

the future is now

The world's leading design brands at Salone del Mobile in Milan set next year's trends – our editor Pip Rich decodes the moments, moods and movements

Cheers to this

Meet the bar trough, a logical next step to answer the desire we all have to turn our homes into elegant entertaining playgrounds. Part of the Superblocks collection designed by Marcio Kogan for Minotti, the customisable form of this warmly hued wooden cabinet can include a brushed marble basin with ridged sides, ideal for storing decanters and drinks. Putting both the fun into functional and the luxe into minimaluxe – make mine a double. >



TEN OUT OF TEN

The Porada showroom in Design Centre, Chelsea Harbour is one of my happy places. All that smooth, canaletta walnut, those inviting rounded edges, and the elevated marbling of the Ekero collection by Staffan Tollgård always fills me with a sense of wonder. It's 10 years old this year and is celebrating with a 10th collection that launched at Salone. The new range is as timeless as ever and it includes this Frida chair. At once mid-century and modern, it works in a home office or dining space, seamlessly shifting between the two in the way that Porada designs always do.





Ralik modular seating by Arper

Net Lounge chair by Nardi



Bright at home

Bursting through all the tasteful creams and elegant whites were little rays of sunshine yellow, Salone's version of serotonin for the soul. I see this as one of the predominant colour trends for 2024, used on accent pieces against neutral backdrops – a chair in a minimalist living room or a sofa against a limewash wall. It also pairs particularly well with royal blues and dusky pinks.



Bumper sofa by Calvi Brambilla for Zanotta



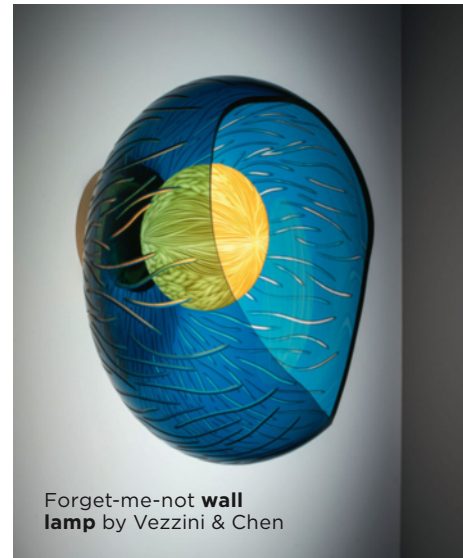
Akira carpet by Kit Miles for Mooi Carpets

MAN OF THE MOMENT

One of the names seemingly on everyone's lips right now is Kit Miles – it's rare I chat to anyone in the design world without his work coming up. The British pattern creator is building a niche as the go-to for dynamic creations, and case in point was his collab with Mooi Carpets, shown during Salone. A riotous blend of energy and flair, he's the star of this year, and a superstar of the future. ➤

design report

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LIGHT-BULB MOMENT

I've been feeling that the era of the big light is over, that instead rooms are more pleasant by the light - of smaller, more zoned illumination, such as Vezzini & Chen's new wall light collection. However I do believe that 'light washing' is also a key look for design going forward, and that while a single chandelier is less beguiling than a wall and floor lamp curation, vast sculptures that wash the room in rich light - seen to bathe those on the stands of Gallotti&Radice and Slamp - are just as able to make a space seem very refined. ➤



Joy to the world

Artist Elena Salmistraro collaborated with luxe rug brand Tai Ping for the standout Legami collection

PIP RICH I am so inspired by the absolute happiness that your colours evoke. Why did you choose this palette?

ELENA SALMISTRARO Because the shades bring such joy and vitality. They represent the light and energy that permeate us when we are close to loved ones, when we can share moments, play and dream together.

PR What a lovely sentiment! The patterns are almost comic book-like, which I think gives the colours added impact.

ES Tai Ping understood the narrative power of pop motifs and appreciated the sense of joy that colours convey. My inspirations were from pop and surrealist suggestions, which have so much energy and positivity.

PR How do you see them being used in people's homes?

ES The interesting thing about these carpets is their versatility despite their strong artistic connotation. One possible option would be to hang them on the wall in maximalist environments. The three-dimensional effect and the beauty of the patterns could add a touch of originality to an already bold and daring space. They could also be used as distinctive floor elements in neutral environments, breaking the monotony of a space without sacrificing the overall style. ►



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Cremona **cabinet**
by Cattelan Italia

SHARP AND SMART

No Salone is complete without some sleek and chic new showings, and this year's additions are more gleaming than ever before.



