FLOORINGS KITCHENS STRUCTURES BATHROOMS

TIME FOR INNOVATION NEW CHALLENGES NEW ALTERNATIVES NEW RESOURCES NEW SOLUTIONS

lifest

& PORCELANOSA



COVER PHOTOGRAPH: Single-family home in La Coma residential area, Castellón, 2012. Views from the garden. PHOTO: Joan Guillamat.



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PHOTO LAB Espacio y Punto PRINTER A.G.S. and Altair Impresia BINDING Toarsa

Catalogue no.: M-51752-2002

EDITORIAL

A Global Project

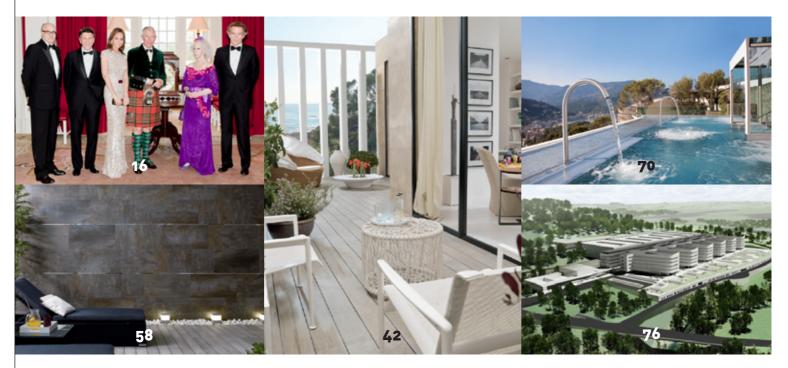
Things that used to go unnoticed fly round the planet today in 10 seconds – enough time for them to generate impacting cultural and social changes. Today's information speed forces us to analyse seriously and in depth the veracity of news topics, and words like timely, needs and consequences, acquire the utmost importance in business decisions. It is not the same thing to create a trend as it is to adopt it. It is not the same to open up new paths than to follow them. **Porcelanosa Group** has eight pioneer brands, eight brands that have forged eight very solid paths in the architecture and interior design sector – brands that support and promote the creative and organisational talent of their working teams.

The **5th Edition of Architecture and Interior Design Prizes** recognises work by the best architects and designers, as well as that of young people who, with their projects, are starting their careers. Álvaro Siza, Javier Sordo Madaleno, Manuel Torres, Carlos Lamela, the American studio Clodagh Design, Joaquín Torres, Pascua Ortega, Sergi Balaguer, Fernando V. Arteaga, Tomás Alía and Raquel Chamorro were some of the winners and guests. Their stellar presence enhanced the importance of these Prizes. **Porcelanosa Group** showed once more the serious and perfect essence of its Global Project.



CONTENTS





8 DESIGN NEWS

10 PORCELANOSA, IN THE BIG APPLE

The Group acquires a building in Manhattan as its headquarters and strategic point for its expansion in the USA

12 SPIRIT AND L'ANTIC COLONIAL

Spirit collection, designed by A-cero, will have its own space in the showroom on Calle Ortega y Gasset in Madrid

16 ANNUAL GALA DINNER WITH THE PRINCE OF WALES

Isabel Preysler and the Prince of Wales, together with Porcelanosa once again

18 ARCHITECTURE NEWS

20 LAUNCHES

Porcelanosa inaugurates new shops and display areas in Amman, Mexico City and Manila

22 A HOUSE SUSPENDED OVER A TERRACED TERRAIN

Carlos Ferrater's studio and ADI Arquitectura join forces to create a single-family house respectful of the terrain

30 5th ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIOR DESIGN PRIZES 2012

In the presence of famous names from the world of architecture and interior design the winners received their awards from the jury at a gala held at the Madrid Stock Exchange

42 A RENOVATED HOME

Porcelanosa and interior designers Vicente and Victoria Navarro create a rational home, but with many decorative details and works of art

50 WILSON ASSOCIATES PRESENTS ITS BEST PROJECTS

Fernando V. Arteaga, Design Director at Wilson Associates, shows us this studio's most emblematic hotel projects

58 NEW IDEAS AT THE FAIR

Porcelanosa Group's 19th International Show of Global Architecture offers myriad technical products and above all, lots of style. Discover the new ideas from its eight brands

70 WE TRAVEL TO MAJORCA TO VISIT ITS MOST SOUGHT-AFTER HOTEL

With an architecture that fully respects its surroundings and is totally integrated into it, the Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa overlooks the port of Sóller

76 HOSPITAL REPORT

Luis Vidal & Asociados arquitectos (VAa) present their approach for hospitals: healing, responsible and airport-like architecture

80 A NEW LOOK FOR GATWICK

This London airport gets renovated

84 PROJECT MK VALENCIA

A restaurant in New Jersey with a very typical Valencian spirit, like the materials used

86 HOTEL PETIT PALACE SAVOY ALFONSO XII

A modern hotel close to Madrid's Retiro Park

88 PORCELANOSA IN THE WORLD

90 TALKING ABOUT...

The Performing Arts Centre in Taipei (Taiwan), designed by Pritzker Prize winner Rem Koolhaas, surprises with its impressive sphere

→ PORCELANOSA NEWS DESIGN

Theme Pavilion for the Yeosu 2012 Expo

Having won the Architecture International Competition, Austrian studio SOMA Architecture has devised the Theme Pavilion "One Ocean" for the 2012 Expo in Yeosu, South Korea. Spain is participating in this International Exhibition which takes over from the 2008 Expo in Zaragoza and will bring together exhibitions and activities revolving around its central theme: "The Living Ocean and Coast". The building, located in the old industrial port of Yeosu is crowned by a garden of native coastal plants where visitors can enjoy the scenic beauty of the ocean and the islands, as well as a 360° view over the Expo itself. From the flat roof, a winding ramp leads down to ground level. As for the kinetic façade, its vertical sheets shaped like fish gills are surprisingly original, and serve to control the lighting conditions inside the building. The Pavilion opened its doors on the 12th May 2012, and will be open until 12th August of this year.



CUPS THAT TELL SIX STORIES The Ottawa collection, created by designer Karim Rashid for the Danish brand BoConcept, includes these ceramic cups. There are six different models and each tells a story about its creator. "The whole collection constitutes a tribute to my roots," Rashid states. He uses these limited edition cups as an interesting canvas on which to sketch the city where he lives, New York, his personal alphabet with the symbols he has created over 20 years, and also to talk about the digital era.

SANTIAGO MORILLA ARTWORKS



WALL PAINTINGS, CREATING WINDOWS AND RECREATING CLIFFS

Drawing in caves while taking shelter from the night and cold, at a time of possible self-consciousness or maybe mystic lethargy. "Graffiti" on Pompeii's walls, taking a moment to insult someone, to honour love or

to offer services with the prostitutes' fees of the day. Staining a wall with blood where they are executing you in May. Painting a façade on a public street as a political action and the same for decoration with art at its heart. Today... Is creating a "window" on a wall an act of selfindulgence? Or is it the art of recreating cliffs? (santiagomorilla.com; santiagomorilla.blogspot. com; facebook.com/ SantiagoMorillaArt).



