

PORCELANOSA

Lifestyle

ISSUE NO. 25 / 5 EUROS

DANIEL LIBESKIND

A TALENTED ARCHITECT

MALLORCA

HOTELS IN SEARCH OF THE SUN

OPEN TO THE WORLD

TERRACES IN LOS ANGELES,
MONTE CARLO AND MENORCA

CONQUERING SPACE

FRAN SILVESTRE, A GREAT FEAT

HEALTHY SHAPES

TOP-NOTCH DESIGN FOR
TWO CLINICS

CERSAIE

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF CERAMIC
TILE AND BATHROOM FURNISHINGS



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EDITORIAL

A company open to the world

Behind excellence, there are always years of research, work, know-how and professionalism.

Only then do the products materialise as they are the fruit of all the above – and in the specific case of the products created by the eight **Porcelanosa Group's** brands, they are the sector's most iconic on both the national and international markets.

The Cersaie Trade Fair held in Bologna that showcases the world's most important ceramic tile brands, the Milan fair and, last but not least, the **Porcelanosa Group International Exhibition** in Villarreal, all displayed the latest technological advances applied to ceramics, designs, and to wall cladding and floor tiles for bathrooms and kitchens in natural materials.

Technology and design; production, finishing, distribution – a top-quality combination for the world's best architects and interior designers to satisfy the wishes and needs of millions of people.

This is – has been and will be – the challenge posed by **Porcelanosa Group**. We would like to thank you all for accompanying and supporting us on this path.

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Chipperfield's success in Mexico



Since the Jumex Museum of contemporary art opened its doors in Mexico City a year ago, it has already become one of the country's cultural benchmarks. The public's enthusiastic response and good reviews are proof of this great reception and the success of both the content and form of this versatile building designed by English architect David Chipperfield. For his

first construction in Latin America, the architect designed open spaces and a tiered roof in order to make the best use of the daylight, and integrated the building perfectly with its surroundings. Experts have highlighted its clean, sober lines, both inside and outside.

The museum's 1,600 square metres showcase the Jumex Foundation of Contemporary Art's private collection, which, with more than 2,500 works, is regarded as one of the most important in the world. It boasts significant pieces from the '50s of the 20th-century – the most outstanding ones spanning from the late 90s to the present. Visitors can enjoy work by artists such as Cy Twombly, Donald Judd, Ed Ruscha, John Baldessari, Damien Hirst, Franz West, Louise Bourgeois, Dan Flavin, Jeff Koons, Andreas Gursky, Gabriel Orozco, Tracey Emin, and Sharon Lockhart, among many others. In addition, it offers an intensive exhibition programme as well as academic and educational activities for those interested in contemporary art and for the countless tourists in the city.

MOBILE CABINS, A REFUGE IN MOTION

In *Walden*, a work by Henry David Thoreau, the author comments on a small cabin by Lake Walden in which he lived for two years: "With this more substantial shelter about me, I had made some progress toward settling in the world" – a reference to the significance of a refuge as a minimal space in which to dwell that also sharpens our senses and stirs our deepest thoughts. This life experience has survived to the present day thanks to the ÁBATON architecture studio, which has created a mobile home similar to a classic cabin, transportable on a standard truck. It is designed for two people and has every comfort despite its small size: 27 square metres (9 x 3 m). With an A-frame gable roof and materials such as timber, it can be installed almost anywhere and inside feels spacious and balanced.



Photo: Juan Baraja.

ARIADNA CANTÍS
SILVERSTEIN

ARCHITECT AND EXHIBITION CURATOR

On the fringes of architecture



At a time of turmoil when the economic crisis seems to have impacted the optimistic approach of the most recent architectural designs, my work as an independent architecture curator is intended to celebrate architectural excellence from the viewpoint of collective intelligence and also of innovation: an in-depth look at different typologies and scales, committed to new formats for exhibitions and diffusion, sensitive to a kind of architecture and urban planning that are able to embody a better future.

My work encompasses many fields that in turn establish new areas of both knowledge and action through exhibitions, publications and events that defy exhibition formats used until now. This encourages debate as well as the transfer and generation of knowledge so, in a nutshell, it is a commitment to a new model, a platform for the expression and actions of a creative group of people that lives on the emerging fringes of contemporary society.

A new space for Vitra in Madrid

Vitra – renowned maker of classic designer furniture for the home, office and public spaces – has moved its flagship shop to a new space on Calle Padilla no. 21, opposite the prestigious Juan March Foundation.

Vitra's commitment to the culture of design and architecture is also apparent in this new shop, with a light, diaphanous design in a 1,500-square metre versatile space that will house shows, lectures and countless other cultural activities.

Vitra is a family-owned company, founded in 1953 by businessman Willi Fehlbaum and his wife Erika, when, on their first trip to the United States, the couple discovered furniture

designed by Charles and Ray Eames in a New York shop. On their return from this trip, they became makers of items of furniture created by the Eameses, and by others designers such as George Nelson, Alexander Girard and Isamu Noguchi. The first piece they made was the Panton chair, designed in 1960 by Verner Panton.

Over the years, Vitra has grown into something else. At its headquarters in Switzerland, you can visit the Vitra Campus and the Vitra Design Museum. Here, books are published, and big exhibitions and workshops are organised, all with the aim of fostering contemporary design.



KONSTANTIN GRIC'S SEE-THROUGH HOUSE

MAN Machine is a collection of ethereal and highly technological furniture that let us see

whole spaces and experience them with a heightened spaciousness. As we are not accustomed to glass furniture, it can look cold and heavy, in addition to fragile.

However, new technologies and the vision

of designer Konstantin Grcic have made them flexible, with a sophisticated range of nuts and bolts, tensors and silicone, and the glass is similar to that used in architectural structures. The German designer is very well-known for his constant research into new materials and state-of-the-art technology. His work is always practical with a technical approach to form and function, yet he never leaves out his personal aesthetic sensitivity – for which he is considered to be one of the “poets” of contemporary design.

The collection was produced by the Kreo art and design gallery – with offices in Paris and London – and consists of eight pieces for each design, table, chair, shelf unit, box...



CRISTINA DOMÍNGUEZ

ARCHITECT AND INTERIOR DESIGNER, FOUNDED PARTNER OF THE LUCAS & HERNÁNDEZ-GIL STUDIO

Natural indoor spaces



At the Lucas & Hernández-Gil studio, we work on architecture, interior design and graphic design projects. We seek a different perspective by using a combination of curiosity, intuition and know-how. We identify ourselves by work that is imbued with the playful artisanal feel that defines Richard Sennett.

In today's constantly changing context, we strive to create clearly differentiated spaces. We try to design light spaces, with a bright and warm atmosphere – spaces that are balanced, yet fresh and full of life. We avoid stifled, excessive designs. We like to surround ourselves with all the possibilities offered by each situation, each place, in order to find the most direct and natural solution. Our aim is to create a framework, a board game that users can make their own.

Time is the factor that completes and shapes each place, adapting it to the needs that emerge as the space is being used. We play with the expressivity of materials, we value textures derived from the world of construction, simple materials, and the stamp of hand-made products: craftsmanship has an important role. At Pancomido, one of the latest spaces created by us in Madrid, there is a nexus between different eras, colours and materials. The space conveys a story in which everything is important. This bakery, cafeteria, bar and restaurant needed a very flexible spatial vision that would make room for all the functions it offers throughout a single day. It is a very versatile and natural space.

100% Design



fireplace clad in Mini Iris Grey Pearl mosaic, both by L'Antic Colonial.

For the bathrooms, the public who attended this London event discovered the latest elements and taps of the Mood and Forma series, by Noken; Ciclo and Travat bathroom furniture, by Gamadecor; and the Novak bathtub and Gallery shower column, both by Systempool. Floors and walls were done in Park and Park Line ceramic tiles, by Porcelanosa; and in another bathroom, Rhin and Suede flooring and wall cladding, by Venis.

The next edition will take place from 23rd to 26th September 2015, and will have a new site, the Victorian galleries of the iconic Olympia, in the heart of the United Kingdom's capital city. The challenge will be to surpass the 28,000 visitors it had this year – most of them architects and interior designers who attended the show to see first-hand the ideas of almost 450 exhibitors.

One of the most important events in the world of design, London's 100% Design, turned 20 in 2014, and Porcelanosa Group did not want to miss it. The central theme was 'Design Kaleidoscope': a kaleidoscopic and multidisciplinary vision of how world design is evolving. The Gamadecor brand therefore presented an Eastern-inspired kitchen with a worktop in Krion®, which was the heart of the stand. With an open layout, it gave way to a living room with Par-ker® Ascot Olivo ceramic parquet, by Porcelanosa, natural stone Silver Wood wall cladding and a modern conical

FURNITURE FOR NOT-SO-YOUNG CHILDREN

Leticia Marañón and Camino Alfaro have created Beanhome, furniture for big children. "There is furniture for small children and for grown-up children too, but not for those in between stage," they say with enthusiasm. "Our designs combine textures, colours and materials via clean lines and a unique character." They give much importance to creating bespoke furniture that can be adapted to each space and to the people who will use and live them. "These pieces are as unique as each one

of us is," they state. The finishes for this collection are very natural, and their possibilities are flexible, customisable and infinite.



OPINION

ÁLVARO CATALÁN DE OCÓN
INDUSTRIAL DESIGNER

Craftsmanship, Design and Industry



Photo: Pilar Catalán de Ocón.

The turning point for my designs to become less precise and geometrical and more colourful and folkloric was my collaboration with artisans rather than industry [...]. For collaboration to work well you have to give artisans freedom to express their creativity in each piece: that way, we all win. If you turn to industry for precision – it invariably makes for a very different final product. My former projects were more niche-oriented, whereas PET is more massive in the sense that it is more photogenic, more immediate, more visual and more exotic, as it has emerged at a time when all things organic, social and artisanal are in fashion. I believe in reductionism and it is a constant value in my career. For this project, my most recent one, my task has been to reduce the work that it takes to transform a bottle into a lamp and make it as simple as possible. My PET Lamp is the combination of an industrial object with craftsmanship that can be found anywhere in the world. I am not a formalist. I believe that form is secondary to content. You can arrive at an aesthetic and attractive form – only not by seeking it, simply by finding it [...]. Once again, I have undertaken to add a human touch to a serial object as a differentiating value: my last design, Home/Office, is an intervention on a classic design, the Aluminium Chair by Charles and Ray Eames (1958), made by Vitra, to which I have applied a classic petit point-like pattern.

8th ARCHITECTURE & INTERIOR DESIGN AWARDS 2015


PORCELANOSA Grupo

Porcelanosa Group announces the registration deadline (13th April, 2015) for all candidates to enter their projects for the eighth edition of its Architecture and Interior Design Prizes.

Entries for the Projects for the Future category will address the architectural design and layout of the main spaces of a Rodman Group yacht (specifically, a Rodman Muse 74), using construction materials and solutions created by the Porcelanosa Group's eight brands. Just as in the former editions, this category is open to both students and professionals – each in their relevant section.

In turn, all architecture and interior design professionals aspiring to win an Executed Projects prize can enter their work, also using materials developed by Porcelanosa Group for public spaces for hotels, private homes, commercial constructions...

The prizes will be awarded by an international panel of judges made up of Carlos Jiménez (Carlos Jiménez Studio), Fermín Vázquez (b720 Arquitectos), Marc Hertrich & Nicolas Adnet (Studio MHNA), Joanna Biggs (Ga-Design International) and Jordan Goldstein (Gensler).

The awards ceremony for the 8th Interior Design and Architecture Prizes will be held in Madrid on the 28th May, 2015. Those interested can read the competition rules and register on the competition's website: www.porcelanosa-interiorismo.com. 



28th May, Madrid

Designs to be submitted by **13th April**.

For Interior Designers, Architects & Students.

Categories Future Projects & Built Projects.

