28 jet airliner, and reclaimed aluminum shoe-stretchers from the 1940's getting a second chance in life as wall mounted reading lights. Every corner, nook, and cranny offers another design surprise.



The reception area immediately hints at the hotel's theme with a tool-studded reception desk, an industrial inspired mural and a refurnished motor cycle on display.



Focal point in the bathroom of the Boat Builders Signature Suite is the vintage folding canoe hanging from the ceiling.



Shoemakers Double Deluxe Room - Old shoe molds refitted into elegant reading lights complement this room's shoemakers theme

- Client: Hotel the Craftsmen
- Project contractor: Van Braam- Minnesma B.V.
- Design team: Michelle Zandbergen, Rose-Marie Smeets, Stef van Der Bijl
- Main architect: Stef van der Bijl
- Other craftsmen involved: Rick Wiersma, Aart Taminiau, Joram Barbiers
- Photographer: João Vis

In the Clock Makers Signature Suite, art made with clock parts like cogs, wheels and gears creates a striking focal point.

Boat Builders Signature Suite - A boat shaped bathtub and vintage oars in the ensuite bathroom of the boat builders themed room with perfect views over the Amsterdam canals

In the Airplane Builders Loft this window from a Fokker F50 airplane is polished and re-used as a mirror

The Gallery boasts a stunning artwork made out of epoxy by Stef van der Bijl

An impressive iron spiral staircase connects the two floors of the Blacksmiths Family Room

Boutique experience

To offer guests the luxury and comfort they can expect, the hotel offers exquisite baths, Dyson hairdryers, comfortable beds, and carefully selected amenities. Hotel The Craftsmen ensures the best possible and most personal hotel experience. The breakfast served in the art-filled gallery overlooking the canal offers an extensive selection of freshly baked bread and pastries. Guests can further enjoy fresh cold cuts, fruit, fresh juices, teas, and any coffee they like. Furthermore, they can order eggs in any style or try warm Dutch traditional Poffertjes. These are “Dutch pancakes” that are fast becoming the guests’ favourite.

Breakfast is hosted by the hotels’ ambassadors. The ambassadors are the core of the hotel. They are at the guests’ beck and call and are the hosts, receptionists, concierge, and other staff there make sure all guests feel welcome and are comfortable. The ambassadors are in the know of go-to spots and can provide tips and tailored recommendations for their stay in vibrant and stunning Amsterdam.

Dutch national heritage

The impressive canal houses at the Singel share a rich history. Roelof Swaen, deputy to legendary Dutch sea admiral Michiel de Ruyter, constructed the oldest

of the three buildings in 1652. His ‘Huis de Swaen’ (The Swan) was initially a ferry house but turned into a hotel in the nineteenth century. An original stone plaque on the sidewall of the building shows a swan, referring to its historical name today. In 1917, an Amsterdam local man with the name Brouwer bought Huis

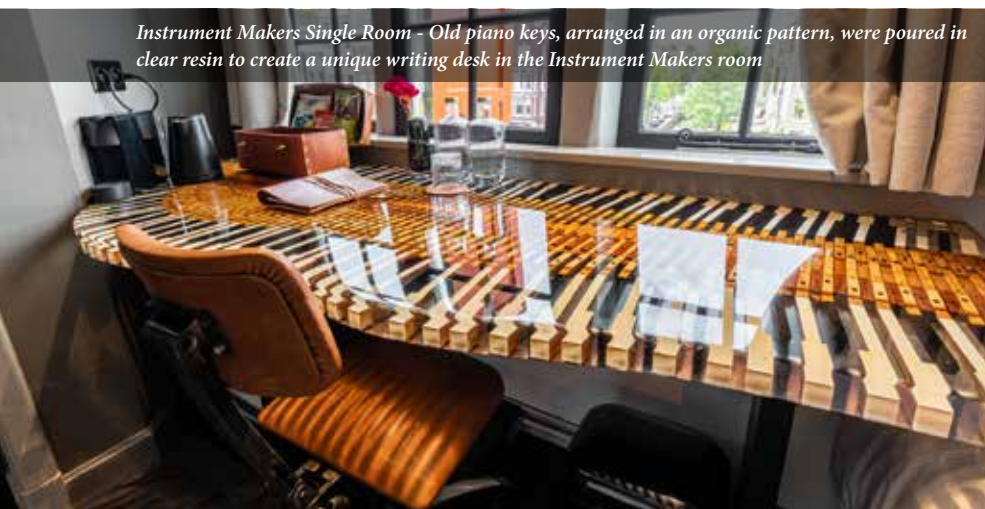
de Swaen and opened his Hotel, aptly called Hotel Brouwer. Exactly 100 years later, the Brouwer heirs sold it to the current owners, the Zandbergen family.

Redevelopment

The Zandbergen family took on the challenging task of turning the national



When looking down from the mezzanine in the Artist Signature Suite, paint splatters on the floor reveal a portrait of Vincent van Gogh



Instrument Makers Single Room - Old piano keys, arranged in an organic pattern, were poured in clear resin to create a unique writing desk in the Instrument Makers room



The prime location of the hotel means 12 of the 14 rooms have stunning views of the canal

as the original 17th-century architecture had to remain intact in accordance with the requirements of Amsterdam's monument care. They also stipulated that in some places in the hotel, the original features or elements had to be brought back. These can now be admired by guests staying at the hotel. Some of these include authentic bedsteads, a so-called 'Keulse goot' (a 17th-century indoor gutter), and Delft blue tiles. The rich history is also reflected in the monumental staircase, the exposed beams and eaves, the original wooden floors, and the intimate and narrow hallways.

For Michelle Zandbergen, daughter of the Zandbergen family and responsible for the day-to-day operation of Hotel The Craftsmen, it is important that the historical value of the hotel and the unique location are represented in every nook and cranny of the hotel.