Porcelanosa Group takes on the Big Apple

With the aim of creating a global brand – for which conquering the American market is essential as it is a world benchmark – **Porcelanosa Group** acquired the Commodore Criterion building in which it will install its new offices in New York. Designed in 1918 by architects Ely Jacques Kahn and Albert Buchman, the building is at 202 Fifth Avenue, in front of the famous Flatiron, close to Madison Square Park and with the imposing Empire State behind it. It covers nearly 2,000 square metres distributed over six floors, and its location, on Broadway with Fifth Avenue, makes it a focal point for the famous Flatiron district.

After a renovation project scheduled to be completed next year, **Porcelanosa** expects to become a benchmark brand in a market which is keen on brands and consumption as is the USA, which in turn is the mirror for other powers, like the Asian continent, to look at themselves and where the Group is increasing its expansion with the recent opening of new outlets.



The Commodore Criterion building immediately catches the eye: its location on Broadway with Fifth Avenue makes it a focal point for the Flatiron district (above, an infographic image of the building after the renovation).

→ SHOWROOM

A-cero studio presents the new **Spirit** space

A-cero studio's architecture and town planning team, headed by Joaquín Torres and his partner Rafael Llamazares, presented the new Spirit space at Porcelanosa's showroom on Calle Ortega y Gasset 62, in Madrid. This venue houses the entire collection designed by A-cero for **L'Antic Colonial**, a company belonging to the **Porcelanosa Group** and specialised in natural materials. The new space occupies one of the main showcases in the shop.

Commenting on the Group's focus on quality and customer service to the 300 visitors – all of them professionals from the world of architecture and design – Joaquín Torres highlighted the revolutionary bathroom concept of







ABOVE AND LEFT ArchitectLab, a space of over 400 m² designed to make work easier for architects and interior designers, where a specialised team gives advice, makes suggestions and creates solutions for each specific project. FAR LEFT AND BELOW Joaquín Torres and Rafael Llamazares in the Spirit space, in **Porcelanosa's** showroom.



→ SHOWROOM

the Spirit collection, which merges straight and curved lines, wood and natural stone, as well as the philosophy of L'Antic Colonial and the spirit of A-cero.

Several well-known interior designers attended the presentation, including Tomás Alía, Raquel Chamorro, Héctor Ruiz-Velázquez and Luis García Fraile. A cocktail was served during the event, and a cooking show took place in one of the kitchens of the exhibition causing great excitement both among the guests and passersby who watched through the windows of this shop in the exclusive Salamanca district.

There was also time to present the innovative ArchitectLab by Group Porcelanosa to those attending - the new technical area and advice-desk of the shop - designed entirely with materials by the Porcelanosa Group. /



POR



- 1 Joaquín Torres, Luis García Fraile and Mauricio Inglada 2 The A-cero studio team,
- and, on the right, José Antonio Pérez 3 Tomás Alía, Cristina
- Colonques and José Antonio Pérez
- 4 Rebeca Cano and Beatriz Peral
- 5 Chema Blanco and Héctor Ruiz-Velázquez
- 6 José Ramón García and Raquel Chamorro











\rightarrow ANNUAL GALA DINNER

The Prince of Wales and Porcelanosa's Big Night

The Prince of Wales used his speech at the annual gala dinner at Dumfries House to thank **Porcelanosa** for its support of several of his 17 charity foundations and in particular, to express his gratitude for the contribution made in materials by the Spanish company to save this Scottish mansion from falling into further disrepair and collapse. This singular collaboration, started 15 years ago, has now materialised in the superb renovation of this 18th-century manor house located in Ayrshire, which for the first time in 250 years is now open to the public as a small and charming hotel.

The dinner was attended by loyal friends like Isabel Preysler, who has been the company's brand ambassador for almost 30 years, and company representatives such as Directors Manuel Colonques and Silvestre Segarra, as well as gorgeous guests such as Tamara Falcó, Ana Boyer, Genoveva Casanova, Cayetano Rivera, Carlos Baute and his wife, and the Duchess and Duke of Alba, who at the previous reception held in the Steward dining room gave the heir to the Crown a 1735 Windmills & Wightman watch that they generously helped to restore. **/**







ABOVE LEFT Wiwat Tayanuwat, Phiangpith Tayanuwat, Monrudee Supphenphob and Sitthisak Tayanuwat. ABOVE RIGHT Suzan Shobita, Elham Khalaf, Mohamed Mahgoub, Samy Mahgoub and Silvestre Segarra. RIGHT Tamara Falcó, Raúl Santos, Isabel Preysler, Carmen Jiménez, James Gerard Ong and Ana Boyer.









ABOVE Astrid Klisans, Genoveva Casanova, Cayetano Rivera, Tamara Falcó, Ana Boyer and Carlos Baute. ABOVE LEFT In the great Steward dining room, (clockwise) Pedro Pesudo Manuel Colonques, Isabel Preysler, His Royal Majesty the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Alba and Alfonso Díez. LEFT Leon Jakimic, Fernando Arteaga, Lindy Veitenheimer, Jerri Hatch, Larry Traxler, George Scammell, Jeanette Pennington, Andrew Pennington, Kenneth Baker, Isabel Preysler, Ave Bradley, Christian Schnyder, Summer Williams, Tara Michelle Williams, Manuel Colongues and Héctor Colonques García-Planas. **BELOW LEFT** Alan Parsons, Julie Hale, Jonathon Hale, Roger Borthwick, Nicky Ford, Lee Slade and Nicola Slade. **BELOW RIGHT The Prince** of Wales, Martín Pérez, Lucía Combariza and Hernando Heredia.

→ PORCELANOSA NEWS ARCHITECTURE



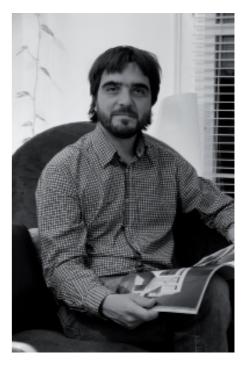
On Teshima Island in the South of Japan, architect Ryue Nishizawa – Kazuyo Sejima's partner at the SANAA architecture studio, based in Tokyo – designed this singular building with sinnous forms. It is an Art Museum, and the singularity of this bold construction is that the building itself is the most fascinating exhibit in the museum. Its form imitates a drop of water and the exhibition space, a 25 cm thick concrete shell with no pillars, has two openings. The concrete surface is of 2,000 square metres and the huge apertures visually connect the inside space with the outside, linking landscape, architecture and art. Nishizawa, winner of the 2010 Pritzker Award, has achieved perfect continuity between the limits of nature and architecture with this new project. The oval openings allow air, sounds and light to enter this wonderfully pure and changing space.



A PAPER CLOUD SUSPENDED IN THE SITTING-ROOM Jamaica is the name of this suggestive lamp designed by Marc Sadler for Foscarini. Its contours are reminiscent of the lightness of paper, and also of Frank Gehry's concentric and sculptural architecture. The linear forms and apparent simplicity of this original idea required much study and many tests resulting in a final design that combines functionality and cutting edge technology.