+ information in PORCELANOSA SHOWROOMS &
www.porcelanosa-interiorismo.com



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CERSAIE

Porcelanosa Group was present at Cersaie 2014, the International Fair of Ceramics for Architecture and Bathroom Furnishings held in Bologna, with an impressive 600-square metre stand and a wide range of new designs: vintage ceramic tiles by **PORCELANOSA**; an updated line for Belle Époque by **NOKEN**; decorative edgings with Swarovski crystals by **BUTECH**; new, natural colours for the Luxury Krion® series by **SYSTEMPOOL**; tiles that look well worn by the passage of time by **VENIS**; practical and adaptable kitchens by **GAMADECOR**; technical porcelain – now also eco-friendly – stoneware by **URBATEK**; and natural materials with a sophisticated look by **L'ANTIC COLONIAL**.

**PORCELANOSA GROUP
PRESENTS ITS NEW PRODUCTS
AT THE BOLOGNA FAIR**



PERSIAE PORCELANOSA

The firm remains committed to contemporary trends and presented different vintage styles for tiles to create atmospheres from alternative bathrooms to ceramic tapestries. It has also expanded its line of ceramic parquet that offers both beauty and durability.



1 Bathroom clad with Limestone Cerdeña, 31.6 x 90 cm (shower), and Chestnut Chester Taco, 31.6 x 90 cm (wall on the right side). On the floor, Chestnut Chester ceramic parquet, 14.3/22 x 90 cm, imitating wood.

2 A bathroom space with White Bari cladding, 31.6 x 90 cm, and White Bari floor tiles, 59.6 x 59.6 cm.

3 The Dove Antique floor tiles, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, thanks to their vintage look, combine perfectly with the new Chelsea bathroom series, by Noken.

4 A very modern design option is to install flooring that is reminiscent of old hydraulic tiles creating a ceramic tapestry surrounded by solid-colour tiles. These are Barcelona B, 59.6 x 59.6 cm.

5 Chestnut Chester ceramic parquet, 22 x 90 cm, whose look evokes wood. Ideal for spaces that need to withstand heavy foot traffic as it is maintenance-free, is not affected by changes in temperature, its colour does not alter, and it is non-slip, very durable and easy to clean.

GERSALE NOKEN

The new Chelsea bathroom collection (and its accompanying tap-ware) and the new Mood Fusion finish for this series, designed by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners and Luis Vidal + Architects for Noken, were the main ideas with which the firm caught the interest of the professionals who visited the fair.



1

1 Floor-mounted bathtub mixer tap from the Chelsea tap-ware collection: classic style in harmony with the most cutting-edge technology.

2 New Mood Fusion finish for the series designed by Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners and Luis Vidal + Architects: a striking contrast created by combining the solid new-generation Krion® surface and oak.

3 Basin mixer tap from the Chelsea collection characterised by its angular, geometrical lines that highlight its vintage feel.



2



3

GERSALE BUTECH

Butech never stops expanding its range of decorative edgings for ceramic tiles, and this time it surprised everyone again with elements designed with Swarovski crystals. It also showcased its innovative system for modular façades: light, efficient and more affordable.



1

1 Silver Crystal Pro-part SW edging combined with Vetro cladding.

2 Gold Pearls Pro-part Li SW edging.

3 Gold Crystal Pro-part SW edging.

4 Pearls Chrome Pro-part Li SW edging.

5 The photo shows how Gold Pearls Pro-part Li SW edging perfectly matches Marmi Negro ceramic tiles.

6 Next to the Port Black cladding, Gold Crystal Pro-part SW edging stands out elegantly and matches the other elements in the space.

2



3



4



5



6



GERSAIE SYSTEMPOOL

The new products by the firm were: the Luxury colour series for Krion® (Erice, Pompeii, Syracuse and Segesta), with the sophisticated look of natural stone; the expansion of the Ras series with new bathtubs, basins and accessories; Basic sinks, and bathtubs, shower trays and basins from the Unique series.



1 Countertop and bathtub from the Ras series. Made in Krion®, they have a concealed grate and plugs also made in Krion®.

2 Planter made in Luxury Syracuse Krion: a light brown base with random texturing in dark brown and off-white, with various sized, transparent, black and brown chips.

3 Kitchen sink for home use made in Krion® (50 x 40 cm; 30 cm high). It includes a washboard which can be used to reduce the depth of the sink thanks to its two positions.

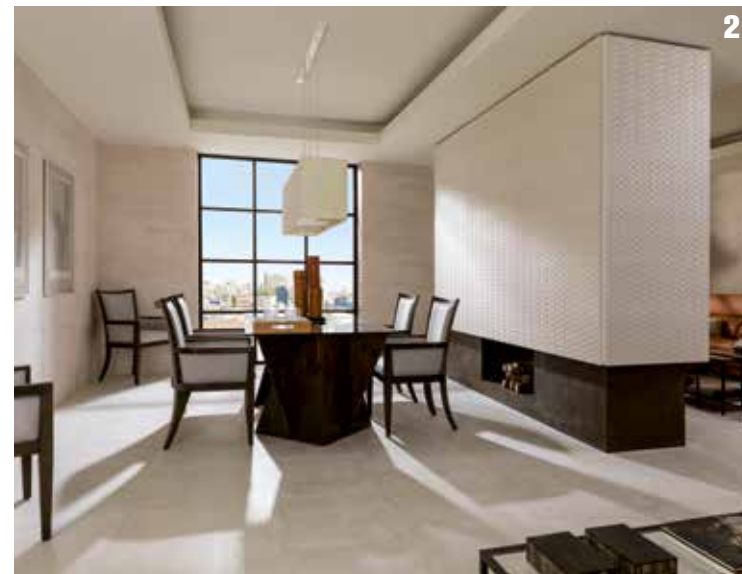
4 The wall clad with Luxury Pompeii Krion® (with lighting) has a translucent cream-coloured base with transparent chips and veining in several shades of brown and white that intermingle on the surface. Its translucent quality and its design make it the perfect colour for décors both with and without lighting.

5 Countertop in Luxury Segesta Krion®: light grey base with white and grey veining in different shades, together with black, brown and colourless chips of different sizes. Oval Unique basin, in Snow White Krion®.



GERSAIE VENIS

"Traces of time": this is how the Newport collection defines its design and finishes. Bold, rich, natural claddings and floorings that add authenticity and realism to restored historical buildings that preserve and treasure their original walls and floors.



2

3

1

2

3

1 Living area with Natural Newport flooring tiles, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, and Natural Newport, 33.3 x 100 cm, and Natural Avenue cladding, 33.3 x 100 cm (on the opposite wall). The collection has five basic colours: White, Beige, Natural, Grey and Dark Grey, for both walls and floors.

2 Space with Newport Beige floor tiles, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, and Newport Beige and Island Beige cladding tiles, 33.3 x 100 cm.

3 Detail of the wavy, raised forms of the bathroom cladding: Park Dark Grey tiles, 33.3 x 100 cm.

4 Century Grey cladding, 33.3 x 100 cm.

5 Of the five versions of the cladding with raised surfaces (Avenue, Century, Island, Old and Park), Old White, 33.3 x 100 cm, is eye-catching for its irregular grooves.

PERSIAE GAMADecOR

The Gamadecor firm surprised the public with its new finishes for kitchens, bathrooms and walk-in closets, as well as for the functionality and adaptability of its elements: from foldable fronts to a compact block with an automated system to transform it into a ready-to-use kitchen island.



1



4

1 Shine White 5.30 / Oak Alba 6.00 Emotions Rooms Kitchen. Its island has an upper level with a White Aristea granite worktop in shine finish, integrated hob and sink; an asymmetrical lower level made in white Krión®, serves as a table. The cladding for the columns is in a lacquered shine finish, decorated with a band in natural oak in Alba finish, and has integrated concealed handles on the front.

2 Shine Ferreo 5.90 / Night Oak 6.90 Emotions Forest Kitchen with foldable fronts.

3 Adaptable Torrefacto Oak 6.90 Emotions Evolution Kitchen, a block of top-quality material that becomes a fully-equipped kitchen by activating a number of automated mechanisms.

4 Shine Gypsum / Cacao Oak CICLO bathroom furniture unit with innovative rounded edges and drawers.

5 Torrefacto Oak DESS bathroom furniture unit.

6 Torrefacto Oak E6 walk-in closet.



2



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CERSAIE URBATEK

The two designs which aroused the most interest at the show were Stuc – a collection inspired by nature – Ciclik – high-performance, technical, eco-friendly porcelain stoneware made with recycled sand – and the new Rust collection – an XLight ceramic sheet with a metallic look.



1

1 Beige Stuc floor tiles, 59.4 x 59.4 cm. In the Ciclik technical, eco-friendly porcelain stoneware range, Urbatek presented its new collection inspired by nature: Stuc, which looks like sand in its natural state. Available in 59.4 x 119 cm and 59.4 x 59.4 cm sizes and Nature and Textured finishes. Other colours are Grey Stuc and Black Stuc.

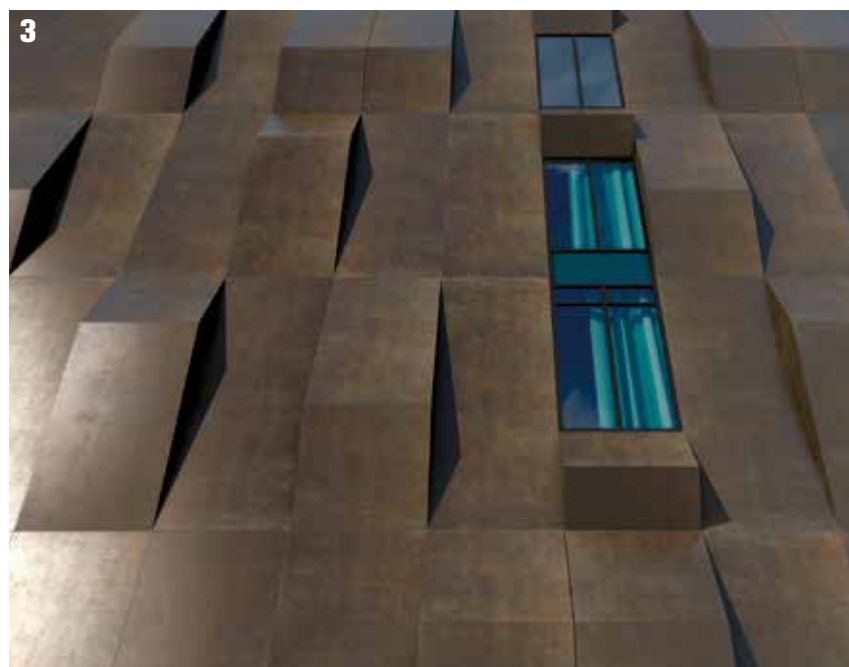
2 Black Textured Stuc floor tiles, 59.4 x 59.4 cm.

3 Rust Dark, from the XLight series, inspired by metallic materials is perfect for façades and for spaces with an industrial style design. Available in Nature finish, 3.5-mm thick, and in 50 x 100 cm and 100 x 300 cm sizes. Also available in Beige.

4 Beige Nature Rust installed on a façade.



2



3



4

CERSAIE L'ANTIC COLONIAL

Among the new products presented by this firm specialised in natural materials were the Faces collection designed by Ramón Esteve, four new models for floors in natural wood from the Manhattan collection, and five mosaics that expand the Fusion series.



1



2



3

1 Free-standing Faces basin, made from a single block of natural marble. To complete the collection, a countertop basin, a wall-mounted basin with integrated towel rack, and a faceted furniture unit with built-in basin. Available in four different marbles (White Athens, Italy Cream, Grey Stone and Brown Stone) and in three new natural wood finishes.

2 Fusion Hexagon Steel Mix Mosaic, surprising for the hexagonal cut of its tesserae which in addition combine aluminium and glass (other options are: White, Caramel, Caramel Mix and Steel).

3 Manhattan Madison flooring. A collection available in three formats: Manhattan (16 x 210 x 1.8 cm), Manhattan Narrow (9 x 210 x 1.8 cm) and Manhattan Avenue (27 x 210 x 1.8 cm). Other tile ranges are Empire, Soho and Liberty.