"Amsterdam has a wonderful history of craftsmanship, we want to bring that cultural heritage to life by not only creating a beautiful hotel but also by letting the guests touch and feel the craftsmanship that is behind it. To achieve that we have combined the raw, authentic crafts that define this city with a modern, luxury boutique experience."

dw

hotelthecraftsmen.com

On The Terrace





Discreet wall colours in combination with the green roof allow the villa to really blend in with its surroundings. The ocean and jungle-oriented façades are fitted with large-size aluminium perforated sections which a) do not heat up in the sun and b) are rust-resistant. When pulled up, they double as canopies. The scale and pattern of perforation is different on each of the sections, thus creating an exciting play of light and shadow inside. The panels' special coating is in the colour of COR-TEN. The full back wall is in charred timber cladding treated with Shou Sugi Ban, an old Japanese technique of weather- and age-proofing the wood.

Disposition-wise, the villa possesses the same minimalistic spirit as its shape suggests. The utility and storage rooms, bathrooms and the kitchen are placed along the back wall.

The layout of the rest of the house is very open; the boundaries between the inside and the outside world are gone and the whole space seems like a roofed terrace. Lightweight sliding partition walls may serve as a tool to create private zones and change the spaces as needed.

The patio reveals an infinity pool, partly roofed and therefore protected from the scorching sun.

The whole interior is in warm, earthy tones of natural materials. All of the furnishings, apart from the lounge and dining chairs, are tailor-designed for this villa and custom-made. Commissioned

Atelier Villa

Art Villas Costa Rica

Not far from Costa Rican town Uvita, there is a hidden small resort Art Villas on the jungle hill above the beach Playa Hermosa.

three unique villas and one multifunctional pavilion are scattered over a plot of 2 ha.

When the investor approached the architects, he wished to create a place where the visitors merge with the surrounding nature, clearing their minds, experiencing luxury and adventure at the same time. He wanted to create a place that digs deep into everyone's heart when they experience it.

The architects from the Formafatal studio followed the client's assignment and were also inspired by the atmosphere and colourfulness of Central and South America.

Atelier Villa

Atelier Villa was designed as a private residence for the investor and his family.

Nestled against a steep slope, the 26-metre-long prismatic building partially levitates over lush tropical vegetation. Looking outside, there is only the distant ocean or green hills as far as the eye can see; the back wall facing the driveway and the neighbouring villas is intentionally windowless, to maintain privacy.

The first and foremost priority is not only the idea of "erasing boundaries between interior and exterior" but also highlighting constructional simplicity and pure lines (pura vida >> pura arquitectura).

The constructional system consists of a steel frame with a span of 4x4m.



ON THE TERRACE

in the area, the most of the furniture was made with the help of local craftsmen. Some components were custom-made in the Czech Republic and transported to the site.

As for the Czech manufacturers, we decided to opt for the renowned Czech glass-making company Bomma and their Shibari lights that go hand in hand with the overall tropical feel of the interiors.

Owner's note The Villas

In the lush jungle of Costa Rica is a space that transcends ordinary. Where day and night merge in a heavenly expanse of verdant flora, pristine beaches, and exquisite style. Here you'll discover three distinct villas each with their own bold and unique architecture and style.

Art Villas is inspired by the laws of the jungle. Our villas strike a rare balance between encounter with nature and protected luxury accommodation. Here creativity springs to life as you mingle with the jungle's breath, relax in comfortable, charming spaces, and surrender to your purest self.

Behold the vast, monolithic structure. Cool, concrete walls stand naked and confident inside the heart of the jungle. Expansive glass walls, jungle wood, and brave dimensions ignite, absorb, and



reflect the raw elements of nature. Hand-painted walls capture the dynamic nature of water and mirror the surrounding tropical forest.

Glide across floors artfully designed with handmade Nicaraguan tiles. Softness, truth, and intention unite beneath your

feet, evoking a sensation of antiquated times. Ornamental designs reminiscent of the past unite with the simplicity of modern design.

CoCo houses are inspired by seed cones, where nature contains its precious promise to the future.



Collaborations

We are working closely with an international community of like-minded artists and high-profile businesses to organize, host, and curate retreats. These events will provide small groups of people and couples with an unforgettable mind, body, and soul experience.

Our journeys to various retreats all over the world have inspired us to create unique experiences where our guests can expand, evolve, and, reconnect with their pure selves. We invite inspirational teachers to our ambient space to lead us to transcendence through various media: yoga, pole dance, art, lecture, and more. Creators of all types will gather here with us to explore and expand the limits of their conscious experience (see our Retreat To Transcendence page to learn about an extra special local event). We also host weddings and offer off-site retreats. [dw](#)

www.formafatal.cz
www.artvillas.com



Business as usual no more

It may be a while before the term “business as usual” would be appropriate to use, as globally everything is changing so rapidly on every level. For some not so much, but the biggest part of populations world-wide had to adapt to new rules at home, at work, on the street and just about every facet of life is toned down or simply does not exist.

The daily traffic grinding stress is now replaced by the challenges of coping with a workload at home, parenting and homeschooling, and all of it in the absence

of cleaners and nannies and gardeners...

Most office staff may never have the opportunity to return to their desks and company coffee stations as the paradigm shift in business has tilted on its axis.

So the temporary office space at home has to become a permanent thing – which means we have to make ourselves comfortable to work efficiently, which means more changes, but not always in a bad way.

Let's be real – work is still work. Or is it? Apart from the obvious benefits of a flexible schedule, absence of commuting,

relaxed dress code and saving your lunch money, you can customize your environment to suit you – where you'll be most effective, along with the industry you're in.