PABLO JAVIER ROSAS ARCHITECT LET'S NOT FORGET

Spaces endowed with ideal proportions: a respectful architectural approach in harmony with the landscape; a tectonic stratification of all the building's elements – like layers of soil, superimposed as in nature; a balanced and perfect structure that makes for majestic rooms inside; a series of requirements that subtly bring together, in an open and natural flow, the use of the spaces by those who will inhabit this bespoke home; a careful and prior assessment of the work



to avoid irreversible situations or hard to solve problems for the client. This is our imposing and challenging task, and if a single one of these factors were neglected, not only would the architect's efforts be ruined but so would those of all involved in the specific process of a good architectural project (www.aagfarquitectura.com).

→ NEW OPENINGS

Porcelanosa showroom in Amman

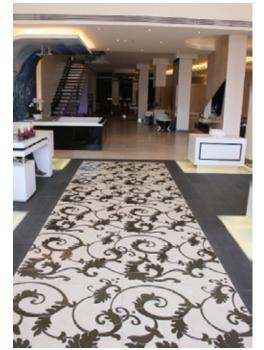
Last 8th May, Porcelanosa Group, expanding its international commercial network - now with over 400 outlets worldwide opened a new space for the exhibition and sale of its products in the city of Amman, thus strengthening its presence on the Asian continent, and more specifically in Jordan. The new 1,200-metre **Porcelanosa** showroom is located in a strategic place (on one of the main commercial streets of the capital city), and is devoted to exhibiting and selling ceramic floors and wall coverings, kitchens, wood and natural stone floors, bathroom fittings, etc., made by the Group's eight firms.

The launch, with over 600 guests, was attended by a number of Porcelanosa's directors, including Vice President Silvestre Segarra and Managing Director Mª José Soriano, along with the ambassador of Spain to Jordan, important professionals from the world of economy and art, and representatives from diplomatic delegations.



ABOVE Madame Farideh, María José Soriano, Spanish ambassador Javier Sangro de Liniers and Sameer Shreem RIGHT Zaher Eddy Reno, Avman Abdallat, Madam Afaf, Madame Farideh, Spanish ambassador Javier Sangro de Liniers, Silvestre Segarra, Lourdes Segarra and Maria José Soriano.













A new outlet on Mexico's 'Fifth Avenue'

Accompanied by two magnificent hostesses, Genoveva Casanova and Miss Universe Jimena Navarrete, Porcelanosa Group celebrated the opening of its new centre in Mexico, D. F. last 3rd May. With this initiative, the Spanish company aims to strengthen its presence in Mexico where it has already two showrooms, one in Interlomas and the other in Colonia Valle Dorado.

This new point of sales blends in with the exclusive boutiques lining the luxurious Avenida Masaryk which links the areas of Polanco and Colonia del Valle, and known by many as the 'Fifth Avenue' of Mexico City.

The cocktail party, attended by some 600 guests, brought together many influential people from Mexico's business world, such architect Javier Sordo Madaleno and representatives of Palacio de Hierro, the biggest chain of commercial malls in the country. Also present were Silvestre Segarra, the company's Vice President, Manuel Prior, General Director of Porcelanosa USA, and Alfredo Enríquez, Managing Director of Porcelanosa Mexico.









TOP LEFT

Manuel Prior (Director of Porcelanosa USA), Genoveva Casanova, Silvestre Segarra, Jimena Navarrete and Alfredo Enríquez (Managing Director of Porcelanosa Mexico). LEFT José María Blanco (General Director of Palacio de Hierro), Genoveva Casanova, Javier Sordo Madaleno and his wife, Ana Paula de Haro.



Porcelanosa, in Manila

The opening of the first Porcelanosa shop in the Philippines took place last 17th May in an event attended by some 800 people. Located in Fort Bonifacio, a large urban district in the city of Manila which in recent years has undergone extraordinary commercial growth, the new outlet has a surface of 1,000 square meters.

Attending guests included (clockwise) Víctor Martínez, Raúl Martínez (CE President), Kevin Belmonte, James Ong (CE President), Jorge Domecq (Spanish ambassador to the Philippines), Silvestre Segarra (Vice President of Porcelanosa), Menardo Jiménez, Joseph Tan and Joel Jiménez.

SUSPENDED OVER NATURE

This single-family home, with imposing contours and materials from the **Porcelanosa Group,** is the result of the combined efforts of two architecture studios based on the Mediterranean coast: OAB (Office of Architecture in Barcelona), headed by architects Carlos Ferrater and Xavier Martí, and the ADI Arquitectura studio, located in Castellón and run by architects Carlos Escura and Carlos Martín, who make up the team with architectural technician Benjamín Caballer.

Text: SUKEINA AALI-TALEB Photos: JOAN GUILLAMAT









Underfloor heating was installed under the dark wooden parquet Ethnic 1 L Merbau Kenya by L'Antic Colonial. The contrast between the wooden floor and the white walls strengthens the tidy yet warm feel of the interior. The kitchen was designed by the architects together with Gamadecor's technical department. It is done in stainless steel and has a Krion® worktop, from Systempool (11 mm) and 5 mm edges. The sink's mixer tap is

Drop Libra by Noken.

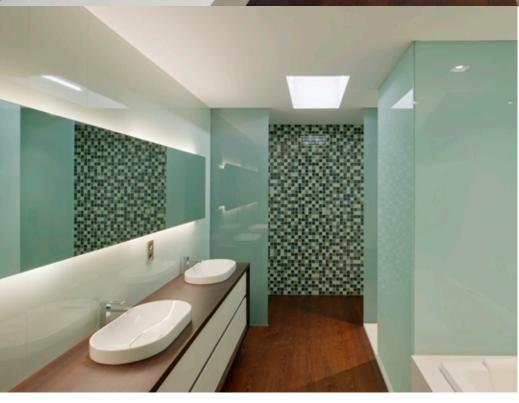
to cut down a single tree. With this premise in mind, they also decided to fully use the existing terraces and so damaged areas were reconstructed using the old technique and stone.

In harmony with their philosophy of respect for the natural environment, part of the house the garage and auxiliary areas – is underground, and the natural landscape was restored with native vegetation. From the upper level, a ramp leads to a vehicle lift to give cars access to the garage. In order to reduce the impact on the land, a metallic structure was specifically made and transported to the worksite in large pieces and assembled on three metallic V-shaped double pillars. The back part rests on an existing stone terrace and lightweight elements were used in the freestanding part of the building.









TOP The freestanding basin in the main bathroom was designed in Krion® by Systempool. The countertop is polished Travertino Albero by L'Antic Colonial. ABOVE The bathroom is exceptional for its Acid Crystal countertop, 33.3 x 100 cm by Venis. The countertop basins are Forma Series, 60 x 35 cm, and the taps are Irta by Noken. The shower handle is Minimal by Noken, and the bathtub, Minimal XL by Noken. The showers were done in Krion* by Systempool with made to measure measures. The outside finish of the house façade, done in several layers, is a metallic sheet designed to avoid reflections and overheating, thanks to the shade afforded by its folding forms. This is a house based on sustainable principles, complete with solar panels on the roof to supply hot water both for the bathrooms and the underfloor heating installed under the wood parquet.