VILLA JÁVEA

OVER THE SEA, IN THE MOUNTAINS

This villa, that seems to merge with the spectacular landscape of Jávea, boasts energy-saving systems and materials created by **Porcelanosa Group**. Its interior design – with simple yet interesting lines – seeks to interact with the various spaces in a simple, calming way.

Text: MARISA SANTAMARÍA **Photos:** ALBERTO HERAS **Styling:** EL HOMBRE DEL SACO (WWW.HDS.COOL)



Villa Jávea is nestled between the mountains and the beach – a peaceful haven designed along clean, simple lines that focus attention on the natural surroundings. Jávea is a spectacular town on the Mediterranean with an exceptionally warm micro-climate – 18° C is its average temperature – whose landscape is extraordinarily green

thanks to the abundance of underground water in the area.

Maciek Skupinski (rhea.es) was the designer and architect of this house whose interior spaces, created based on basic, simple elements, interact perfectly with the different areas.

He also wanted to develop a very convenient system – using renewable energy – to maximise the use of technology for the lowest energy

Above left, terrace with Dedon furniture and accessories, infinity pool and Oxford Steel Ant ceramic parquet, 14.3 x 90 cm, by Porcelanosa.

Opposite, the clean, simple lines of Villa Jávea combine beautifully with the surroundings.



consumption. This system caters to the house's cooling and heating systems and its hot water supply, as well as the heating for the swimming pool. This energy efficiency can also be seen in its solar electric energy generation system able to produce 22,320 kWh – in other words, it reduces the total CO₂ emissions volume by 6.69 CO₂-tons per year (created by Climamedida: www.climamedida.com).

Both inside and outside Villa Jávea, bright

white, grey and touches of ochre predominate. Sunlight floods in from all sides of the house, and all kinds of technological innovations were used for the materials and the facilities. Among these latest-generation materials, are a number of products by **Porcelanosa Group**: from the **Gamadecor** kitchen and cupboards to the natural wood floors by **L'Antic Colonial**, and the bathroom elements by **Noken** and **Systempool**, as well as **Porcelanosa** and **Urbatek** flooring.



Above, Saba Italy sofa and armchairs in the living room, **Grey Microcement** floor tiles, 80 x 80 cm, by **Porcelanosa**. *Left*, the **Matt White G490** kitchen, by **Gamadecor**, is stunning thanks to its huge island – with Chair One stools by German designer Konstantin Grcic – and columned area. *Opposite*, The **Grey Microcement** flooring, 80 x 80 cm, by **Porcelanosa**, visually connects the dining-room space – featuring a Desaldo table and Chair One seating by Konstantin Grcic – with the living area.

Right, a room with idyllic views and **Multi Ash Modern** natural wood tiling, 14.8/18.9/22 x 183 x 1.5 cm, by **L'Antic Colonial**.

Below, a bathroom with myriad views and **Grey Microcement** floor tiles, 80 x 80 cm, by **Porcelanosa**. Bathroom fittings and tapware by **Noken**, **Tetris** bathroom furniture by **Gamadecor**, combined with basin and countertop in **Krion®**, by **Systempool**, and **SP Concept** bathtub, by **Systempool**.

Opposite, stairs to the upper floor with **Black Textured Avenue** flooring, by **Urbatek**.



For the interesting furniture of this house, apart from washed wood, white is the predominant colour, especially for objects such as the tables and chairs.

The Chair One chairs and high stools by renowned German designer Konstantin Grcic (made by Italian firm Magis), and items by Zaha Hadid and Philippe Starck show off their lineal forms in the different spaces. The lighting was entrusted to Modular Lighting and Vibia;

armchairs and sofas are by Saba Italy and the outdoor furniture and accessories are by Dedon.

The layout of this house leads our eye outside: the blue of both the sea and the outdoor swimming pool – that merge together – and the lush greenery can be seen through the large windows of the **Gamadecor** kitchen at Villa Jávea: a technological and eco-friendly house surrounded by nature. ✍



IVÁN MALAGÓN*CLINIC

A UNIQUE CONCEPT FOR A DENTAL

Surgery that has nothing to envy any five-star hotel on Madrid's 'golden mile'. Its design was entrusted to the Touza Arquitectos studio, whose holistic contemporary design always took into account the organic forms requested by doctor Iván Malagón.

Photos: PABLO ALMANSA

A versatile, dynamic and warm space that would reflect his concept of life and the way he likes to care for his patients. This is what renowned dental surgeon Iván Malagón wanted his new dental surgery to be like; and that is how the Touza Arquitectos studio designed it. Directed by architect Julio Touza, this multidisciplinary studio undertook the project to convert this space into a design benchmark while also including no less important factors like construction quality, energy efficiency and respect for the environment. Located in Madrid's iconic Girasol Building – designed by Catalan master architect José Antonio Coderch and designated part of Madrid's artistic heritage – the Iván Malagón*Clinic has flowing lines and is contemporary in style. The Touza Arquitectos team focused on offering the levels of quality and innovation required by a centre devoted to dental surgery without neglecting the essence that the doctor wanted reflected in its spaces: harmony, naturalness and health.

Original and back-lit reception at the Iván Malagón*Clinic, designed by Touza Arquitectos and done in **Krion®**, by **Systempool**, one of **Porcelanosa Group's** most revolutionary materials.

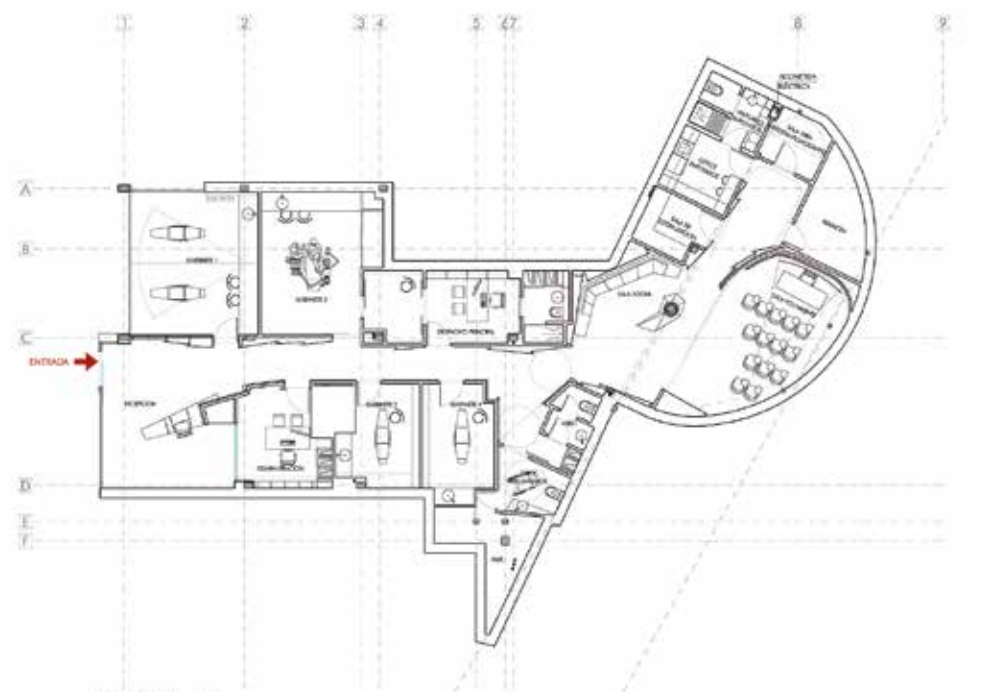
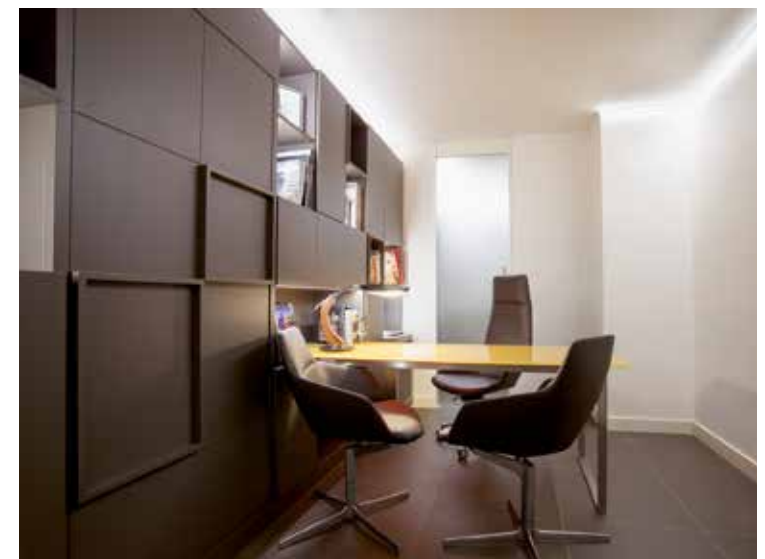
“The clinic’s design connects architecture and nature: this is the central axis that spans the space as if it were a river. Semi-open spaces connect to this central nucleus and can be seen through openings in the walls, creating a feeling of surprise for visitors. As a result, nobody ever feels imprisoned in a small room, as its broken and asymmetrical forms give a feeling of movement that evokes the dynamism of the human body,” explains Doctor Iván Malagón.

Comfort and warmth – far from the traditional concept of hospitals – should be added to the above, as should the light colours chosen for walls (lacquered soft champagne colours), always in contrast with the dark colours of the shelves or the **Pure Brown Nature** floor, by **Urbatek**. The facilities are also fitted with low-energy automated LED lighting systems for energy saving, water-saving mechanisms, etc.

As quality is of course required for every material utilised in a clinic (whether for use, maintenance, hygiene, etc.), Touza Arquitectos chose materials by **Porcelanosa Group**. Thus,

all the flooring, wall cladding, bathroom units and taps were chosen from the wide range that the Group (**Noken**, **Systempool**, **Urbatek**, **Krion®**, etc.) offers for this type of activity that requires top quality and durability. The entire flooring of the clinic is in large-size **Pure Brown Nature** (60 x 120 cm), which creates a feeling of spatial continuity and guarantees excellent maintenance and cleaning. Wall tiles are from the **Golden Glass** series, by **L’Antic Colonial**. In addition, all sanitary ware and taps are also by **Porcelanosa Group** – the most special being those of the **Arquitect** series, by **Noken**.

The furniture in the reception area, the shelves and desks in the offices, and the sofas in the waiting room were made to measure by Touza Arquitectos. This was all done to impart a different feel to the orthodontic treatment rooms, dental laboratory, radiology service, operating theatre, rest and recovery room, and even the multi-purpose room for lectures – facilities that equal those of any luxury hotel in the city. ✂



Semi-open spaces are interconnected around the central core of the clinic that can be seen through openings in the walls. The design of the asymmetrical forms is dynamic yet warm. Aspects such as comfort were taken into account when designing the different areas.

From top left, the champagne-like colour of the walls combines with the dark colours of the furniture and the **Pure Brown Nature** flooring, 60 x 120 cm, by Urbatek. The wall panels (19-mm MDF in a high-gloss lacquered finish, champagne colour)

are made up of trapezoidal, overlapping shapes that create gaps through which low-light, high-performance LED-lighting glows; some of the furniture in this office was designed by the Touza Arquitectos studio; wall tiles in one of the bathrooms in the Iván Malagón Clinic: **Tecno Brick Golden Glass** (2.3 x 7.3 cm), by **L’Antic Colonial**; various elements by **Porcelanosa Group** were used in the clinic’s bathrooms – the contemporary lines of the **Arquitect** series, by **Noken** are particularly beautiful; one of the orthodontic treatment rooms.