Evaluating how much space (and equipment) you need, will determine whether you need just a part of the dinner table for part of the day or a more serious setup with extra shelves for files, printer, a small boardroom or reception area. Do you need extra light sources? Do you need to be private in order to be able to concentrate – exercising your discipline barriers.

Creating an ideal setup may give you the opportunity to give your new home office a decent overhaul...

If space is precious, you may want to look at converting a closet (or part thereof) into an office area – allowing you to maximizing the usable space. This could come with a covering sliding door or a customised built-in desk underneath an existing shelf or bookcase. Also trending at present is the floating desk mounted on a wall or between two walls. Underutilised guest bedrooms or walk-in closets are ideal areas to convert into office space and come with a door that you can close should you need it.





and Pearl Plant. They like plenty of sun or bright light, such as windowsills with bright sun exposure. But they will be equally happy in indirect bright light conditions.

Aloe Vera – Found all over Africa, most Aloes are drought tolerant, which makes them a great waterwise plant.

If plants are not your cup of tea – consider the four paws option. The introduction of pets could contribute a calming factor for some and a welcome extra soul to cuddle up with during your catch-up on the couch for your favourite Netflix-series. Even an aquarium with fish has a calming effect on the human psyche and it feeds our inner cry to take care of something.

Your office at home is not only about work but it's about you. The most important factor is also the most obvious one. Your office space has to work for you.

dw

www.ineeden.co.za



Colour is an essential part of how we experience the world, both biologically and culturally. Decorate at least one wall of your new home office with a fresh or exciting colour that makes you feel positive and refreshed. It is amazing what an effect colour has on our moods without us always being aware of it.

Letting your unique style shine through your home office space isn't just good for aesthetics – it can also help to fuel your creative thinking, and there's no better way to get that inspirational feeling than with decorative office accents that reflect your personality. To keep the creative flow going without distracting or cluttering your workspace – keep the colours bold and the designs clean and minimalistic.

Consider bringing in at least a few of our natural friends. Plants come not only with the wonderful benefits of something green and alive in your environment, but they also add colour and texture.

A few favourites to consider for indoor options:

Mother in Law's Tongue (Sansevieria) – spread out across Africa in 70 varieties, this trendy evergreen plant is also commonly known as the Snake Plant or Viper's Bowstring Hemp.

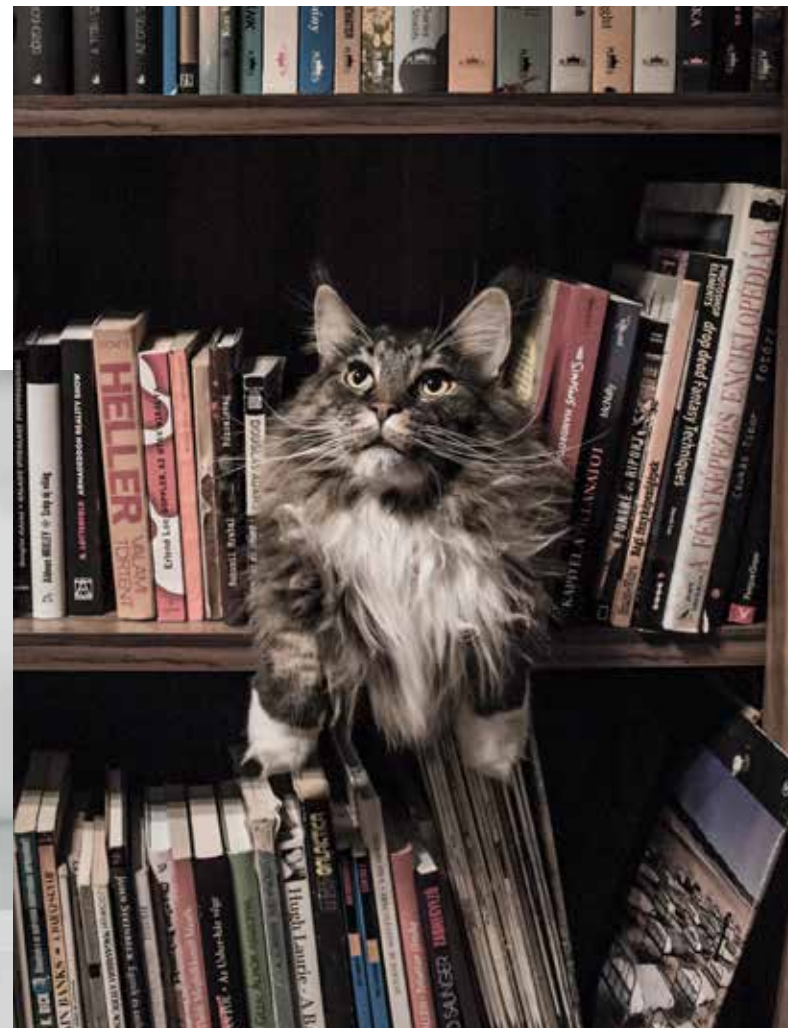
Wild Banana (Strelitzia). An essential Urban Jungle plant which slowly but can reach heights of two metres or more – making for an impressive display.

The Zamiculcas is a tropical perennial plant native to south-eastern Africa, known by many names, including Zanzibar Gem, Zuzu Plant, Emerald Palm and the Eternity Plant. ZZ Plants can handle low light, have low water

requirements and are very tolerant of occasional neglect – all of which makes for a great, easy-care indoor plant!

String of Beads (Senecio Rowleyanus). It looks fabulous when grown in a hanging planter with its 'strings of pearls' trailing out over the edges.

A large genus of small succulents native to southern Africa, also known as Zebra Plant, Zebra Cactus, Star Window Plant



Spring into action with #PolliNationSA

Spring is the best time of the year to create a bee-friendly garden. It is the season of renewal and vibrancy. Of bright greenery and bold colours, bird song, butterflies, flowers, fragrance, and foraging bees.

