

ICON

131
FACTORIES
May 2014

RAF SIMONS FOR KVADRAT
The world-renowned Danish firm
fashions its cloth in a Yorkshire mill

THE HERMAN MILLER FACTORY
Grimshaw's 1970s building in Bath was
the original "Action Factory"

ITALIAN DESIGN REPORT
The latest in Italian design, and a
preview of the Milan Furniture Fair

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ARCHITECTURE & CULTURE

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BEHIND THE SCENES WITH BARBER OSGERBY





Milliken

Global textiles innovator Milliken is launching its new Nordic Stories collection. The portfolio's four new designs, Tectonic, Isograd, Hidden Plains and Extreme Contrasts, encompass the sensory experience that is the Nordics. These designs illustrate the striking extremes of its volcano and glacier-shaped landscape that has evolved over millions of years. The collection also includes cushion backing with 90 per cent recycled content to provide underfoot comfort, improved acoustics and superior appearance retention. www.millikencarpet.com



Knauf

The aesthetically versatile Vinova gypsum fibre panels from Knauf can be finished in a variety of ways, including lacquered, painted or digitally printed, or with a continuous or high-pressure laminate coating or real wood veneer. The panels can be curved, perforated or micro-perforated to achieve any acoustic performance level, or produced with a magnetic whiteboard surface. All panel options have a high density and high impact resistance, making them especially suitable for high-traffic areas. www.knauf.co.uk



XYZ Integrated Architecture

The zag-zig chair from XYZ Integrated Architecture is a unique, handmade piece created in 2006. The chair measures 60cm high by 56cm deep and 56cm wide, with a seat height of 35cm. Its striking form is created from MDF and copper, creating a one of a kind chair that will become the focal point of any commercial or residential interior setting. www.xyz.com.ge



Kreon

The German Design Council has awarded Kreon a Special Mention for Rei, a luminaire in die-cast aluminium with a balanced and sober design. Rei is a lighting system that combines visual minimalism, optimal output and glare control with the most recent advancements in LED technology. The luminaire produces a smooth, homogenous and silent glow of light that enhances structures and the surrounding space. www.kreon.com



Villeroy & Boch

The new Villeroy & Boch bathtub family Squaro Edge 12 is characterised by its clear lines and stylish design. Offering particular bathing comfort and simultaneously satisfying the highest of pure aesthetic standards, its highlight is the 12mm narrow rim, the creation of which is achieved through the use of the material Quaryl. There is a choice of rectangular built-in tubs in four sizes: freestanding, oval and an oval built-in tub. All the bathtubs are only 45cm deep and thus require a reduced amount of water. www.villeroy-boch.com



TABISSO

The New Ciel! collection for TABISSO, by French designer Noé Duchaufour Lawrance, includes a range of high-end armchairs for the contract and hospitality markets. Ciel! features fine, smooth shapes with taut lines, bringing a poetic, narrative dimension to its environment. With five models in the collection, Ciel! offers a broad range of customisation options in colour, material and bases, providing clients with the perfect match when designing interiors as diverse as offices, hotels or residential spaces. www.tabisso.com



Vorwerk Carpets

Vorwerk introduce PARTS, an ecological flooring in a plank format for ultimately flexible design solutions. Just like its ingredient elements, PARTS takes surface design inspiration from the natural world. The planks offer innovative appearance and appealing surface texture, capturing the look and feel of materials such as sand, rope and timber in various degrees of abstraction. Designed to inspire, PARTS is available in three different formats and can be combined and laid in numerous ways, giving rise to infinite patterns. www.vorwerk-carpet.com



Wilton Carpets

Two bespoke carpets by Wilton Carpets Commercial have conjured an equestrian-inspired backdrop at the prestigious hospitality interiors of Cheltenham Racecourse. Providing over 1600sq m of bespoke carpet for the busy hospitality suites, and using hues from the Wilton Elements Flexiweave palette, the first bespoke design incorporates a seven-studded horseshoe motif nestling amongst elegant scrolling vines, perfectly suited as a renowned symbol of good luck. Wilton's carpets deliver comfort under foot yet provide the hardwearing durability required by the busy corridors and thoroughfare in and around the hospitality suites. www.wiltoncarpets.com