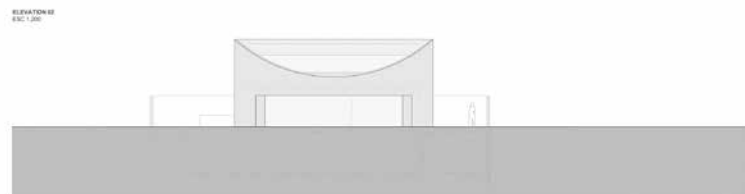
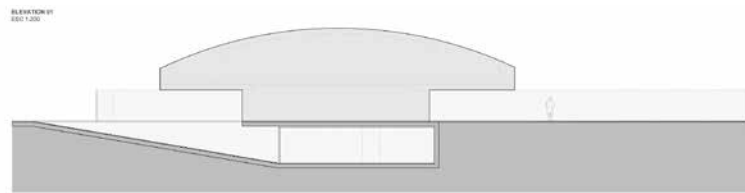
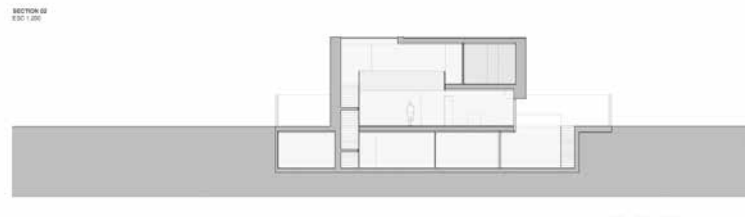
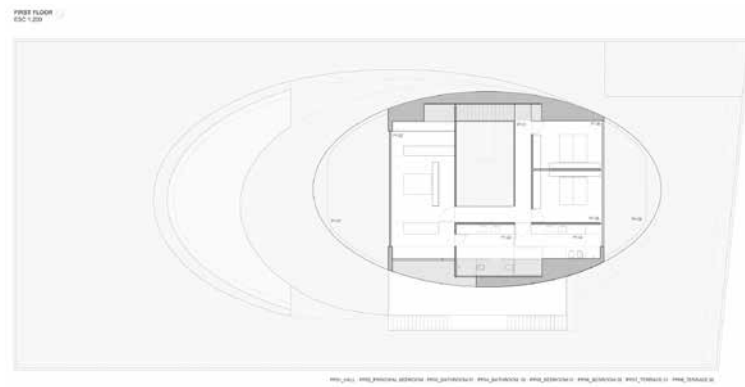
BALINT HOUSE

The Balint House in Bétera, Valencia, is one of architect Fran Silvestre's most important projects. Located on a golf course, all the elements that make up the building and its surroundings evoke the gently rolling landscape of the area. The seamless façade of the house, done in **Krion®**, has a singular aerodynamic form.

Text: MARISA SANTAMARÍA. **Photos:** DIEGO OPAZO.



Four concrete pillars on the ground floor support the curved roof above the bedroom area. This structure has a ventilated monolithic façade done in **Snow White Krion®**, by **Systempool**. Thanks to the construction system designed by **Butech** and its simple curved shape, no thermoforming was necessary. The swimming pool was done in **White Mosaic World Almería (5)**, 30 x 30 x 1 cm, and the surrounding paving is **Silver Touch** (to order), both by **L'Antic Colonial**.



"The idea was designed with elliptic outlines which extended the possibilities allowed by legal standards and reduced the volumetric impact of the building. Its seamless façade seems to contain a single floor and has a visually aerodynamic shape which directs our gaze into the distance of the nearby landscape." This is how Fran Silvestre's studio explained the project.

His professional relationship with Álvaro Siza in Porto and his education in Spain and the Netherlands have given Fran Silvestre an open and always innovative vision of architecture. This architect, designer and lecturer from Valencia brings ideas to life for each project according to the personality of his client. All these attributes won Fran Silvestre Arquitectos the 2013 Red Dot Prize in Design.

When asked about how he approaches projects, Fran Silvestre talks about his two-fold commitment that aims to give a technical answer to a specific context and his wish to seek beauty via what he builds. In addition, for the particular case of the Balint house, "this project involved a tremendous challenge" for the architect, who explains how he stressed the use of innovation: "New materials, new technologies



Details of the staircase, in **Silver Touch** paving (to order), by **L'Antic Colonial**; of the curved façade done in **Snow White Krypton**, by **Systempool**; and of the swimming pool, in **White Mosaic World Almería**, (5) 30 x 30 x 1 cm, surrounded by **Silver Touch** paving tiles (to order), both by **L'Antic Colonial**.



Inside the house, the flooring is large-format natural wood by **L'Antic Colonial**: specifically, **Wood Lovers Soft** tiles, 42 x 450 cm (to order) with an under-floor heating system. **Gamadecor** designed a versatile indoor system to integrate elements, such as the television set, into the project.

Matt Lacquered White G-475 kitchen with embedded handle on the fronts, by **Gamadecor**.

that improve the lives of people. Innovation based on experience and improvement of tradition," he sums up. He also recognises that his work together with Porcelanosa Group has always been a solid guarantee for him: "Certainly, many of the innovations for this project wouldn't have been possible without the collaboration of Porcelanosa Group."

With regard to the structure of this house, the Fran Silvestre Arquitectos studio tells us about its singular shape; the bedroom areas are covered by a curved roof creating the ceiling over part of the outdoor daytime space. Additional innovation is found in the automated exterior window frames, as it provided a solution to cover – with only two shutters – the very long opening.

"A feature of all our projects is continuity. Continuity with an environment that we want to respect, spatial continuity, the use of just a few



The facilities and the kitchen follow the curved profile of the outdoor ground floor that opens onto the garden. Both the kitchen flooring and the dividing column that separates it from the living room were done in **White Polished Athenas** tiles (to order), by **L'Antic Colonial**.





The different light entry areas are very important to the layout of Balint House, see top photograph, with **Wood Lovers Soft** floor tiles, 42 x 450 cm (to order), by **L'Antic Colonial**. In the room on the right, **Eden Sand Soft** flooring, 20 x 240 x 2 cm (to order), by **L'Antic Colonial**. The upper floor rooms and the basement that opens onto the courtyard provide the house with sheltered outdoor spaces.

materials, the integration of all the facilities, of the lighting... But also a quest for continuity in time as we value architectural design that can endure the passing of time not become obsolete," explains Fran Silvestre referring to his constructions in general. Such continuity is complemented by precision, one of the key elements in the work method followed by Fran Silvestre Arquitectos. And by talking with the client, "responding to their needs and requests that include very personal and subjective parameters that characterise each project and make them different from each other," he specifies.

Finally, the architect always appreciates teamwork and has "a group of specialists in structural calculation, acoustics, facilities, graphic design, interior design, architecture... who generate an atmosphere of shared creativity able to create infectious enthusiasm".



The flooring in the bathrooms is **White Polished Athenas** (to order), by **L'Antic Colonial**. Photo on the left: **White Honed Essence Athenas** shower tray (to order), also by **L'Antic Colonial**. In the photo below, **Lounge** built-in mixer taps, by **Noken** – a firm also involved in the project with other elements from the **Lounge** and **Essence-c** ranges.

Project team: Fran Silvestre (project architect) and architects Fran Ayala, Ángel Fito, Adrián Mora, Jordi Martínez and Maria Masjà. Structure: David Gallardo (UPV) Quantity surveyor: Carlos Garcia Interior design: Alfaro Hofmann Art Direction: Adrián Mora Construction company: Construcciones Alabort Total plot / built surface: 12,000 square metres / 772 square metres Developer: Florin Bortos Balint (Globalint SL) Other contributors: Alfonso Calza and Shüco | Dekovent (Roberto Haba and Miguel Haba)



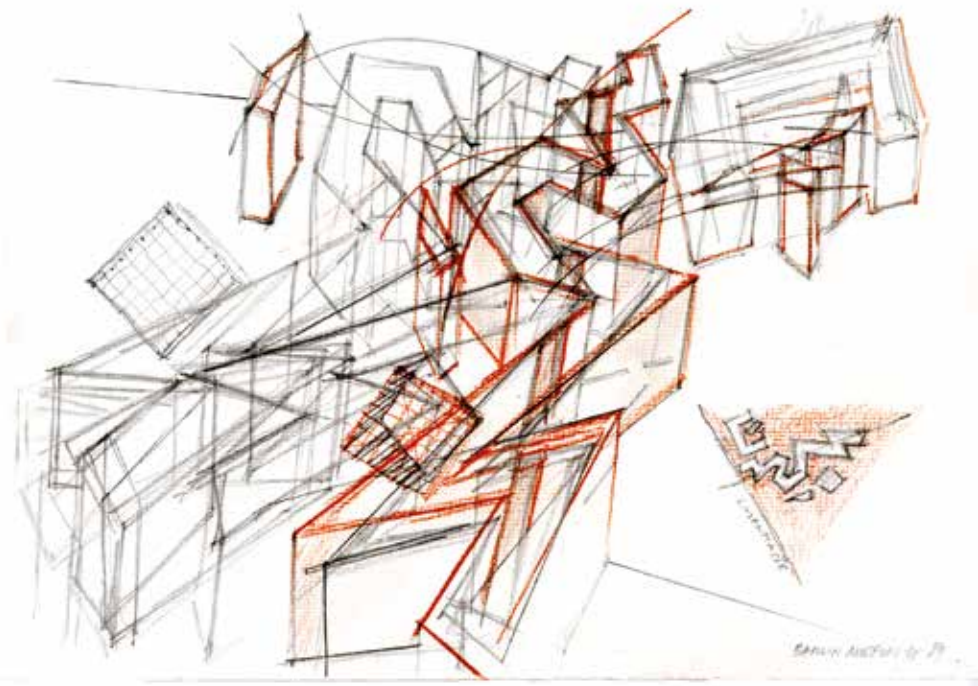


He is one of the most renowned architects in the world. We had a chance to talk to him and his wife Nina at the awards gala for the **Porcelanosa Architecture and Design Prizes** held at Madrid's Casino. It was not a long interview, but his answers gave a glimpse of his strong opinions and every word and gesture radiated optimism.

Text: MARISA SANTAMARÍA

DANIEL LIBESKIND

AN ARCHITECT DRIVEN BY FEELINGS



A Jewish American, he first arrived in New York in 1959. Born in post-war Lodz, Poland, he began studying music, but then decided to devote himself to architecture instead.

How did your musical education influence your work as an architect?

"Music has had a strong influence on my

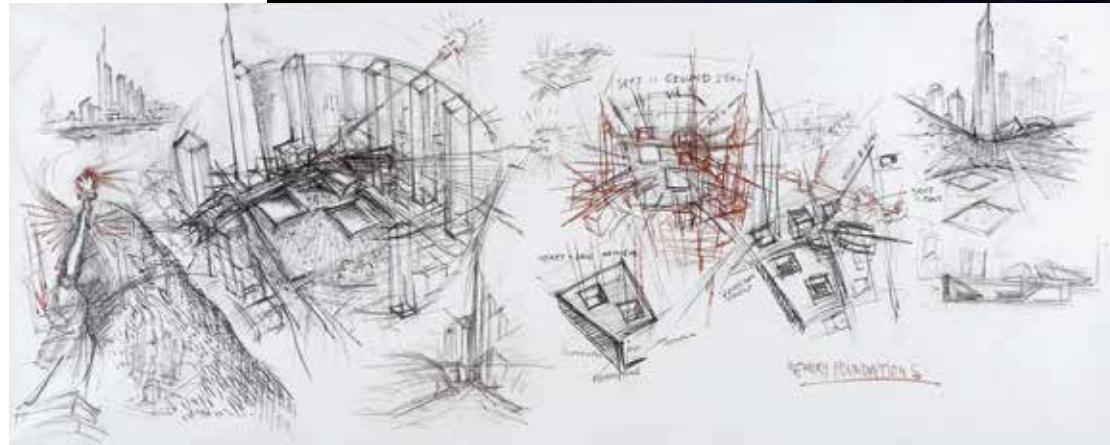
work: I associate the harmonious sensitivity of certain composers and pieces with many of my constructions. Architecture can express many feelings too and touch people's souls, it's a very musical discipline. My way of understanding music transferred itself years ago to my way of understanding the design of buildings and spaces."



Clockwise from top, The Academy, at Berlin's Jewish Museum; the glassed-in courtyard of the German museum; one of the five Voids, an allegory designed by the architect with which he wanted to represent 'the void' in Berlin's Jewish Museum and in humankind itself; an underground corridor connecting the old building with Libeskind's new one (that has no entrance).

Opposite, a portrait of architect Daniel Libeskind, and a sketch of Berlin's Jewish Museum with the new building's remarkable zigzag forms.