Embrace this sensual Spring experience by joining Candide's #PolliNationSA



movement, which encourages gardeners to plant flowers, vegetables, herbs, fruit, and trees for bees. A free gardening app, Candide is the place where green enthusiasts will find all the information they need to create a bee-friendly garden as well as inspiration and knowledge about all things plant and garden related.

Candide's #PolliNationSA movement is dedicated to raising awareness around bees, their needs, and what we can do as gardeners to create a sustainable environment for them. Launched on World Bee Day, 20 May, the #PolliNationSA movement is a twelve-month campaign that runs until May 2021. It aims to recruit a minimum of 100 000 South Africans to become pollinators and to plant for bees.

As VIPs (very important pollinators) in the garden, bees are the focus of Candide's #PolliNationSA initiative. "Early Spring is a busy time for most bees," explains Candide Market Lead, Shani Krige. "After the winter, bees will start foraging extensively and this is the time when the plants and flowers in your garden will provide the resources they need."

"Bee-friendly plants are central to the #PolliNationSA movement," says Krige. "You can play the role of a provider for the bees this Spring, by choosing a good variety of popular bee-friendly flowers and plants for your garden. There's an extensive list of bee-friendly plants and flowers in the KNOWLEDGE tab on the Candide app. Group flowers and plants of the same type and colour together so the bees can easily find them."

Join the #PolliNationSA Movement

The #PolliNationSA movement really is for everybody. Here's how you can take part:

1. If you don't already have Candide, download the free app, available on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.
2. Snap a pic of a bee-friendly plant or flower that you're growing in your garden, on your stoep, windowsill or balcony. Candide has loads of information about bee-friendly plants and flowers, which include basil, borage, rosemary, lavender, citrus trees, aloes, vygies, clivias, daisies, proteas, and many more.
3. Share the pic on the Candide app using the hashtag #PolliNationSA.
4. Once posted, you'll receive a #PolliNationSA sticker that will be added to your Candide profile pic confirming your pollinator status.

You will also be able to view a countrywide map that shows the growing movement as more bee ambassadors create bee-friendly spaces throughout our country.

Creating a bee-friendly garden

"Bees are an essential part of an ecosystem and responsible for the pollination of about a third of our food crops and many of southern Africa's indigenous plant species," explains Krige.

In South Africa Amegilla, Megachile, Lasioglossum, Patellapis, and Seladonia are common, widespread hard-working solitary bees. Capicola, Rediviva, Melitta, and Samba are solitary bee genera that mostly visit one or a few closely related flowers. They are important because where one disappears both will disappear. The two main honey bee sub-species are the African bee (*Apis mellifera scutellata*) and the Cape honey bee (*Apis mellifera capensis*).

Consider these ideas for your bee-friendly garden:

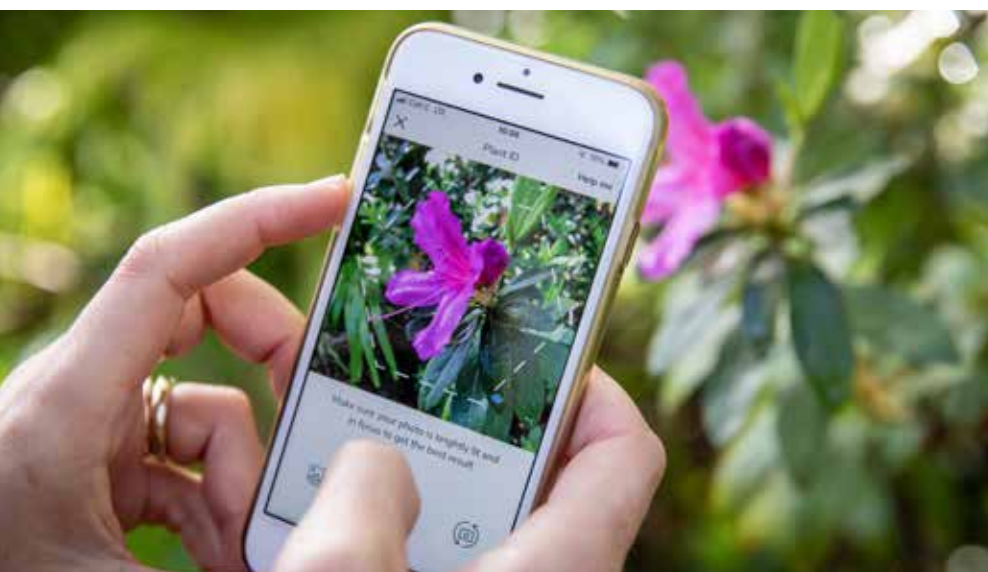
- Allow vegetables and herbs to flower by adding a few extra plants or seeds. Bees love the flowers of rocket, fennel, and carrot to name a few.
- Be diverse. Plant as many different flowering herbs, plants, shrubs, and trees as possible, the more diverse you can go, the better.
- Just like humans, bees need water. Make sure your garden has one or a few water sources that are friendly to bees. They need to have a place to sit where they can reach the water, so consider placing a large rock inside your birdbath or fill a shallow tray with pebbles.
- Avoid pesticides and chemicals as they are not good for bees. Rather try natural ways of fighting off pests like neem oil, soap, garlic, and Epsom salts.

Plants for early Spring:

- The indigenous Cape-forget-me-not (*Anchusa capensis*) produces brilliant blue blooms from Spring through Summer. It is an easy plant to grow and the flowers attract bees and butterflies.
- Alyssum is a wonderful bee-friendly plant that is easy to grow. Plant seedlings from your local nursery, then sow seeds between the planted seedlings for a continuous carpet of blooms throughout the season. The tiny flowers are honey-scented and attract bees in their numbers.