The whole house surrounds a central courtyard at the heart of the house. It is a courtyard that allows for access at a lower level and affords all the rooms sunlight and views. The air flows thus generated reduce the need for air-conditioning. The ceramic floorings and wall coverings in natural stone have been supplied by **Porcelanosa Group**, as well as the bathroom and kitchen fittings and taps. "This was a collaboration established as an initial requirement. Only a great brand embracing many fields in the construction industry could meet the needs of our standards of excellence," architect Carlos Martín states. **/**



5th ARCHITECTURE and INTERIOR DESIGN PRIZES for 2012

PORCELANOSA Grupo

Porcelanosa Group awarded its 5th Architecture and Interior DesignPrizes for 2012 in the presence of the winners, the jury and the sector's top professionals at the palace of the Madrid Stock Exchange.

A SURE THING

Photos: SERGIO MARTÍNEZ

ast April, **Porcelanosa Group** awarded its 5th Architecture and Interior Design Prizes at the palace of the Madrid Stock Exchange. Spain's top professionals as well as internationally acclaimed celebrities were among the more than 250 guests. The competition has grown rapidly since it was created in 2008 and has now become an important platform for promoting interior design and architecture. More than 200 projects entered this competition, with many participants coming from abroad.

The winners of the Projects for the Future category were;

a house immersed in a sand dune, by architect Carlos Lucas Nohales, and a home on a cliff created by the student Diana Rubio Álvarez, from Zamora's School of Art and Design. In the Executed Projects category, **Porcelanosa** wanted to reward the loyalty that professionals have entrusted in the products made by its companies, and the jury awarded the first prize to a single-family home in La Coma residential area in Castellón, designed jointly by ADI Arquitectura and architect Carlos Ferrater's studio.

The jury awarding these prizes was made up of Benedetta Tagliabue, Pascua Ortega, Manuel Torres, Carlos Lamela and Clodagh.

Porcelanosa Group also wanted to pay tribute to the work done by four important and internationally famous names in architecture and interior design by awarding them an honourable mention: Álvaro Siza, for his long professional

> career, Alonso and Balaguer, for their distinctive international character, Javier Sordo Madaleno, a benchmark in contemporary architecture in his country, and the interior design studio Wilson Associates, for its Hilton Chengdu hotel, in China, totally designed using materials from **Porcelanosa Group.**

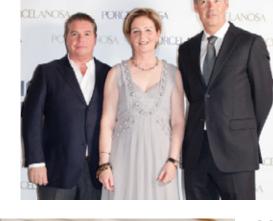






5th ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIOR DESIGN PRIZES FOR 2012 / PORCELANOSA GROUP







CARLOS LAMELA LAMELA STUDIO

As members of the jury, in the nonprofessional categories we have given precedence to innovation and originality. The former is an added value for students when it comes to departing from the beaten track and today's aspiring architects will thus be much better than us. There is a very promising up-and-coming new batch of young people. ≯



FORCELANOSA PORCELANOSA PORCELANOSA



1. Svetlana Fedoff and Val Nikitin 2. Héctor Colongues, Ana García-Planas and Joaquín Torres 3. Francisco González and Almudena Amate 4. Willem Hoopman, Yvonne Hoopman and Robert Vinken 5. Manuel Gómez Bolsico, Joaquín Saldaña Ortiz, Antonio Ballester and Manuel López Pérez 6. Raquel Chamorro and Héctor Ruiz-Velázquez 7. Lillian Kim, Marisa

Bordonaro, Sofia Feldman, Clodagh, Nick Calder, Jennifer Haney and Ximena Hoyos 8. Fides Gardiner and

Colum McCartan 9. Jetro Conti and Antonio Torrandell 10. Javier Illán, Marga Gordillo, Tomás Alía, Cristina Colonques and Pascua Ortega **11.** Miguel Ángel Lorenzo Peinado, Inmaculada Porras Martín and David Caparrós Campos

PORCELANOSA PORC











CLODAGH CLODAGH NORTH AMERICAN DESIGN STUDIO

In order to succeed in the world of architecture I recommend all students to forget their egos and set them aside, no matter how talented they are, to be intelligent and critical to be able to enhance their personal hallmark or the distinctive features of the project they are involved in. They should, also fully understand what their clients want and act as a guide with the aim of achieving the pursued goal. After all of this, a little bit of ego can be revealed but as a personal touch that should be genuine and come from the heart. ≽



PORCELANOSA PORCELAN

12. Carmen Redondo, Alberto Breva and Juan Antonio Juncos 13. Manuel Dauffi, Cueva Santa Morro and Alberto Breva 14. Eusebi Yagüe, Montserrat Oliva, Sergi Balaguer, Luis Alonso, Denise Marmelstein, Fidel Santiago and Vicente

García

5th ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIOR DESIGN PRIZES FOR 2012 / PORCELANOSA GROUP

15. Laura Fernández Cobo, Silvestre Segarra Soriano, Silvestre Segarra Segarra, Álvaro Siza, Javier Sordo Madaleno and Iván Pimentel

 16. Sergi Balaguer, Laura Oropeza, Rafael de la Lama and Luis Alonso
 17. Héctor Colonques presents the honourable mention to architect Álvaro Siza
 18. Pablo Ruiz, Luis Alonso and Sergi Balaguer
 19. Silvestre Segarra and

Javier Sordo Madaleno







MANUEL TORRES

All the participating projects are of extremely high quality and have met the requirement of using Porcelanosa materials and therefore it has been rather difficult to select the winners. I also find the location chosen for the awards ceremony [the building of the Madrid Stock Exchange] very suitable because I've always thought that those of us who work in the field of design or architecture are actually brokers as our commissions are about making the dreams of our clients come true and above all, making their investments profitable.





García-Planas presents the award to Fernando V. Arteaga **21.** Carlos Lucas Nohales (First Prize in the Professional category) receives the award from Manuel Torres 22. Pascua Ortega presents the award to Diana Rubio Álvarez, from Zamora's School of Art and Design (First Prize in the Student category) 23. Benjamin Caballer and Carlos Escura from ADI Arguitectura (First Prize in the Executed Projects category) and Clodagh **24.** Group photo of the

winners with the members of the jury

PASCUA ORTEGA PASCUA ORTEGA STUDIO

I valued the creativity and quality of the concepts and voted for the projects I considered 'allembracing'. My advice for young people who are starting in the world of architecture or interior design is to work hard, because working is how you learn the most. The key to working and to making a career for oneself is to always have enthusiasm for the activity you're involved in - working on a project that you don't believe in, that you really don't like, is impossible. You should also be able to adapt and draw inspiration from daily life. 🌺



24

PROFESSIONALS

5th ARCH URE AND INTERIOR DESIGN PRIZES FOR 2012 / PORCELANOSA GROUP

FIRST PRIZE DUNE

Carlos Lucas Nohales won the jury prize for the professional projects category with his Dune house design. This home, located on the coast and surrounded by sculptural sand dunes, needed an artificial and modular restraining element. The house's structure is based on the requirements of its natural surroundings as it is nestled in a dune that serves as a fence and both merge into a natural unit. The house is both buried and divided by a central courtyard. The layout of Dune is straightforward: from the sitting room there is direct access to the beach, and from the kitchen, dining room and bathroom (with elements by L'Antic Colonial, Noken and Gamadecor) panoramic views of the sea can be enjoyed.

Large windows and the glazed central courtyard take light into the rooms, thus enhancing the delicate finishes.