Clockwise from right, the New York skyline with the profile of the new buildings at Ground Zero, including the Freedom Tower as was originally designed by the architect; a 3D computer image; a sketch of the conceptual design of the area.



He first studied at New York's Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, and then received a postgraduate degree at Essex University, in England.

Throughout his career, he has introduced new ideas and concepts giving rise to a number of controversies, some of them related to the design of Jewish museums in Berlin, San Francisco and Copenhagen.

What is there behind your professional approach as an architect that stirs so many emotions?

"I have the impression of having led a very emotional and intensive life. I always plan my constructions from a viewpoint of memory and with a sense of symbolism. It is impossible to disengage my cultural legacy and my family's struggle from my approach to work.

Memory is an essential dimension of architecture – I see it as a basic philosophy, a sort of guiding principle. It is the sort of thing that connects us with the present and projects us into the future: an essential link. Architecture cannot live without memory – it allows us to orient ourselves.

As a way of expressing the essence of my memory and certain feelings, I still believe in the emotion stirred by architecture. My constructions are complex, and I need allies: the use of new materials supports my work."

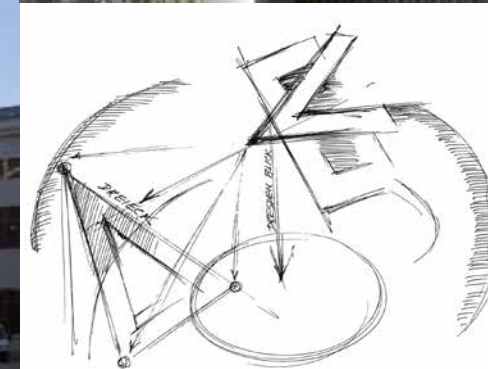
This very personal understanding of architecture led him in 2003 to win, with his Freedom Tower, the tender issued for the reconstruction of the area of Ground Zero in New York. The original design underwent many changes; and Libeskind had to accept these changes and the substitution of his project for one by another architect, David Childs.

How would you describe your experience on this project – also one of the most symbolic projects in recent history?

"Since my arrival in New York, the city has symbolised new hope for me. My parents had to fight as immigrants; nothing can equal the feeling of starting from scratch. America was a dream. I have no mixed memories, I had love and care. We were surrounded by generous people and received help and understanding. Our family has always had a strong drive to overcome obstacles, a flowing energy aimed at improving and growing. Above all, they have always persevered.

Criticism and the changes my projects have undergone are a part of my drive to reinvent myself and move on to new topics. This is just one of them."

Some of his great works are cultural centres, houses, and commercial buildings all over the world – from Hong Kong to Milan, via Toronto, Denver, Singapore, Dublin, Warsaw, Berlin...



Clockwise from top, the Bundeswehr Military History Museum; inside the museum; a sketch of it; a detail of the new structure designed by the architect.



Clockwise from top, one of the DAM (Denver Art Museum) galleries; the foyer staircase of this building; a sketch of the DAM; exterior view of the over 13,000-square metre building extension designed by architect Daniel Libeskind and inspired by the nearby Rocky Mountains.



Clockwise from left, two different views of the new Keppel Bay marina, in Singapore; a sketch of it; inside Reflections at Keppel Bay, the luxury residential building designed by the architect for this marina.

He works globally, with very different cultures, and states he enjoys taking risks.

How would you explain your professional approach to each project in so many different fields?

"Humankind is what should be at the heart of thought. I believe that architecture can be compared to science, philosophy and art. Architecture questions things and put itself into question: it raises questions, also about itself. The advance of technology and the new conception of space, entail substantial risks, and this is a very important feature of my way of thinking and designing: living is a constant risk and we should face it with very clear objectives."

Your work has been defined as deconstructionist. How do you feel about this?

"Deconstructionism is characterised by fragmentation, by non-linear design. My interest lies in engineering the surface of structures so that they are broken up, de-structured. The term should be used extremely carefully as it is very difficult, even though it has opened many expressive possibilities and new forms in architecture. It is true that I believe in the expressivity of architecture."

His wife, Nina Libeskind, has accompanied him to this event where the Porcelanosa Prizes were awarded, as she does in his professional and personal life. A business partner since 1989, she is the studio's Director of Operations.


Very attentive at all times, she smiles and nods to all her husband's remarks.

Is your union at work and at your personal life fruitful?

"Nina is at my side in everything. It's not exactly that she helps me, but we work hand in hand, we complement each other and our rapport is complete. She is a tireless worker, and in addition, a very creative one. Many of the best ideas for my work are hers.

We are positive and optimistic, which is essential in this profession.

Architecture is a way of communicating the beauty of a place, of light and shade, but we do not think in terms of space and light – we think about the meaning of our projects, of their symbolism and the emotions that they can transmit"

Nina and Daniel Libeskind say goodbye with a broad smile, pleased to have visited Madrid as part of the panel of judges for **Porcelanosa Group's** Design and Architecture Prizes. 

MENORCA / LOS ANGELES / MONTE CARLO

THE BEST VIEWS

We travel with **Porcelanosa Group** to three "haute" destinations where the views are the real luxury. And we give you essential travel tips too.

Text: GEMA MONROY **Photos:** ESTUDIO FOTOGRÁFICO PORCELANOSA / GETTY

MENORCA, OR THE MEDITERRANEAN AS YOUR NEIGHBOUR

This idyllic terrace, in the purest Balearic style, is the perfect meeting point for enjoying the sea views of the Mediterranean which plays the leading role. Outdoor space in Anthracite Chester paving tiles, 14.3 x 90 cm, and Non-slip Anthracite Chester wall cladding, 14.3 x 90 cm, by Porcelanosa. Part of the Par-ker® ceramic parquet range, the Chester collection features an exquisite grain that echoes that of quality hardwood and is evoked by this porcelain stoneware wall cladding and flooring. The collection offers a choice of four colours – all whitened for a softer finish – to reflect the wide variety of wood's tonalities: from intense Anthracite Chester to warm Chestnut Chester, via the middle shade of Timber Chester and the greyish Steel Chester.



MENORCA

Discreet and shy, Menorca has more beaches and coves than Mallorca, Ibiza and Formentera – its neighbouring islands – put together. Yet, it has successfully maintained a distance from other, more obvious touristic circuits because this island is more interested in preserving its traditional cheeses, sobrassadas and lobster caldereta – made according to old recipes – than in hotel developments along its spectacular coastline. In fact, most of the island's hotels (quite a few of them opened in recent years) are rural and family-owned, more akin to the tastes of travellers eccentric enough to favour beaches with no bars or deckchairs, fond of getting up early and forgoing a day of sun and sea to take one of the countless trails (on foot, by bike or on horseback) that crisscross the island. From its sleepy capital town, Mahon, full of artisan shops and elegant homes, to the small villages of Ciutatella and Binibéquer – whimsical labyrinthine narrow streets and tiny secluded squares – via its ancient ceremonial stone monuments called *taulas* (ruins of the enigmatic Menorcan Talayotic culture, which dates back to 1300 BC) – and its remote dreamlike coves not even included on maps, Menorca is a place in which to get lost and forget time, and welcome the surprise of experiencing the Mediterranean as it used to be.



Clockwise, from opposite, one of the idyllic coves on the island; Menorca's citadel; swimming pool and a room at the Torralbenc hotel; delicious breakfast at the Jardí de Ses Bruixes hotel; and the Macarelleta cove, a famous nudist beach.

WHERE TO STAY

Torralbenc (torralbenc.com). An old farmhouse converted into a delightful, bright rural hotel with 27 rooms and cottages, plus a swimming pool – simple happiness.

Jardí de Ses Bruixes (hotelsesbruixes.com). In the heart of Mahon, an eight-room boutique hotel with a restaurant and one of the most beautiful terraces on the island.

Alcaufar Vell Hotel Rural (alcaufarvell.com). A quiet, peaceful and stylish 14th-century neoclassical villa.

WHERE TO EAT

Mon (canfaustino.com/mon). Having worked for 13 years with the Roca brothers, young Felip Llufrí is now back on his native island to delight gourmet palates with the excellence of Menorca's produce. Experience his creative cuisine at Mahon's small, majestic palace of Can Faustino hotel.

Biniarroca (biniarroca.com). One of Menorca's most traditional rural hotels offers innovative international food with a French touch – one of the big gastronomic benchmarks of the island.

Es Cranc Pelut (Fornells) serves the best lobster caldereta in Menorca.

THE CLOSEST PORCELANOSA SHOP: Gran Vía Asima, 21. Polígono Son Castelló, Palma de Mallorca. T: 971 430 667 - F: 971 297 094.





LOS ANGELES, AN 'HAUTE' CITY

Perhaps Los Angeles is famous for definitely being a city where no one walks, but that's OK when you have a breathtaking terrace at home like the one in the photo. Here skyline views share centre stage with cutting-edge interior design featuring Dot Dover paving, 80 x 80 cm, Limestone Dover floor tiles, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, and Anthracite Chester wall and ceiling cladding, 14.3 x 90 cm, all by Porcelanosa.

The Dover collection is available in five elegant solid colours: Steel, Limestone, Sand, Dot and Anthracite. It is available in its two formats - square and long tiles - making all kinds of stylish compositions possible.



Clockwise, from opposite page, MacArthur Park's naturally spring-fed lake; the junction of Brighton Way and the famous Rodeo Drive; Santa Monica Beach; Café, at The Line hotel; outside The Line hotel in Koreatown; and reception of the cutting-edge Ace Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES

The sun, Sunset Boulevard's neon lights, those who aspire to make the American Dream theirs, the Santa Monica pier, the muscled surfers on Venice and Redondo Beach – Los Angeles and its 'Californian way of life' – are back in fashion again thanks to the city's sophisticated art centres, a new organic way of eating for a return to a healthy lifestyle, and the renaissance of its downtown districts, restored at last after many thwarted attempts, where artisan shops, chefs and small companies are creating a small revolution.

More complex and cultural than ever (140 nationalities coexist here, and more than 220 languages are spoken), noisy, bold, flashy, dazzling,

frivolous... Los Angeles is not for everyone. You either love it passionately or passionately hate it. For this non-pedestrian city is difficult to understand – and hence, to appreciate. For Los Angeles is actually a collection of small cities, each one with a distinct character.

Hollywood streetlights illuminate our way through the city of cinema, but sometimes they are as dazzling and confusing as the wide variety of leisure activities on offer – no matter whether you are in the business or not. Very long beaches, delightful cafés and elegant outdoor restaurants where you are likely to bump into your favourite actor, secluded spas to pamper yourself just as celebrities do, trend-setting art galleries, modern cocktail bars, designer cult boutiques beyond Beverly Hills...

Get lost in Santa Mónica Farmer's Market in the early morning light, go shopping on

Abbot Kinney Boulevard and Melrose, try the oriental massages and treatments offered at Koreatown's spas, or surf – preferably at sunset – on Malibu Beach (or watch the pros ride the waves), take a bike ride among the million, beautiful picture-postcard views along Venice Beach, drench yourself in culture at the Getty Centre, the Gehry Museum and The Huntington Library, and welcome the night with a cocktail on a roof terrace at the most fashionable hotel. For those who want to stay up late, the nightlife is abuzz on Wilshire Boulevard. The lights of Los Angeles – whether in Hollywood or not – will dazzle and seduce you, no matter whether it is your sort of city or not.



WHERE TO STAY

ACE Hotel Downtown (acehotel.com/losangeles). The 1927 historic United Artists Studios building, it embodies the renaissance of the downtown area.

Chateau Marmont (chateaumarmont.com). Virtually every Hollywood star has stayed at this West Hollywood castle from Clark Gable to Lana del Rey.

The Line (thelinehotel.com). The nerve centre of everything *in*, in Koreatown.

Malibu Beach Inn (malibubeachinn.com). A boutique hotel on Malibu Beach owned by famous producer David Geffen.

WHERE TO EAT

Chaya Downtown (thechaya.com). This iconic Beverly Hills eatery has moved downtown. Asian fusion cuisine on a terrace to visit and be seen at.