To discover more bee-friendly plants for early Spring and for more information on the #PolliNationSA movement, visit the Candide App and website www.candide.co.za

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Kimpton Vividora Hotel

Barcelona, Spain



Kimpton Vividora Hotel

Barcelona, Spain

The new Kimpton Vividora Hotel, located in Barcelona's Old City, offers a genuine Spanish experience. Designed by El Equipo Creativo, these unique spaces, rooms and restaurants reflect the Barcelonian lifestyle, with a chic, cheerful, and fresh atmosphere, just like the city itself.

Kimpton Hotels are unique boutique hotels, with no uniform brand design, offering genuine and local experiences. Kimpton Hotels like to describe themselves as a brand that "offers luxury without the attitude", with locally loved restaurants and bars and a very personal style. The briefing was to create a Hotel with a local approach, handcrafted and custom-designed, with unique spaces that reflect Barcelona's lifestyle and architecture.

The design strategy is to create a dialogue between the Hotel and Barcelona, and more specifically, a close connection with the neighborhood where the property is located. Ciutat Vella, meaning Old City, which is indeed the oldest part in town, is undoubtedly a different area with its slow pace of life; an artsy neighborhood with an old body and a young soul: small pedestrian streets, full of museums, street art, small shops, traditional bars and cafes, improvised skate parks, etc.

The idea is to create different and unique spaces inside the hotel, inviting both guests and locals to stay, enjoy, meet and interact. They all reflect the local lifestyle, with a chic and joyful atmosphere, unforcedly elegant and genuine at the same time. The design brings handcrafted elements, local brands, and art, colorful ceramic



patterns, together with reinterpreted references to its historical past, mixed with a contemporary spontaneous design approach that gives Vividora Hotel a unique, energetic personality.

One of the challenges was organizing the public programme, as the street level was especially small. The strategy was to use this street-level exclusively for the bar. Cafe Got acts as a connection between the city and the hotel: an active space with a long façade facing the street, inviting guests and locals to enter and interact.

The lobby area is located on a mezzanine level. A double-height space connects it with the bar while bringing a water effect to the space through a cascade of glass lamps. Three stone tops serve as reception desks, referencing the stone fountains in the Gothic patios.

The lobby space is completed with a lounge area and a co-working table.

The rooms

Barcelona, and especially its Old City in contact with the sea, is a city full of contrast and contradictions which harmonically coexist. In the rooms, the designers wanted to reflect the local lifestyle, with a relaxed and unforced chic atmosphere. Colour, temperature, and materiality are the main ingredients of the design, playing a game of contrasts, as in the city itself.

Barcelona is a really colourful city. If the team had to select only two, those would be, without a doubt, the warm terracotta tones of its architecture, and the fresh blue tones of the Mediterranean Sea. As in an abstract art composition, the team brings the two protagonist colour-blocks to the Vividora rooms: the warm leather headboard in the sleeping area opposed to the colder blue crafted ceramic dividers of the bathroom area.

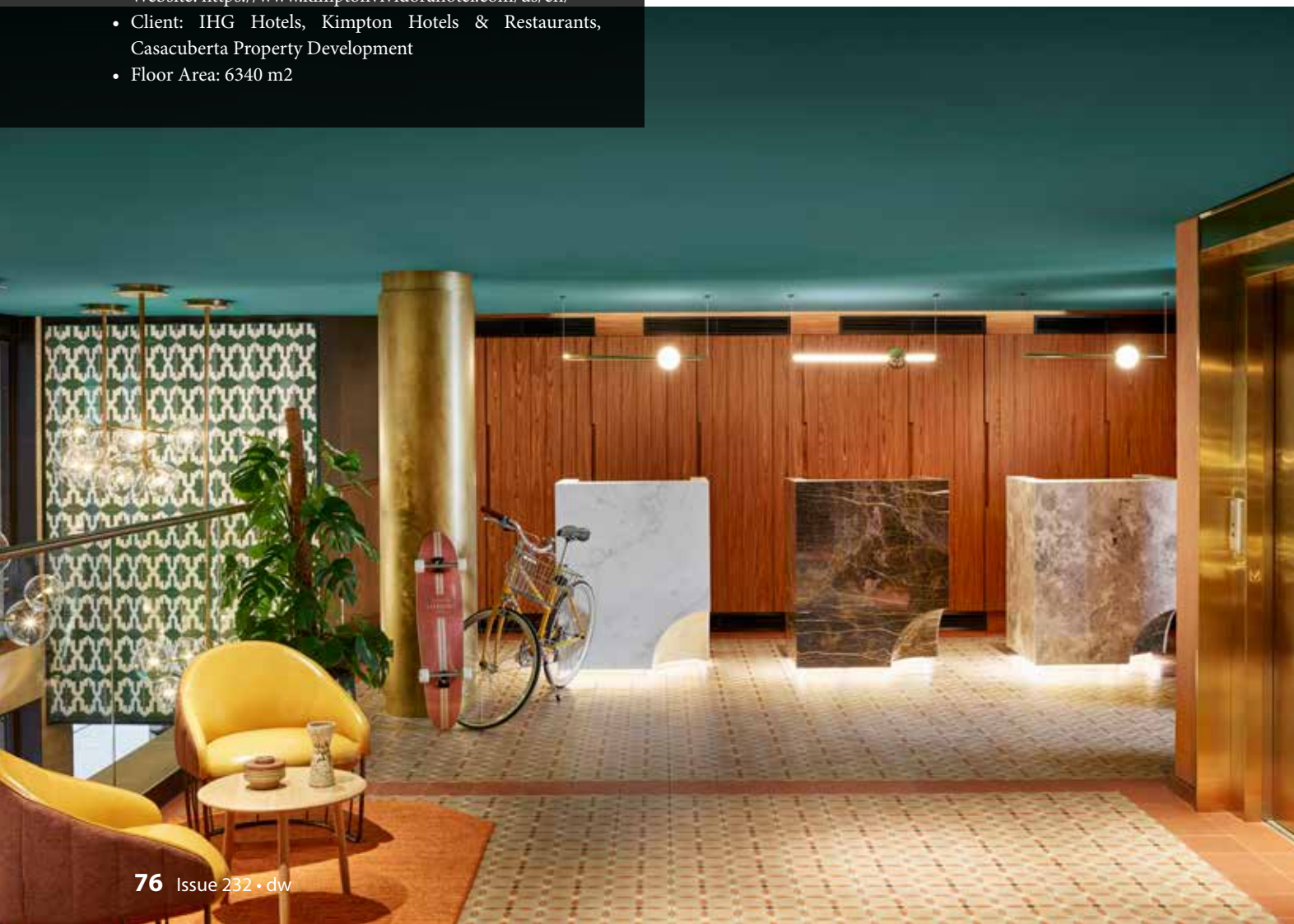
The bathroom area is one of the protagonists, as it is visually connected to the rest of the room. This strategy helps us broaden the spatial feeling, also bringing natural light into the washbasin and the shower area, behind this glazed wall.