"Dune's textural façade, created by ONA from L'Antic Colonial, is also in harmony and connects with the feel of the warm, strong surroundings," the project designer says.



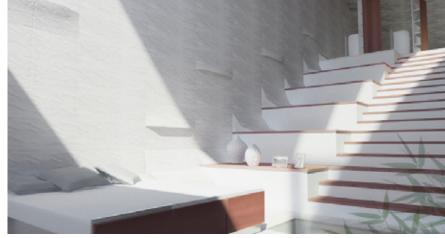


















Olga Sarrión won the honourable jury mention with her Relax residence. Located in Alaior (Menorca) and laid out on two floors (200 m²), Krion®by **Systempool** has the star role everywhere: façade, inside walls, stairs, bathroom, kitchen furniture and seat + table module.

The ground floor swimming pool is accessed from the first floor. Through a side wall of tempered glass in sea green the decorative tiles of the wall in front can be seen and forms an ornamental whole that can be appreciated from the sitting-dining room and kitchen, in front of the residence's main entrance.

A highlight on the first floor is the bathroom which forms the lateral perimeter of two walls of the main bedroom, and can be accessed on two of its corners. The panoramic views are the bathroom's greatest feature. The bathroom furniture, Oval model unit in white is by **Gamadecor.** A pleasant view of the outside can be enjoyed through the large windows of the bedroom.

On the front and left façades, the large windows along the stairs leading to the first floor are the residence's source of natural light. The lower steps are floating stairs of Krion® slabs, while the rest of the stairs are attached to their metal framework with iron fittings.



FIRST PRI7F **A HOME ON A CLIFF**



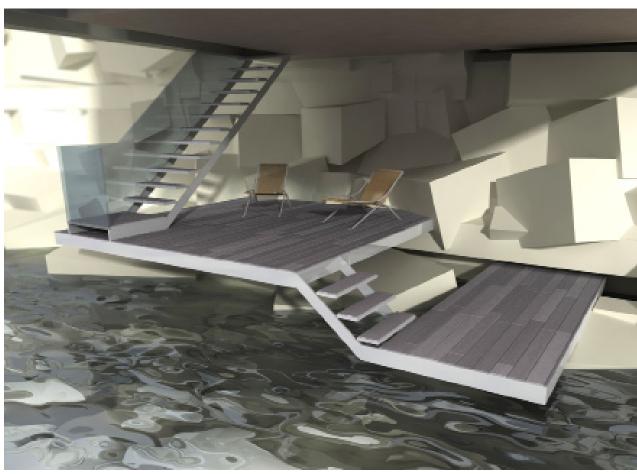


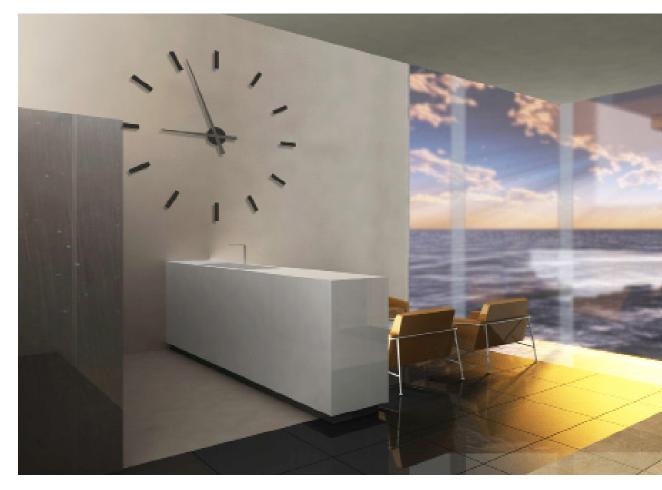


"Integration" is the word used by Diana Rubio, winner of the student category prize, to define her project. A home inserted into space as if it had always been part of it. The house's structure rests on rock which also supports it, and she uses its different levels making no unnecessary changes to nature. The designer sought a parallel between the materials chosen and the textures found in a similar contrast between mountain and sea, and the natural surroundings - the natural stone is represented by unpolished ceramic tiles, and the reflections of the sea in the floorings, which have an extra shiny finish. All this is combined in a building whose aim is the surprise factor: "Walking on the very edge of a cliff by the sea."

The home has two mobile piers (with stairs) that can be flat or tilted downwards depending on the

tides (the wooden exterior platform is Styledeck Mine Flat, by L'Antic Colonial). The design of the kitchen furniture is a reinterpretation of the G950 and G925 models from **Gamadecor's** Vanguardia range, and the cooking area is in Krion® and laminated glass. In the ground-floor bathroom different ceramic tiles are combined for the shower is set on the glass façade giving a feeling of "flying" over the cliff. As in the en-suite bathroom, materials by Venis, Noken and Systempool have been used. Finally, the design of the bedroom furniture unit – which has several functions: partition, headboard and for storage is a version of the white Air wardrobe in a glossy finish by Gamadecor.





HONOURABLE MENTION **AT THE RHYTHM OF LIGHT**

Jetro Conti obtained the honourable mention from the jury for this home to be built "by the Mediterranean, with its blue skies, its bright light and the colour of the sea". Indeed, the light that enters is the project's theme: rhythmic and unhurried, it coincides with the increases in volumes and space, separating the transit areas from the more spacious rooms. Thus, when entering a new volume, a new and bright atmosphere emerges. The markedly rhythmical forms contrast with the subtle and arrhythmical curves that gradually appear and endow the flow of the home with a winding quality. The light comes in through the house's three "eyes" and through large windows with moveable slats of translucent onyx.

In order to experiment with new forms, two Krion® elements were created that double as a table and vertical partition (an element inspired by the waves of light). Materials by L'Antic Colonial, Noken, Gamadecor, Systempool and Venis were also used.

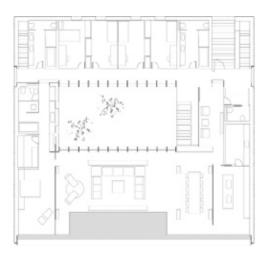




5th ARCH ECTURE AND INTERIOR DESIGN PRIZES FOR 2012 / PORCELANOSA GROUP

FIRST PRIZE **SINGLE-FAMILY HOME IN "LA COMA'' RESIDENTIAL AREA**

The ADI Arquitectura studio, headed by Carlos of its parts, such as the garage and auxiliary Escura and Carlos Martín, and the OAB (Office of Architecture in Barcelona), run by Carlos Ferrater and Xavier Martí, undertook the design of this home whose main objective was total respect for its surroundings. They thus opted for a prefabricated construction system almost wholly suspended over the terrain. Only some



areas are underground, and the natural terrain was reconstructed with native vegetation. A specifically made metallic structure was transported to the worksite in large pieces and assembled on three metallic V-shaped double pillars. The building system is visible from the large front area housing the kitchen, dining room and sitting room and the main bedroom, and both the pillars and the roof structure are visible. The central courtyard allows for access from the lower part of the house and enables all rooms to have sunlight and views. In addition, it connects all areas of the house.

All the bathroom fittings, bathtubs, shower trays, taps, ceramic and stoneware coverings, were supplied by **Porcelanosa.** The architects designed the kitchen in collaboration with Gamadecor's technicians of who created it.