Mélisse (melisse.com). You can't go wrong here: a two-Michelin star restaurant in Santa Mónica.

Boxwood Cafe (boxwoodcafe.ca). Experience chef Gordon Ramsay's know-how at one of the city's fashionable hotels: London West Hollywood.

Perch L.A. Bar & Restaurant (perchla.com). A French-inspired bistro in the high downtown area to enjoy dinner by a fireplace (yes, and outdoors too) or have a drink to the music of its DJ.

Lucques (lucques.com). This Mediterranean restaurant and its terrace with olive trees are a quintessential part of Los Angeles.

Post & Beam (postandbeamla.com). Just like a friend's courtyard garden – this is the setting of Govind Armstrong's 'from-farm-to-table' organic food adventure.

THE CLOSEST PORCELANOSA SHOP: PORCELANOSA WEST HOLLYWOOD, 8900 Beverly Blvd, tel. +1 310-300-2090.



**MONTE CARLO
PLUS ÇA CHANGE**

Exclusivity is a word whose true meaning is palpable in Monaco where nothing is commonplace. To prove the point, a fully fitted, gorgeous kitchen with views to Monte Carlo's marina: Shine Lead E6.40 Night/Sil Oak E5.30 Emotions, by Gamadecor. The Emotions® collection has a painstakingly created palette of finishes that have been designed to respond to all styles and needs: Solid or Textured Laminated, Shine or Matt Stratified, Shine or Matt Lacquered, and Natural Wood Sheets. In this spacious and bright room, Steel Chester floor tiles, 14.3 x 90 cm / 22 x 90 cm, by Porcelanosa were chosen.

MONTE CARLO

Monaco, or to be more precise, its capital Monte Carlo, has been the embodiment of timeless French Riviera glamour for over half a century. But what is there in this tiny country to account for its powerful aura? Only by mentioning its name, we are transported to endless summers bathed in champagne, motor racing events seen from suites, charity gala balls and diaphanous dresses, James Bond films... and of course, Grace Kelly's elegance (also timeless). Yet even though everything in this fairy-tale kingdom (and tax haven) evokes memories of the Princess and bears her name (an avenue, a flower garden, a foundation, even a local fish!), new-generation visitors who swim in the pools of its beach clubs and then party

till dawn, are now following in the wake of the Casiraghi siblings and their international jet-set friends. If Prince Rainier went down in history as "the Real-Estate Developer Prince", Albert II is determined to become "the Eco-Friendly Prince" and transform his tiny Principality (not even the size of Central Park) into a recognizable destination. An example of this was when last summer he inaugurated the new headquarters of the Monaco Yacht Club – a "very green" building according to its creator – Norman Foster – that merges with the backdrop of the yachts moored in the vast marina. In Monaco, things always change to stay just like they used to be. Because this may definitely be its big secret: Monaco belongs to a bygone era.



Clockwise, from opposite page, night skyline of Monte Carlo, Monaco's capital city; the new Monaco Yacht Club, designed by Norman Foster; Monte Carlo Casino; breakfast at the Hôtel Metropole Montecarlo.



WHERE TO STAY

Hôtel Metropole Monte Carlo (metropole.com). Just across from the Monte Carlo Casino, this classic palace hotel is enjoying new splendour thanks to a new interior design makeover by Jacques Garcia (creator of the Côtés hotel), cuisine by Joël Robuchon and swimming pool designed by Karl Lagerfeld.

Monte Carlo Beach Hotel (monte-carlo-beach.com). This classic 1930s Riviera resort, today with interiors by designer India Mahdavi, is still one of the favourite playgrounds of the international jet set.

WHERE TO EAT

Le Louis XV (montecarlosbm.com). The great Alain Ducasse creates the most elegant (and fantastic) food of all the Hôtel de Paris restaurants.

Joël Robuchon's Monte Carlo (joel-robuchon.com). The philosophy of great chef Robuchon's approach to modern French cuisine in an ambiance designed by Jacques Garcia.

Sea Lounge (sealoungemontecarlo.com). For a champagne breakfast, lunch with sea views or dancing in high-heels all night long.

THE CLOSEST PORCELANOSA SHOP: PORCELANOSA MÓNACO, 14 Rue de La Turbie; tel. +33 06 07 93 26 78.

Day and night views of the ventilated façade of the R-Révolution Santé clinic in Montpellier. The colourful windows provide a stunning contrast with its white surface.

R-RÉVOLUTION SANTÉ

HEALTHY DESIGN

The aim of this pioneering clinic in Montpellier is to teach its patients to take control of their own health via its educational workshops on food and diet, adapted fitness, and its beauty and wellbeing treatments.

Photos: RICHARD SPRANG / CRISTINA COLONQUES





Architect Jean-Paul Meyran designed the ventilated façade of the R-Révolution Santé clinic located in Montpellier's Millénaire Odysseum district in (France) as a sort of skin for the building to breathe. However, this is no common skin but one that lets daylight in via its colourful windows while also insulating it thus ensuring compliance with a series of energy efficiency requirements that won the project the HQE (High Quality Environmental Standards) certification.

This new health centre, owned by the Fontalvie



The central section, where the entrance is located, is distributed over several floors and connects the building's two trapezoids. The entire building enjoys a lot of daylight.

Group – which has more than 20 years' experience in the rehabilitation of patients with chronic diseases (diabetes, obesity, tobacco or alcohol addiction, eating disorders, etc.) – is shaped like two large trapezoids connected at the entrance area and the terrace above it. Wood, glass and concrete were some of the materials used, together with products by **Porcelanosa Group**. Many local construction companies took part in building this six-floor structure.

The interior design was entrusted to architect and interior designer Karl Petit whose taste for contemporary art was cleverly transmitted to the clinic's spaces – without forgoing the comfort



From top to bottom, aquatic atelier clad with **Dream Mix Whites Mosaic** tiling (1.4) 29.5 x 29.5 x 0.4 cm and **Alexandria Cream Lined Home Bioprot** floor, 30 x 60 x 1.5 cm, both by **L'Antic Colonial**; swimming pool in the water spa area, and a fragment of its wall cladding and flooring: **Dream Mix Whites Mosaic** (1.4) 29.5 x 29.5 x 0.4 cm and **Alexandria Cream Lined Home Bioprot**, 30 x 60 x 1.5 cm, both by **L'Antic Colonial**; and cabin treatment for two at 'l'institut R', with cladding

and flooring, respectively, in **Dream Mix Whites Mosaic**, (1.4) 29.5 x 29.5 x 0.4 cm, and **Metallic Black Glacier Moon**, 19 x 29 x 0.8 cm, both by **L'Antic Colonial**. *Opposite*, the wall tiles on the left side of the photo are **Dream Mix Whites Mosaic**, (1.4) 29.5 x 29.5 x 0.4 cm, by **L'Antic Colonial**, and on the right side, **Mother-of-Pearl Qatar**, 31.6 x 90 cm, by **Porcelanosa**. The floor is in natural stone: **Alexandria Cream Lined Home Bioprot**, 30 x 60 x 1.5 cm, by **L'Antic Colonial**.



From top to bottom, fitness room (fitness, massage and activity schedules are tailor made for each client, along with a personalised diet – if the goal is to lose weight, monitoring is done using specially made scales to detect which part of the body is losing the fat); dressing room corridor; kitchen (fitted with four ceramic hobs and cooker hoods, an area for courses and a screen where lessons

on diet and adapted cooking are shown); and 'l'épicerie R', a restaurant that serves daily menus and tapas based on dietary principles aimed at achieving metabolic balance. Spaces done with **Par-ker®** ceramic floor tiles by **Porcelanosa** – they look like wood, but with the qualities of ceramic parquet. *Opposite*, laminate floor tiles: **Oak 1L Residence AC4**, 19.3 x 138 x 0.8 cm, by **L'Antic Colonial**.



required when offering the different treatments. With this in mind, he collaborated with Amélie Baudin, the project's Art Director. It should be stressed that R-Révolution Santé wanted to avoid the cold, stereotypical image associated to traditional health centres. In fact, it wanted to become a welcoming place where everyone can find their own balance and learn to be in control of their own health thus preventing getting ill. The clinic has a specific programme focusing on five key areas to improve people's lives: sleep, nutrition, fitness, emotion and memory. These activities take place in three separate



areas: 'les ateliers R' (a space devoted to fitness, health education and relaxation), 'l'institut R' (wellbeing and personal care) and 'l'épicerie R' (a healthy restaurant with lovely food). Different workshops are held in the first one – including cooking courses (very interactive, with chefs and dieticians who supervise patients and teach them about food), while the second area – in collaboration with Lucia Rapetti's laboratory of natural cosmetics – is devoted to beauty and wellbeing. The third one houses a restaurant whose leitmotiv is healthy eating (www.r-revolution-sante.com).

Spaces where the so-called dynamic ateliers are developed. Special equipment with cutting-edge technology is used to familiarise clients about fitness.

3 HOTELS IN MALLORCA

WELCOME TO THE MEDITERRANEAN

This Balearic island, at the forefront of architecture, design and services, never stops surprising its visitors, be it for its contemporary structures or for its skill when it comes to restoring existing buildings – needless to say, always with the help of **Porcelanosa Group** materials.

Photos: JAIME REINA, GORI SALVÁ and NANDO ESTEVA.

View from one of the terraces of Son Moll Sentits Hotel & Spa, the Mallorca hotel designed by the studio 3de3 Arquitectes.



SON MOLL SENTITS HOTEL & SPA

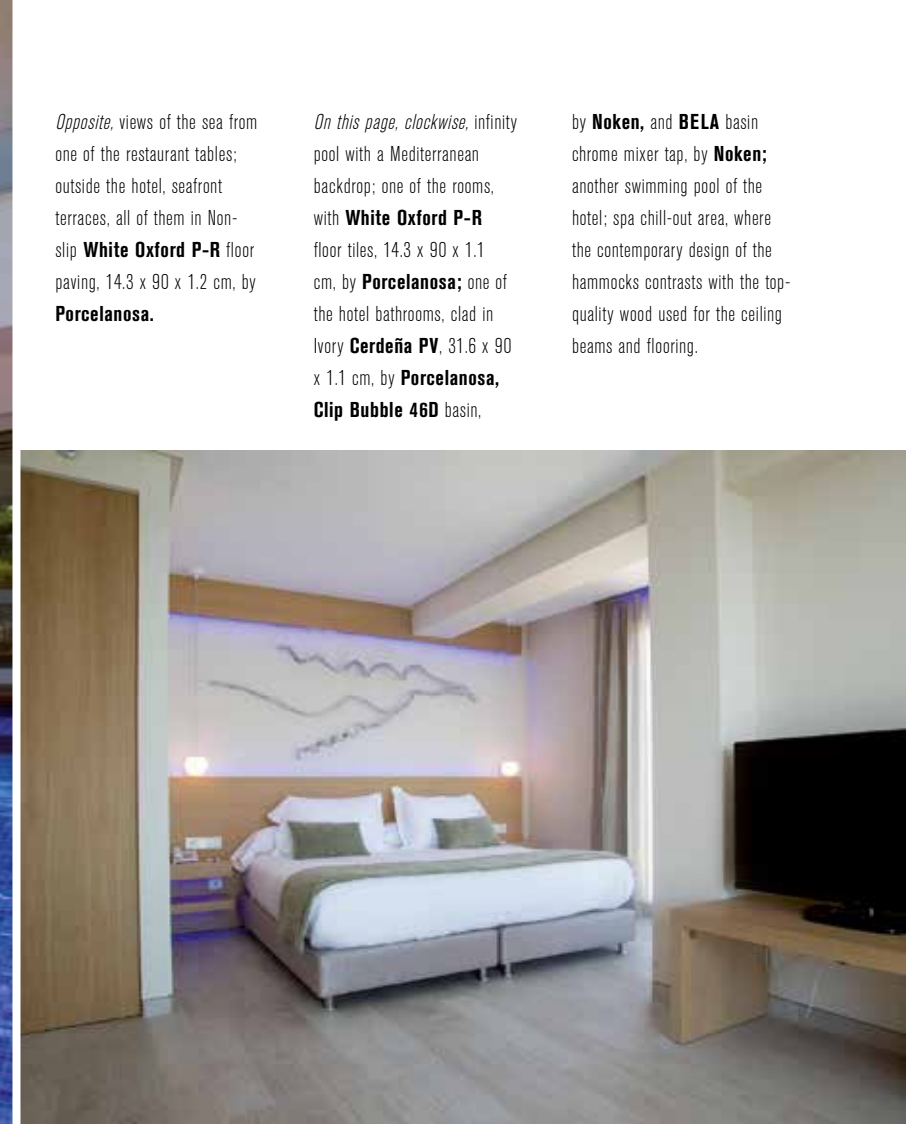
This location, on the seafront of Cala Rajada – a small holiday village in the northeast of the island – was the starting point for 3de3 Arquitectes to develop this project. Based in the Balearic Islands and headed by Arturo Vila, Jose Luis Pujol and Ignacio Pons, this studio designed “a building with a marked triangular form based on the shape of the plot of land, and with the aim of guaranteeing the best views to the Mediterranean from all its rooms and from the rest of the hotel”. The resulting form is a trihedron whose glass and aluminium façades

provide a “dynamic, suggestive and markedly personal design, in contrast with the powerful and emphatic walls of the façades enclosing the stairs and lifts”, they explain. The aim of Son Moll Sentits is to immerse guests in a very sensorial world, and the architects thus chose to work closely with Sara Espinosa to come up with an interior design that would convey the essence of the Mediterranean “with personality and elegance: an original design full of customised items and details, where aspects such as the meticulous choice of colours and textures received top attention”.