Project Data

- Location: Carrer del Duc, 15, 08002 Barcelona
- Website: <https://www.kimptonvividorahotel.com/us/en/>
- Client: IHG Hotels, Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, Casacuberta Property Development
- Floor Area: 6340 m2





Continuing with the game of contrasts, the warm wooden flooring and surfaces serve as a perfect counterpoint for the colder stony elegant surfaces of the water area, while black orthogonal metal structures frame round mirrors and lamps.

The suites

In the suite rooms, the designers bring a similar colour, temperature, and material strategy based on playing with contrasts and opposites.

But in this case with upgraded comfort features, as a stylish living room area, or the extraordinary experience of a bathtub facing the private balcony and the views of the city from the highest floor of the building.

Once again, working with an open programme concept, the different activities of the room were mixed in new ways.

The result is an artsy and elegant room with a genuine local touch.

F&B Areas of the hotel

Kimpton Vividora Hotel has a Food & Beverage offer, different and unique atmospheres invite the public to enjoy the public areas of the hotel.

Cafe Got

A double-height space connecting with the lobby area on the first level brings a fresh and cool effect to the project, with a cascade of glass lamps. Below this space, a comfortable lounge sitting-area, close to the façade and visible from the street, invites guests and locals to enter and relax.

Fauna Restaurant

The restaurant welcomes customers with a vivid and changing-patterned tile floor, as a reference to one of the most characteristic elements of the traditional Barcelona house: the colourful tiled flooring patterns, different in each room of the house. Hand-painted blue ceramic tiles representing scenes of the Old Barcelona city welcome guests at the entrance area where the breakfast-buffet bar is located.

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DLN Penthouse

Open space on the roofs of the city





Pages 78 & 79 Photography by:
Gianni Antoniali



DLN Penthouse

Open space on the roofs of the city

Located on the top floor of a historic building built in the 1930s by architect Ettore Gilberti, the apartment is in a privileged position in relation to the urban landscape and surrounding buildings, enjoying panoramic views of the castle of Udine and the roofs of the city.

The building, built in Liberty style, is constituted of three floors with an attic above, and is L-shaped with a rounded corner and an internal courtyard.

The particular aspect of the attic that made the clients (a dynamic couple who enjoy the culinary and musical world and have a keen interest in the world of modern architecture and design) fall in love with it, were the glimpses of the sky visible from the numerous skylights that pierce the pre-existing wooden roof and the windows along the perimeter walls that allow different glimpses of the city. The result obtained from these numerous openings is a large amount of natural light that pervades the entire open space.

The spatial distribution of the intervention fully reflects the concept of open space desired by the customers.

Once through the entrance, a Verde Alpi marble monolith separates the living area from the sleeping space. Moving towards the living room, the view opens onto a large bright space, equipped with a so called "mobile service" at the end of the room that contains the

kitchen and equipped compartments, a large kitchen island to encourage conviviality with guests, and a large modular sofa with adjacent fireplace.

The most obvious architectural sign is the so called “mobile scenario” covered in Verde Alpi marble, which separates the sleeping area from the living area. The monolithic shape of this element hides the nature of this object, to let emerge the preciousness of the material that acts as a great scenographic backdrop. Its interior hides equipped spaces, with flush doors without handles, which make it possible to obtain a smooth and homogeneous surface on the outside.

In the living area a winter garden has been created, located at the end of the attic, which communicates with the living room through a large floor-to-ceiling window. This private Eden is immersed in greenery and perfectly soundproofed, to allow free music reproduction.

The resulting portion of the attic is occupied by the sleeping area, consisting of guest bathroom, laundry and guest room. The master bedroom is directly accessible from the living area and is served by a large bathroom with an oval bath and shower with Turkish bath.

To provide for the lack of an external space, a roof terrace was built to enjoy the 360° views of the city, which can be accessed by means of an iron staircase set on the “mobile scenario” at the entrance.