HONOURABLE MENTION **RESTAURANT**



Isabel López is the designer of the Filandón restaurant in El Pardo (Madrid). A complex made up of three buildings whose floorings are in materials by Porcelanosa and L'Antic Colonial, and whose colour range embraces colours of earth, stone, wood, iron and clay.

The first building is in granite and wood, the latter like a vaulted structure supporting the roof – modelled on the "teitos" – stone huts with thatched roofs typical of the Cantabrian region in the north of Spain and which were once used as larders. Granite is the main material in the second building, including its main wall. It is also the base for the clay buttresses supported on it which divide the space into different ambiences (they can be separated or made into a single space). The roof is of zinc and the third and last building, made of clay, iron and discarded wood, connects the other two. 🖊



The **Porcelanosa Group,** in collaboration with interior designers Vicente and Victoria Navarro from NC studio in Valencia, has created a balanced space in which the warm tonalities of natural stone by **L'Antic Colonial, Venis** and **Porcelanosa** floors combine with the functionality of the **Gamadecor** kitchen and technological elements by **Noken** and **Systempool.**

Photos: PORCELANOSA'S PHOTOGRAPHY TEAM



VICENTE NAVARRO & VICTORIA NAVARRO These interior designers from the NC studio in Valencia (vicentenavarro.es) have used rationalism as their distinctive feature. For this project they have created, together with Porcelanosa, a large loft in which the only separate space is the bedroom.

A TERRACE WITH LOTS OF CHARM Outside spaces

(left) acquire significance in home design with **Non-slip Oxford Steel** floor, 14.3 x 90 cm, by Porcelanosa. The natural stone wall covering is Capuccino Sand Home Bioprot, 30 x 60 x 1.2 cm, by L'Antic Colonial. The lacquered chairs are by Richard Schultz and the braided *Reel* and *Canasta* tables, by Patricia Urquiola, all for B&B Italia. In the background, an *Orbit* sofa with a folding top by Dedon, creates another, separate ambience. MAN-MADE ELEMENTS DISAPPEAR AND NATURAL ONES TAKE OVER When it comes to decorating a home by the sea, we should not be guided either by absolute minimalism nor excess: neutral colours help create totally relaxing ambiences. Natural stone Capuccino Sand Home Bioprot wall covering, 40 x 80 x 1.5 cm, by L'Antic Colonial, imbues the sitting room with a feeling of serenity and comfort.

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The White Munich floor,59.6 x 59.6 cm,by Venis, providespeacefulness and light,making the most of the sun'srays that come throughthe big windows. In addition,the sitting room, kitchenand dining room are all laidout in a single space.The Portfolio sofa and chaiselongue are by FerrucioLaviani, and the coffee andside tables, Portfoliomodel, by Molteni & C.

The white ceiling lamp, *Amax* model, is by Fontana Arte.

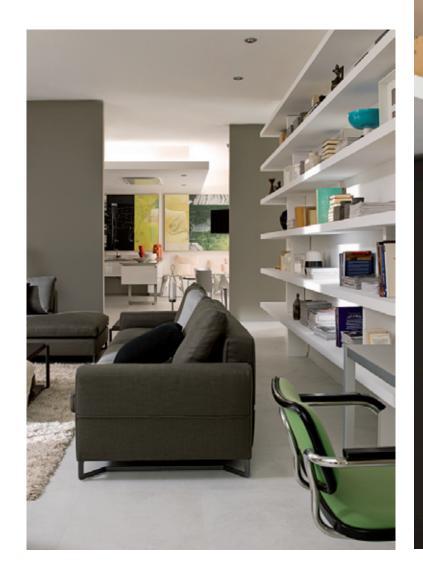
IN THE HEAT OF THE SUN AND WITH SPECTACULAR VIEWS

The dining room (right) is in a sheltered area next to the sitting room. In the foreground, *Kalos* chairs, by Antonio Citterio for Maxalto, and behind them, a zinc sculpture by Miguel Navarro and photographs from the *El camino sin fin* (The endless road) series, by Ibán Ramón. Dividing both spaces is the Menina sculpture, by Equipo Crónica; and between the large windows is natural stone **Capuccino Sand Home Bioprot** wall covering, 40 x 80 x 1.5 cm, by **L'Antic Colonial.** On the Athos sideboard, by Paolo Piva (B&B Italy), is a painting by Carmen Calvo and ceramic objects by B&B Italia, as well as a decorated vase by Victor de Nalda. The carpet is by Kasthall.

ANOTHER VIEW From

the dining room, the sitting room looks like the perfect sanctuary for an after-lunch conversation (below) with its *Hans* table, by Antonio Citterio, *Doyl* chairs (all by B&B Italia) and *Raimond* lamp by Moooi.







DETAILS TO TRANSFORM A HOME INTO A MUSEUM Creating small corners with artworks (left) helps achieve a museum-like effect: everything is on show for visitors to enjoy. In the background, the 1894 Uralita sculpture is by Joan Cardells; on the right, by the access to the kitchen is a *Desk* console table made with pieces of tin by MDF, an olive wood stool and a painting by Miguel Ángel Ríos. On the left are acrylic on canvas paintings by artist Javier Chapa.

The floor is in White Munich, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, by Venis.

THE VANISHING POINT, THE

KITCHEN In the sitting room (above, on the left), the Portfolio sofa and chaise longue by Ferrucio Laviani stand out on the White Munich floor, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, by Venis. From this angle of the house, and thanks to the perspective created by the wall bookcase with lacquered shelves and ceramic objects by Ettore Sottsass for Bitossi, the

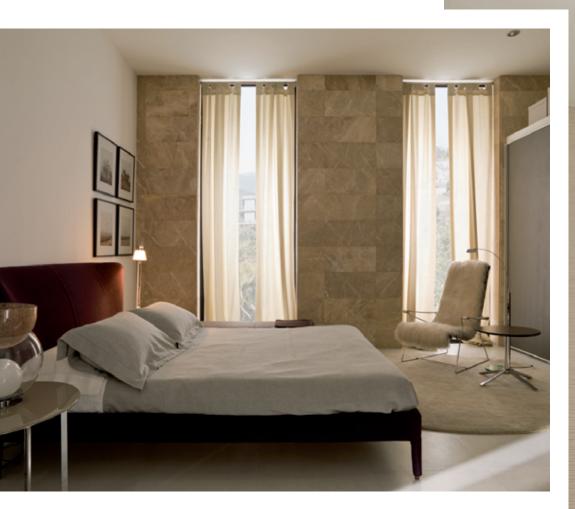
kitchen looks as if it is much bench, has a sink with a further from the sitting rom. On the right, the Desk console table by MDF can be seen again, and the Ceska vintage armchair with green upholstery is by Marcel Breuer.

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HIDDEN APPLIANCES The furniture units in the kitchen (G575 Shine White / Cacao and Alfa chairs, by Oak, by Gamadecor) are both functional and beautiful. Molteni & C. The Cor de Appliances have been hidden behind doors and columns. The central peninsula, resting on a

removable Bremen mixer tap by Gamadecor. The wall covering is in White Tokyo, 31.6 x 90 cm, by Porcelanosa, and the floor, again, is in White Munich, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, by Venis. A FUNCTIONAL KITCHEN WITH In the kitchen's eating area is an Arc table, by Norman Foster+Partners, Hannes Wettstein all for guix paintings are by artist Ximo Amigó and the Round Boon ceiling lamp is by Moooi.