*Clockwise, a façade; the lobby and reception area, with a large panel in glass and gold leaf and a 6-m one-piece counter in **Krion®**, by **Systempool**, with the hotel's name backlit on it. The main wall cladding has raised letters; a bathroom in a Standard room clad in **White Oxo Line**, 31.6 x 90 cm, by **Porcelanosa**; Suite Galactyc, in **Silver Madison** tiles, 31.6 x 90 cm, by **Porcelanosa**; Suite Crystal, with **Anthracite Oxford** flooring, 14.3 x 90 cm, by **Porcelanosa**; a room with a headboard based on Stua Satellite acoustic panels and **White Oxford** flooring, 14.3 x 90 cm, by **Porcelanosa**; lobby-bar, whose back-lit bar in **Krion®** separates areas with different functions; and the spa, whose swimming pool is in **Black Paradise Baia Stone** paving tiles, 30 x 30 x 1 cm, by **L'Antic Colonial**, and its walls clad in **Globe Brick Bhutan**, 10 x 40 x 1 cm, also by **L'Antic Colonial**.*





Opposite, views of the sea from one of the restaurant tables; outside the hotel, seafront terraces, all of them in Non-slip **White Oxford P-R** floor paving, 14.3 x 90 x 1.2 cm, by **Porcelanosa**.

On this page, clockwise, infinity pool with a Mediterranean backdrop; one of the rooms, with **White Oxford P-R** floor tiles, 14.3 x 90 x 1.1 cm, by **Porcelanosa**; one of the hotel bathrooms, clad in Ivory **Cerdeña PV**, 31.6 x 90 x 1.1 cm, by **Porcelanosa**, **Clip Bubble 46D** basin,

by **Noken**, and **BELA** basin chrome mixer tap, by **Noken**; another swimming pool of the hotel; spa chill-out area, where the contemporary design of the hammocks contrasts with the top-quality wood used for the ceiling beams and flooring.



2

MELBEACH HOTEL & SPA

On the beachfront at Canyamel, this four-floor hotel – exclusively for adults – is very near the villages of Capdepera, Artà and Cala Rajada, and the natural park of the Llevant peninsula. It has 32 rooms in several categories: Standard, Superior, Suite and Grand Suite, all of them with views to the sea. Decorated in warm colours, the wood for both the furniture and flooring go beautifully with the white walls, creating a calm atmosphere. A remarkable outdoor infinity pool seems to blend into the Mediterranean, as do

the rest of the spa facilities: from its heated swimming pool with thermal circuit to the sauna, the Turkish hammam, jacuzzi and the different beauty and wellness rooms. The restaurant is another of its attractions – not only for its inspiring views to the sea from its tables, but also for the dishes prepared with top quality, fresh, natural, local products. Finally, as is only natural in the Balearic Islands, the Melbeach Hotel & Spa boasts a chill-out area where guests can enjoy a drink or a cocktail in good company.



TREND HOTEL ALCUDIA

3



To enhance a hotel with a makeover that would make the most of its existing spaces was the objective of PM Arquilab, the studio led by José A. Martínez Llabrés. Thus, for the Trend Hotel Alcudia – with a total surface area of 3,950 square metres, 69 rooms and a separate building that houses a spa and a gym – the creative idea behind this refurbishing project was to interrelate the existing building and the solarium, swimming pool and garden – in the middle of the plot – seeking total

spatial continuity and permeability between the inside and the outside. For the interior design, the priority was to enhance the flow and spatial continuity, allow daylight to flood the common areas, highlighting the vibrant materials and designs: furniture, counters and bars, like those made of new materials such as **Krion®**. For the more private spaces, warm lighting and materials were chosen (with comfort playing an essential role); and in the bathrooms, ceramic elements and cladding by **Porcelanosa Group**. 



Clockwise, from opposite, hotel façade clad with **Eternity Mini Strip Mosaics**, by **L'Antic Colonial**, and **Ferroker** tiles, 59.6 x 120 cm, by **Venis**. Paving by the swimming pool in **Non-slip Rodano Taupe** paving tiles, 44.3 x 44.3 cm, by **Porcelanosa**; by the spa water area, **Ecostyledeck Mountain** hardwood, 14.4 x 240 x 2.4 cm, by **L'Antic Colonial**; hotel bar, with **Rodano Taupe** flooring, 59.6 x 59.6 x 1.1 cm and **Rodano Taupe** skirting tiles, both by **Porcelanosa**; bathrooms in the reception area, clad in **Mother of Pearl Firenze**, 20 x 31.6 cm, by **Porcelanosa**, and **BELA** chrome mixer tap, by **Noken**; reception counter done in back-lit **Extreme White Krion®** by **Systempool**.

Architects: Pep Martínez / Carlos Huerta
Quantity surveyor: Francisco Perelló
Collaborators: Nikola Bulatovic



ÁLVARO LINARES CREATING FROM CÁDIZ FOR THE ENTIRE WORLD

He has been in this profession for more than 30 years and is one of the most renowned interior designers in Spain, mostly for his line of work created in Andalucía.

His style could be defined as eclectic, with a dominating contemporary aesthetic feel combined with 18th-century French furniture and objects. Daring combinations, quality furniture, exotic fabrics and objects from all over the world take up the whole of his Cádiz showroom.

We contacted the designer to ask him a few questions, and he quickly displays great empathy, although his speech is forceful and precise.

"I am a holistic interior designer and have clients with very different tastes all over Spain and abroad. My policy is absolute privacy: I never show work that I've done for clients who don't want their homes to be shown, or any designs that I have developed for them. I essentially seek my clients' satisfaction by offering them a friendly, familiar, warm yet always professional service."

This year, **Porcelanosa Group** took advantage of an opportunity to thank professionals in the sector for the trust that they put in its products and awarded a special mention to Interiores, Álvaro Linares's studio.

"This award brings great recognition to my career as I consider **Porcelanosa** to be a Spanish corporate group of which we can be proud for its innovative and contemporary vision," he claims effusively.

Álvaro Linares's showroom, on the Avenue Andalucía in Cádiz, is a huge space that he has turned into both his meeting point and main gallery. Here his clients choose materials, fabrics and objects, and can see the comprehensive solutions suggested by the interior designer.

Despite the large lamps, the light is subdued in this showroom, creating a twilight effect that highlights certain specific details. Within the showroom, he recently opened a gallery with an inaugural event attended by the Mayor of Cádiz, Teófila Martínez, and where all the members of his team took part.

"During my career," he remarks, "we have created prestigious projects for very established companies – big hotels, important and well-known restaurants, discos, shopping centres, franchises, offices, clinics, luxury homes for famous clients, businessmen, artists, etc., together with



countless commercial activities. In addition, we have also worked in collaboration with other well-known architects and interior designers."

From Cádiz, the city in which he set up his headquarters, he has broadened his horizons and works in several countries including the United States and France. He also collaborates with the Italian Chamber of Commerce and is involved in a productive exchange of designs with the city of Milan.

This professional interior designer from the south of Spain who is opening doors and spaces all over the world, says of his evolution and his plans for the future, "My aim is to be ahead of the latest trends in interior design and architecture yet I always try to maintain my style and aesthetic touch that make my signature evident in every space. My ideas are always dynamic and I apply an advanced concept of all-encompassing consultancy in design and interior decoration for every kind of project." 

In Álvaro Linares's huge showroom in Cádiz's Avenue Andalucía his clients choose materials, fabrics and objects, and then ask the interior designer to come up with ideas. His contemporary aesthetic line always boldly includes 18th-century French furniture and objects.

The subdued light of the space gives a twilight effect highlighting the importance of certain details. Álvaro Linares has just opened this gallery.

PROJECTS

NH COLLECTION EUROBUILDING TECHNOLOGICAL RELAXATION

Belonging to NH Collection, this Madrid hotel has become an innovative technological laboratory, with outstanding features such as its Living Lab rooms with furniture made of **Krion®**, by **Systempool**.

In keeping with the technological advances adopted by NH Collection's Eurobuilding after its recent and total makeover, its four Living Lab rooms are the perfect place to experience cutting-edge technology. This has turned this hotel into the living laboratory of the hotel industry.

In these exclusive spaces guests can use wireless technology to charge the batteries of mobile phones as the energy is transmitted from the furniture to the devices via an inductive system. In addition, thanks to **Krion®**, the material created by **Systempool** and used for the bedside tables and bureaus, we can see, through its solid surface, the LED light indicating whether the mobile has charged or not. The rooms also have Ambilight, connected to HUE lighting systems, and Home Cinema Dolby Surround.

Another novel feature – also useful for other purposes – is the system now in place to connect



rooms with the reception and involves using a tablet so that guests can see the hotel staff on the screen, but they cannot be seen.

The Living Lab rooms are remarkable for their modern terrace furniture, also made of **Krion®**, a material that allows you – using an app – to change the colour of the back-lighting and listen to the music stored on your mobile, using it as if it were a sound system.

Also in **Krion®** is the lattice separating the room from the bathroom, the basin (with a detail: a hair-dryer) and the bed ends, whose cushion is in the NH Collection brand colour – cherry – as are the panels on the headboard wall.

As a result of NH Collection Eurobuilding's commitment to sustainability, these rooms use 100-per cent renewable energy, have 100-per cent LED lighting, and the eco-friendly material of their furniture, **Krion®**, is 100 per cent recyclable. ✂



In the hotel's four Living Lab rooms, guests can use wireless technology to charge their mobile phones. Both the bedside tables and the desks have inductive charging surfaces. Thanks to **Krion®**, the material by **Systempool** used to make the furniture, we can see the LED light indicating whether our mobile has charged or not through its white solid surface. The basin in the bathroom and the lattice that separates it from the bedroom, both also done in **Krion®** are truly exceptional. This solid surface by **Systempool**, used both for the bed ends and the terrace furniture, allows state-of-the-art designs to be created.

The iconic NH Collection Eurobuilding, a four-star hotel with 412 rooms, reopened its doors after an extensive makeover in which the new technologies applied to its spaces have turned it into the living laboratory of the hotel industry. Among its exclusive features are a semi-transparent 300-square metre LED dome (the biggest curved LED screen installed in any hotel worldwide).



PROJECTS

PONCELET CHEESE BAR BARCELONA

The estudi(H)ac interior design studio has designed this modern, alternative and distinctive space in the Meliá Barcelona Sarrià hotel.



Photos: Germán Cabo.