DLN Penthouse is the result of a careful search for essentiality and functionality, which are found in the spatial organization of the premises, in the clean design of custom-made furnishings, in the reduced choice of colours (the green of marble and plants, gray anthracite of the floor and the widespread white of the walls, the roof and the furniture placed against the perimeter). The minimal environment is “heated” by the diffused natural light and the colourful views of the city. dw

www.geza.it

*Pages 80 & 81 Photography by:
Elisa Mansutti*



DLN Penthouse, Credits and dimensional data

Architecture design

- GEZA Gri e Zucchi Architettura srl arch. Stefano Gri, arch. Piero Zucchi

Team

- arch. Elisa Mansutti (project manager)

Structural design

- Ing. Alessandro Nutta

Mechanical plants design

- Tecno-i Studio Energy Solution

Electrical plants design

- Studio Tecnico Venica Marco

Acoustic comfort advice

- Arch. Caputo Vincenza

Supervision of works

- GEZA Gri e Zucchi Architettura srl

Contractor

- Impresa Costruzioni Del Bianco srl

Furniture, boiserie, finishings

- Vecchiutti srl (furnitures and boiserie)
- NC Marmi di Cescutti Edi srl (marble works)
- Colledani (resin floor)

Client

- Private

Location

- Udine, Italia

Chronology

- design phase: 2016 costruzione: 2018

Data

- area of intervention: 240 sq m
- altana: 16 sq m

Photographers

- Gianni Antoniali
- Elisa Mansutti

Around the Net

Courdimanche, France

Around the Net

Courdimanche, France

In the house, space is used but has yet to be lived in. The family, who has recently moved in, is settling in, capturing sensations and sequences which will soon become the pillars of the upcoming project.

The owners wanted to renovate and adapt this house to their way of life, a more comfortable one, and above all, in accordance with their tastes. This project gave us time to think about spaces in a new light, with new use, especially for children.

Directing spaces

The main asset of the house was its light, and the double-height volume in the living room, unexploited until then. As a result, a mezzanine net came to life in this space, allowing the outdoor light to come through, yet offering another way to take over this area.

The white floor on the ground floor, beyond its high reflective potential, brings out all the elements that are put down on it. The flooring shade also highlights an inversion of sensations with the shuttered concrete ceiling. This change upsets the habits to reinforce the notion of the void at the centre of the net.

The integrated furnishings, mostly oak with some black spots, bring warm fragments to the place, as gold nuggets one ties oneself to and which structure the clear and infinite space. The goal was to reorganize these living spaces developed upon two floors, in order to create a general coherence in the project, while at the same time creating distinct areas dedicated to a specific use.

The central area links both levels as a backbone. It is a huge sculpted wooden volume, in which several functions and usages are articulated: it is, on the one hand, the stairs that lead to the other floors but also access the basement, the toilets, the bar, the library, the storage for vinyl records, and the television unit. The whole is materialized with games of solids and voids, punctuated by numerous spaces hidden by door curtains or small trap doors.





In parallel, a piece of furniture going through the front entrance of the house welcomes us, inviting us to sit down and take our shoes off before coming in. This piece goes up to the living room wall, facing the central block. This pathway made of wood throughout conceals numerous Hi-Fi storage units.

In front of it, a line develops along the wall, on each side of the stove, with on one side a bench seat with integrated storage for parents, welcoming relaxation, and on the other, storage for toys for children to play with. The whole is topped by large shelves, as a ribbon unrolling along the wall, sheltering books, and subdued lighting.

Hierarchy of spaces through matter

The mezzanine net becomes, depending on the time of day, a space for children to play, a place to relax as a family, or a movie room.

Bordering the net, along the wall, a wooden strip occupies the residual space under the slope, offering a number of storage spaces, and integrating a video projector and home cinema, concealed behind sliding doors once the showing is over. This strip continues on the next wall with a different shape, where the structure of the net is wrapped by wood and allows for a sequence of tiny trap doors, with some more storage spaces.

Like a theatrical production, the light falls onto the walls and the furniture, as such creating a warm atmosphere throughout the day, making these spaces pleasant and soothing. The result is a true call for relaxation in this area, where everybody finds their own space without cluttering the available space.

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Capitec Bank's new headquarters

By dhk



Capitec Bank's new headquarters

By dhk

Capitec Bank, one of the largest and most progressive banks in Africa, has unveiled its innovative new headquarters, iKhaya, meaning 'home' in Xhosa. Designed by multidisciplinary studio, dhk Architects, the three-storey curvilinear building is defined by its dynamic interior architecture, which embodies the company's progressive outlook and embraces the concept of agile working. Striking and otherworldly, dhk's holistic architectural approach considers both the exterior and interior to optimise corporate expenditure, internal flow and sustainability - demonstrating that commercial offices can be innovative and cost-effective while driving operational efficiencies.

Capitec's success and growth over time meant that the company came to occupy numerous offices. These offices were geographically dispersed, resulting in departments becoming increasingly isolated from one another with the need to move between buildings to meet face-to-face. Consequently, Capitec opted to consolidate its staff and facilities into one operationally efficient headquarters. Located in the scenic Cape Winelands in South Africa, a key driver of the design concept involved capturing panoramic vistas and drawing the landscape within.

The building form optimises the shape and size of the site while referencing the brand's distinctive curved logo. The three-storey superstructure wraps around itself, which creates a unique 'doughnut' shape and forms a central triple-volume atrium - an internal 'social spine' at the heart of the building. Contributing to the contemporary appearance, white aluminium panels clad the building's sinuous form which is further accentuated with continuous ribbons of fenestration.

Internally, the design resonates with the company's progressive outlook - ensuring guests and staff unequivocally feel the spirit of the



brand throughout the building. Once at reception, visitors are greeted by a generous triple-volume space that immediately showcases the sophistication and simplicity of the interior architecture. Wide open-plan floorplates loop around the periphery of the atrium which are connected by a series of dramatic bridges and staircases. This was an intentional design element which inter-connects the various departments, creating opportunities for chance collaborative encounters and personal interactions.

Reinforcing Capitec's brand identity, the company logo is embossed into the ceiling above reception. Overhead, clerestory windows and large roof lights ensure plentiful natural light and further facilitate the connection to the outside world. Meanwhile, touches of timber have been added throughout the office to introduce a feeling of warmth.