WHEN THE BATHROOM BECOMES YOUR DREAM

GARDEN Certainly, the main feature of this bathroom is its shower which faces you like a mini vertical garden. The shower set chosen for this exquisite 'landscaping' detail is Square, by Noken, complete with NK Logic shower head, 50 x 30 cm, by Noken. The cabin surrounding it is a 'special' Neo 9C, by Systempool. The Conic bathtub, 1,760 x 870 mm, by Systempool is in the foreground and has Lounge taps by Noken. The Nantes Square basins, 44 x 44 cm, by Noken have built-in Giro taps by Noken, are in front of a huge mirror covering part of the wall. The rest is in the Porcelanosa Athens Limestone, 31.6 x 90 cm. The floor-mounted bidet (with Giro mixer tap) and freestanding toilet (with Premium Line dual flush) belong to the Essence-c series by Noken.

A ROOM TO RELAX AND REST

This room has a FOC Cacao Oak / White Superior Textile wardrobe by Gamadecor and a reading area. The wall next to the large windows is in natural stone Capuccino Sand Home Bioprot wall covering, 30 x 60 x 1.2 cm, by L'Antic Colonial. The floor is in White Munich, 59.6 x 59.6 cm, by Venis. The bed is Febo by Maxalto, and the bed linen is by Ivano Redaelli. The Pathos bedside table, by Antonio Citterio for B&B Italy, the Giova lamp by Gae Aulenti for Fontana Arte, and the painting by Carmen Calvo complete the room. The adjoining bathroom has a Conic bathtub by Systempool, surrounded by Capuccino Sand Home Bioprot, 30 x 60 x 1.2 cm, by L'Antic Colonial. Next to it, are Tufty Time poufs, by Patricia Urquiola, and a Lithos side table in travertine marble, all for B&B Italy and above, Wind ceiling lamp by Vibia.

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HILTON CHENGDU

WILSON ASSOCIATES **VERTICAL LUXURY**

Lifestyle takes a tour of the most spectacular Wilson Associates resorts to discover the last word in luxury: exclusive hotels with original, contemporary artwork, spas with state-of-the-art technology, golf clubs, and rooms with incredible views. **Porcelanosa Group** collaborates with this American firm.

Text: SUKEINA AALI-TALEB Photos: WILSON ASSOCIATES



FOUR SEASONS **HOTEL HONG KONG**

With a distinctive international style, the Four Seasons Hotel Hong Kong has impressive views of Victoria Harbour which is an interesting spot and attraction for all visitors to the city. This is an urban hotel, delicately designed and with an array of eclectic artwork and contemporary sculpture

embellishing its interior, giving it a unique feel. Guests can enjoy the latest technology in its generously sized rooms, whose interior design has colourful Eastern and Western motifs. There are silk panels on the walls, and the floors are in marble. Adding to this refined design is the choice of sculptural furniture with gold leaf

detailing and genuine, Chinese ink paintings. The hotel has also been designed for relaxing, and its spa has 18 sophisticated rooms for different innovative treatments, where guests can choose among a range of sensorial experiences that include colour and sound therapies. Peaceful and spectacular, the Four Seasons Hong Kong is a truly urban oasis.



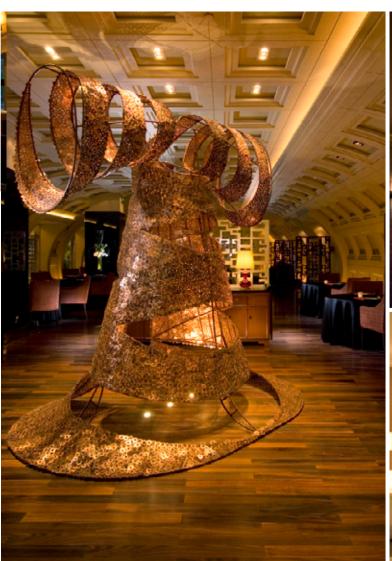




HILTON BEIJING WANGFUJING

The Beijing Wangfujing is the second Hilton hotel in the Chinese capital. Close to the Forbidden City, in the heart of Wangfujing, Beijing's most important commercial and social district, it is just a few minutes from the iconic Tiananmen Square. Its elegant design redefines the concept of an urban hotel and is the reason behind the prestigious World Travel Awards prize for the World's Leading Lifestyle Hotel which it has won for a third year in a row. The Hilton Beijing Wangfujing offers its customers a total

experience, combining the most contemporary and up-to-date style with the city's local character. Off its corridors are spacious, extraordinarily comfortable rooms, and also exclusive, elegant tucked-away areas. This hotel is a good example of one of the traits that distinguishes the Wilson Associates firm from other interior architecture studios: the creation of a bespoke project for each client that includes exhaustive research on the characteristics of the place, culture and history in order to meet the specific needs of both clients and users.









SAMUI Built on a cliff with views to the turquoise-blue waters of the Gulf of Siam in Thailand, the Conrad Koh Samui hotel is a enchanting refuge situated in natural and exceptional surroundings. Fully equipped with the latest technology, the hotel is a modern oasis brimming with magic. It has 80 independent villas with private swimming pools and





CONRAD KOH

terraces, as well as 65 one-bedroom villas, 14 two-bedroom villas, one Royal Villa and three gourmet restaurants. Its designers have used tropical woods and volcanic stone to guarantee that every part of the hotel has a connection to local Thai culture. The large ceiling to floor windows bring nature inside.





ST. REGIS SINGAPORE

With a stately and aristocratic air, the St. Regis Singapore houses more than 40 original artworks by well-known artists such as Le Pho and Chen Georgette and boasts one of the best private art collections in Asia. The hotel, with a contemporary design and classic touches, uses some of the most luxurious fabrics, finishes and furniture in the world. such as its spectacular crystal chandeliers from the Czech Republic. Its 299 rooms and suites are flooded with colour, ranging from aubergine purple to greenish blue and grey. Its large windows are hung with elegant curtains. Chandeliers hang from its ceilings while the floors are covered with floral carpets and headboards are of hand-painted silk which add a delicate touch of chinoiserie.

The St. Regis hotel also has five gourmet restaurants decorated with stainedglass windows and a blend of European and Chinese motifs with Mediterranean touches - in short, a modern and sophisticatedly luxurious style.