Just like Phileas Fogg, his favourite character by Jules Verne, the founder of the estudi(H)ac design atelier, José Manuel Ferrero, does not fear risk. Although we are accustomed to the innovation and creativity of his studio, the truth is that the freshness with which it always solves the needs of each project never stops surprising us.

Poncelet Cheese Bar Barcelona was to pick up the baton from Poncelet Cheese Bar Madrid, but also to create the sensation caused in 2011 by its elder brother in Madrid. Estudi(H)ac therefore spared no expense and came up with an extraordinary design in order to achieve a space that would become a new benchmark in Barcelona – and not only for the more than 150 cheese varieties that it has on its menu.

To begin with, the façade of this bar located at the Meliá Barcelona Sarrià hotel is a true statement of intent of what we will find inside: the Valencian studio transferred the company's logo to the exterior by designing a wooden lattice of different sized lozenges. Inside, the reception area (with a countertop done in **Krion**) was designed as a lounge area with a library of books related to the world of cheese, and with colourful armchairs on a wool carpet designed exclusively with a pattern of Poncelet's logo designs.

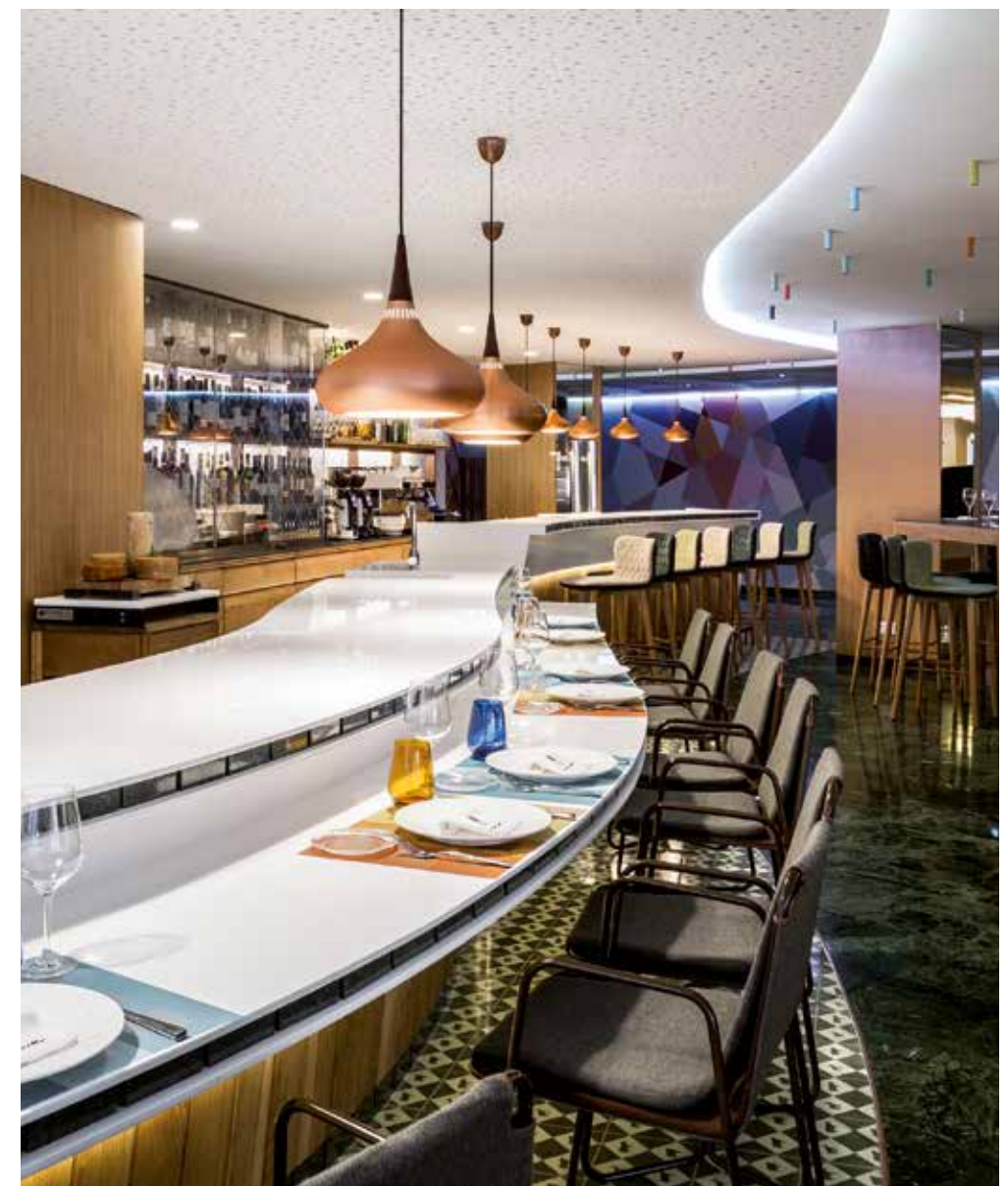
In the huge dining area, a remarkable vertical garden imbues the place with freshness and naturalness, and a large diamond-shaped cheese cellar, in materials such as natural oak and mosaic by **L'Antic Colonial**, stresses the most valuable item on offer here: a rich variety of Poncelet cheeses, all of them made in an artisanal way by small Spanish and European producers.

The bar has a private area dominated by a large communal table, perfect for a very cosy and family culinary experience. Other spaces were designed with the enjoyment of diners in mind, and these have a more casual feel, with bar areas done in **Krion**: the Master Cheese bar – whose two-level curved design allows diners to see the cheese masters at the work – and the Cocktail Bar, whose highlight is a gigantic kaleidoscopic picture with the pastel colours that identify Grupo Poncelet, and inspired by the geometrical shapes created by the renowned mathematician French Jean-Victor Poncelet. A kaleidoscope effect that the studio extended by designing an original ceiling scattered with small sticks in wood dyed in the same colours – as if it were an extension of the spectacular triangular prism. The company Fusteria Mira shaped all the elements made in **Krion**.

Finally, estudi(H)ac further extended Poncelet's hallmark by linking the cheese cellar to the bar area with hydraulic tiles designed specifically for this project and characterised by the geometric patterns of the Poncelet brand. 



The company's logo of Grupo Poncelet is reflected both in the wool carpet in the entrance and the hydraulic tiles on the floor of the cheese cellar, as well as in the wooden façade made of different sized lozenges. All the bars were done in **Krion**, by **Systempool**.



Industrial designer José Manuel Ferrero founded the estudi(H)ac studio in 2003 which devotes itself to interior design, ephemeral installations and product design. A prolific body of work that excels not only for its simplicity, creativity and timeless design, but also for its international recognition.

PROJECTS



Photos: Sergio Martínez



This local police station in Collado Villalba is eye-catching for its **Butech** ventilated façade clad with **Factory Moka**, 54.6 x 110 cm, **Natal Tabaco** 54.6 x 110 cm, **Grey Microcement**, 54.6 x 110 cm, and **Max Black Nature**, 15/25/40 x 80 cm ceramic tiles by **Porcelanosa**. An interesting colour combination conceals the many complex constructive and technical features of the **Butech** systems used by the studio.

A QUALITY FAÇADE

With almost 30 years' experience the prolific Yagüe Architecture and Urban Planning studio, led by Roberto Yagüe Valdivielso, has just completed a new project in the north of the Autonomous Community of Madrid: a local police station in Collado Villalba. Versatility was the theme of the project as a distinction between public and private areas is essential for this kind of building.



The studio's Director, architect Roberto Yagüe (left), with Alfredo Fernández Villaverde, Project Director for Yagüe Arquitectura y Urbanismo, multidisciplinary studio sited in Collado Villalba (Madrid).

Located in the urban centre of the town, it had a total buildable area of 1,400 square metres. "Its two side walls each look out onto different streets. In turn, they have two interior perpendicular walls connected by the façade," explains the studio. Their global approach to the project's design was based on different combinations of the building's uses as well as its vertical and horizontal circulation, arranged along the bisecting line of the building's entire floor area. The 1,149.25-square metre plot runs parallel to the canalised section of the Guadarrama River and the studio had to pay special attention to the basement floor walls. **///**



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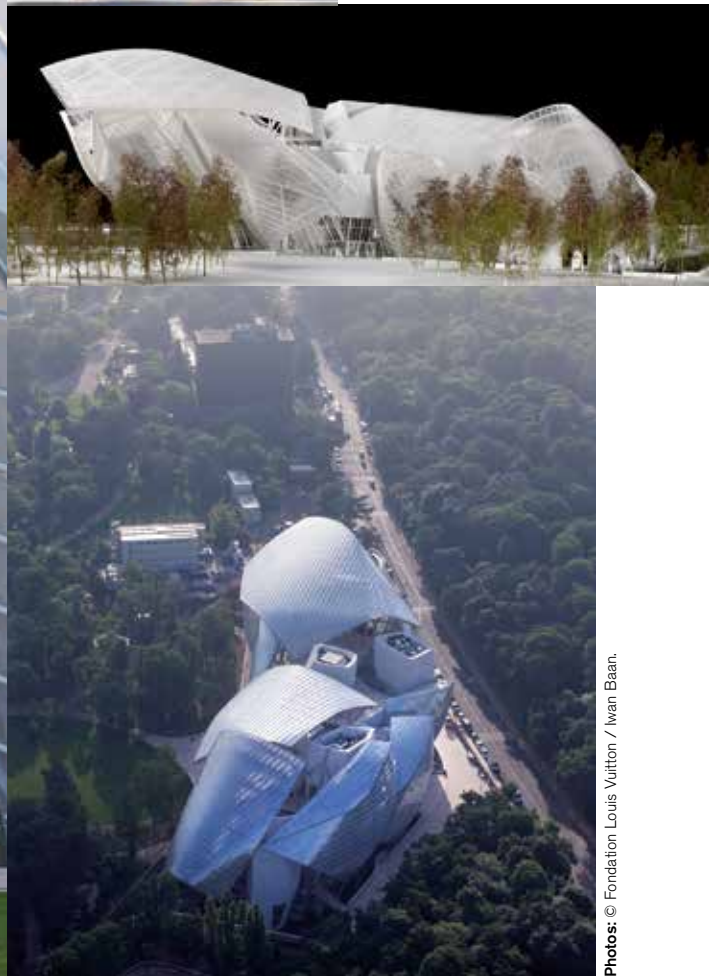
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TALKING ABOUT... THE LOUIS VUITTON FOUNDATION



The building of the Louis Vuitton Foundation, that will certainly become an architectural benchmark in Paris, is located next to Jardin d'Acclimatation. Its convoluted forms and structure evoke a sailing boat made of glass and concrete, and will house various artistic events – including work devoted to the figure of its very creator, architect Frank Gehry.



Photos: © Fondation Louis Vuitton / Iwan Baan.



Gehry's new challenge in Paris

Frank Gehry looks defiant and indeed he does defy – not only journalists, but architecture itself. He recreates his personal shapes over and over again, despite criticism by those who say that his buildings are somewhat outdated. His response at the

Prince of Asturias Awards Ceremony was blunt; in Paris, it was the same thing.

The opening of the headquarters of the Louis Vuitton Foundation generated a wave of reactions, both positive and negative. Gehry always gives us something to talk about. So much in fact, that we sometimes forget the very purpose of his buildings. In this case, it is one that will house the contemporary

art museum of the foundation of one of the brands of the luxury brand giant LVMH, whose motto is: "Creation is a journey." With this intriguing title, the Louis Vuitton Foundation will host a wide variety of artistic events. The first is about the figure of Frank Gehry himself, with installations by Olafur Eliasson, Ellsworth Kelly and Pierre Huyghe, among many other attractions, shows and temporary exhibitions.

An undeniable fact is that, since this building opened, it is – and will be – a new Paris benchmark. Gehry designed one of his sculptures using several layers of structures, and has built it with state-of-the-art computer technologies. He recreated the forms of a huge glass and concrete sailing boat in the middle of the Bois de Boulogne – to the north east of Paris – surrounded by an artificial lake. In addition, this project has fulfilled the architect's great dream of returning to the city that welcomed him as a young man: the city that gave him inspiration and changed his ideas forever. **///**

Text: Marisa Santamaría