The new headquarters by dhk fosters a company culture of creativity, innovation and collaboration with a large emphasis placed on optimising internal flow and departmental interaction. The first and second floors, containing the office's open-plan work areas, are largely void of hierarchal structure and closed-off cubicles. Embracing the concept of agile working, a raised access floor throughout the building facilitates maintenance and future upgrades to services. On each level, a total of four 'cores', containing centralized amenities such as kitchenettes, meeting rooms, breakout areas, lockers, bathrooms and fire escapes, serve to augment the floorplates into departmental zones.

Throughout the building's 'social spine' there are a variety of breakaway areas; from a large ground-floor lounge at reception for guests to await meetings and co-workers to engage, to pause areas on bridges, and an internal landscaped courtyard for staff to rest. These spaces fuel creativity and innovation by allowing employees to slip away from their resident desks to enjoy a moment of solitude, conduct a private meeting or brainstorm ideas in small groups. Not only do these breakout areas increase job satisfaction, but they boost staff productivity and efficiency. Furthermore, there is a full-service kitchen and canteen area with ample seating, a small satellite café, and a grand multifunctional stadium staircase/seating area for company presentations and talks. Other useful facilities include a recording studio, Capitec Bank branch and an ATM lab facility.



Capitec championed environmental sustainability and employee well-being throughout the building, particularly where it made sense and value could be demonstrated. Natural light is optimised via clerestory glazing, roof lights and internal courtyard windows, while artificial lighting is zoned and activated by sensors. Environmental performance modelling directly influenced the articulation of the façade. The process informed areas of fenestration, glazing specification, glare control measures and solar shading. Performance modelling also informed the primary ordering of the internal layouts. For example, a circulation zone was provided along the external perimeter of the building to distance resident desks from sources of radiant heat. Furthermore, the thermal mass of the concrete building superstructure is exposed in various areas and the basement is naturally ventilated. Other sustainability measures include ice storage to offset peak electrical demands, a greywater system, water-saving fittings, building management system for extensive metering and monitoring, double glazing throughout, use of good quality and low maintenance materials, locally sourced materials, water-efficient heat rejection, zero ODP (Ozone Depletion Potential) refrigerants, use of low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) finishes, borehole and rainwater harvesting for irrigation, water-wise planting and refuse management to encourage separation of waste and recyclables.



To promote employee well-being, the building is purposefully limited to only two passenger lifts for its workforce of approximately 2,000. This is supplemented by a variety of generous feature stairs to encourage walking and limit the use of confined lift spaces. As such, the fire escape stairs were designed for dual functionality; where the quality of finishes were upgraded, they serve as ‘communication’ stairs. Further promoting employee well-being and to ensure that the needs of universal access were met, Capitec engaged with a disability consultant and an acoustic specialist early on in the design process. The recommendations of both specialists were incorporated into the building. For example, sound-absorbing materials and acoustic separation between meeting rooms were included throughout the building to achieve a specified performance in terms of decibel reduction. Additionally, and beyond the requirements of the regulations, consideration of car parking locations, emergency evacuation, ablutions and vertical circulation, are all examples of how the spirit of universal and inclusive access have been addressed.

Furthermore, Capitec rehabilitated a neighbouring area of public open space to be used by staff and the broader community as a recreational area for activities such as walking and running. Fittingly, the building also provides cyclist facilities and purpose-designed showers.

Looking to the future, the development incorporates a car parking structure on an adjacent site that follows iKhaya’s core principles, designed for future adaptation into an office should there be a modal shift towards public transportation and less reliance on private cars.

Peter Stokes, a partner at dhk and lead architect on the iKhaya project says, “Capitec is a renowned South African brand that highlights values of simplicity, innovativeness and collaboration. dhk sought to create an extraordinary, world-class office that is progressive and relevant in the South African context - designed to be agile, drive productivity, increase operational efficiencies and ultimately reduce company operational expenditure”.

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TAIL OF THE DOG

I spend a lot of time reading, and am constantly aware of grammatical errors and the overuse of unnecessary apostrophes and exclamation marks, so it has been interesting listening, more than I usually do, to the radio, particularly "talk" radio.

It is surprising how often important spokespeople for various organisations have what I can only describe as tics of speech. A tic is defined as "an uncontrollable, sudden, repetitive movement that can be difficult to control". For me tics of speech are, firstly, the obvious "um" that peppers many listeners' contributions to radio. Some people, um cannot get by um without putting in ums all over the place. But I have noticed others, which, when you are aware of them, can drive you mad. One in particular is "You know?" There are callers who will put "You

Tics of Speech

know?" into a sentence at least once, if not twice. It comes like a punctuation mark for every phrase, almost like a signal to breathe. I sometimes count the "You knows" and have got up to twenty in one call.

Another one is I think very South African. It is the reply "100%" or "hunnerd percent" that reminds me of sayings that mean the exact opposite. When someone says "hunnerd percent" to me, I immediately smell danger and think this job will not be done properly, or this person is a liar and a thief, maybe part of the new Corrupt Class that is populating our country. (Perhaps this is their fee?) It is a bit like the sarcastic "My Learned Friend" used by lawyers to show their utter disregard for their opposite number in court, or "with all due respect" which means you have none whatsoever

There are people who have an unfortunate habit of copying the last few words of your sentences, a form of echolalia. I am caught off guard, wondering how they knew what I was about to say. In retrospect, it may be a sign that they are actually listening to what you are saying.

Top of my list is the pompous, antiquated word "indeed". Years ago, I attended a series of lectures given by an extremely clever, well-read man who used to give himself a smack whenever he said 'indeed', as he felt it was an unnecessary and ineffective word. When I looked it up, I found that one of the uses of the word is to express irony or contempt.

Indeed.

Gill Butler



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