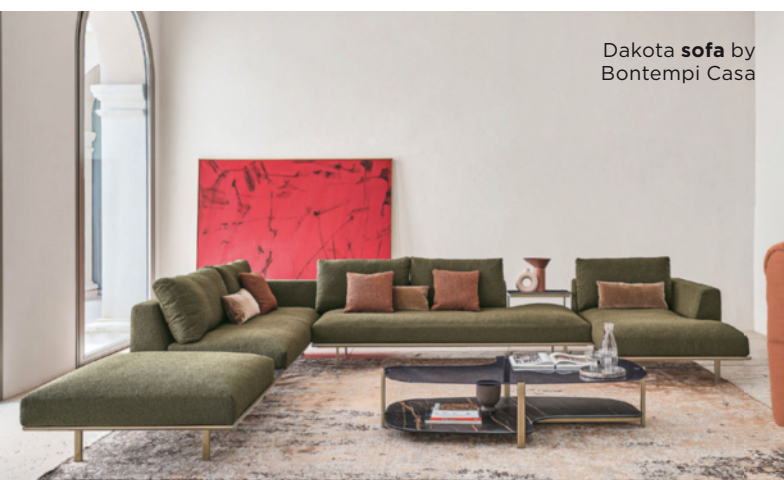
Allmarble
floor tiles
by Marazzi



Maxima 2.2
kitchen by Cesar

Take a seat

And sofas were the star of the show, this time focussing on high comfort levels, squashy shapes and configurations made for socialising.



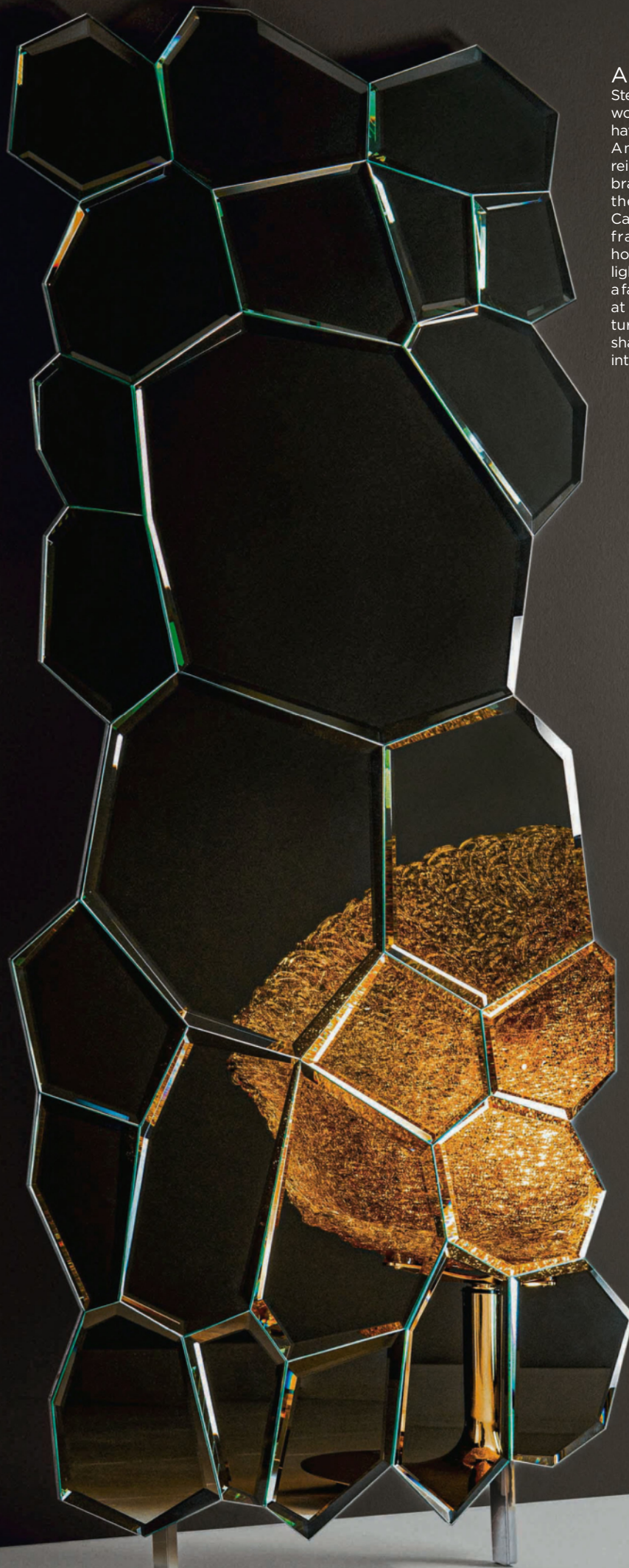
Dakota **sofa**
by Bontempi Casa



Westside **sofa**
by Poliform



Strips **sofa** by Cini
Boeri for Arflex



ART OF GLASS

Step once again into the fantastical world of Edra, where polar bears have long been sofas and South American straw huts are reimagined as storage. One of the brand's new designs this year is the Jubilé mirror by Estúdio Campana, composed of 25 glass fragments arranged like a honeycomb, gleefully bouncing light and life around the room. It's a fascinating piece, reflecting back at you various distortions and turning your surroundings into shards that are instantly elevated into intriguing works of art.