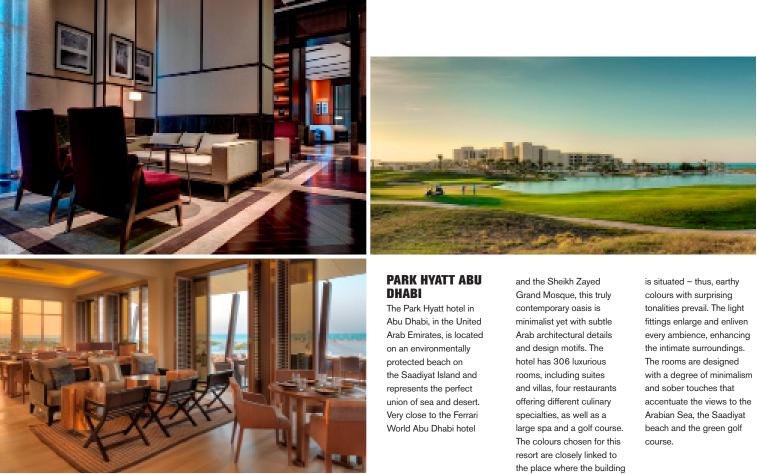


ARMANI HOTEL DUBAI

The Armani Hotel Dubai is the result of the collaboration between Wilson Associates and Giorgio Armani and has the minimalist, sober and elegant aesthetics that can be expected from the famous Italian designer. The hotel is located in the emblematic Burj Khalifa Tower, the world's tallest man-made structure. In its interior, Armani's most distinctive colours are everywhere - a neutral palette of beiges, browns, greys and charcoals. The corridors are like elegant, futuristic catwalks with LED lighting, giving a certain dramatic and intriguing atmosphere that guests enjoy before entering their rooms. Once inside, every fabric and finish has been chosen with special care. Regarding the materials, floors are in stone as well as polished marble, and bronze-coloured vinyl and wood have also been used. The spa facilities are outstanding for their truly beautiful spaces that reflect Armani's design style and philosophy.









MONTAGE DEER VALLEY

The Montage Deer Valley is located in the high, wooded hillsides of the majestic Utah Wasatch Range in the United States. This mountain refuge of over 15 hectares has modern and spacious facilities in the spa area, and a total of 154 rooms. 66 luxurious suites and 92 private residences. as well as many areas for meetings and leisure. The design of the entire resort is based on the fascinating story of a British traveller who journeyed through the beautiful landscapes of North America gathering souvenirs along the way before settling down in Deer Valley. Thus, the resort has a rich collection of regional art, sculptures, old engravings, tapestries and unusual objects. Local wood has been used and juxtaposed with lamps in iron and tin, and limestone fireplaces and marble floors add to the stylishness of this hotel. As for the fabrics, soft leathers and materials in chocolate browns were chosen both for the public areas and rooms.







" TODAY, THE FIRM IS GROWING HAND IN HAND WITH TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES AND WE RESPECT ALL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABLE TRENDS TO ENSURE HIGH-CLASS DESIGN"



Fernando V. Arteaga DESIGN DIRECTOR FOR WILSON ASSOCIATES

aving recently finished the Hilton hotel in Chengdu, Arteaga for the time being, has no intention of leaving Asia where he is busy with multiple projects. This implies venturing into a new market area which he is enthusiastic about for it involves interesting cultural challenges and experiences. This well-known professional has made room in his hectic agenda to talk with *Lifestyle* about his work methodology, his design and future projects.

What work method does the Wilson Associates studio use in order to embrace so many projects in different parts of the world?

During our 30 years of experience in the field of interior architecture, we have developed a specialised system to meet worldwide demands connected with work methods, using technology and complementing it with an international professional team.

How has the firm evolved since its beginnings in Dallas?

Our design philosophy is straightforward: we simply design for the market, with no particular style or image attributable to the firm. Today, the company is growing hand in hand with technological advances as well as respecting environmental and sustainable trends that render a first-class design.

How do the location, restaurant, casino, club, spa... of a given hotel influence its final design?

Location is certainly a very important factor in the design of any product. Depending on the characteristics and demands of the users, the result may be a new iconic urban landmark or a building that goes unnoticed yet enhances its surroundings.

Please highlight one of your projects.

I am now developing a multiple-use project in Haikou, China. The client in question is a respected professional and highly knowledgeable in the area of aesthetic and technical design, as well as being a reputed real estate developer. All this allows for intelligent interaction that helps develop a product with the highest design quality in this very competitive hotel market.

What elements and materials do you most often use?

I share the philosophy of Wilson Associates and thus have no particular style. My approach to each project is to do precisely the opposite of what I did in the previous one. I always strive to use new materials and composition elements in order to generate new design solutions. *I*

GRUPO PORCELANOSA

NEW IDEAS

The best of the **19th Porcelanosa Group's International Show of Global Architecture** where all the new ideas for ceramic coverings, natural materials, and constructive kitchen and bathroom equipment developed by the eight companies of the Group were presented **PORCELANOSAI** Surprises us with contemporary wall coverings **L'ANTIC COLONIALI** A luxurious duo together with the A-cero studio **SYSTEMPOOLI** Designing for sensorial delight **GAMADECOR** Attractive and functional compositions **URBATEKI** Conveying the essence of architecture to projects **VENIS** Large-size ceramic bathroom tiles simulating precious metals **BUTECH** Small details that make a huge difference **NOKEN** *Haute couturd* for bathrooms: sophisticated design and personal wellbeing

> Pure white Extreme White flooring, 59.6 x 120 cm, gives a peaceful feel throughout the home.



PORCELANOSA









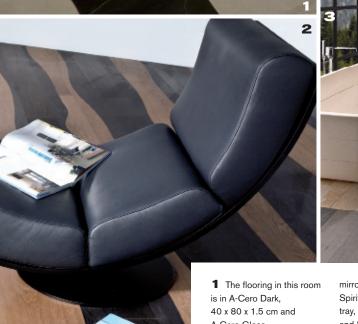
4 Oxford Steel, 22 x 90 cm and 14.3 x 90 cm: a ceramic flooring that evokes the appearance and warm essence of wood but has the resilience of ceramic. Its light surface relief combines the texture of wood and different grain patterns.

For its outdoor version, its non-slip surface is the result of using nanotechnology in the production process, giving it a softer texture, and is similar to the original, standard material. **5** The elegance of Calacata Gold flooring, 43.5 x 45.3 cm, creates calm and stylish atmospheres.

L'ANTIC COLONIAL

SYSTEMPOOL

P.



A-Cero Gloss, 40 x 80 x 1.5 cm. The wall coverings are Dark Curve A-Cero, 40 x 80 x 1.5 cm, Dark A-Cero, 40 x 80 x 1.5 cm and Mosaic Spirit, 31.45 x 45.2 x 1 cm. Accessories are: Spirit A-Cero Gloss basin, 145 x 42 x 12 cm, Intense Spirit Oak furniture unit, 180 x 20 x 40 cm, Neboa

mirror, 246.3 x 130.5 cm, Spirit A-Cero Gloss shower tray, 170 x 80 x 5 cm, and Spirit A-Cero Gloss bathtub, 260 x 90 x 54 cm. All are imaginative products designed by the A-cero architecture studio for the collection Spirit of L'Antic Colonial, combining straight and curved lines, wood and natural stone. 2 Natural Wood floor: Curve Xalo, 17.3 x 220 x 1.3 cm, Clear

Xalo, 17.3 x 220 x 1.3 cm, Dark Xalo, 17.3 x 220 x 1.3 cm. **3** Natural Wood floor: Artisan 1L Woven parquet, 19 x 190 x 1.5 cm, bevelled on all-four sides and with a tactile wavy texture thanks to a hand-hewn process. The Artisan series is characterized by its surface treatments that render a worn and weathered look.

1 TOUCH panel plus in-built wall shower head. Discover the sensations, wellbeing and relaxing feel that water can provide - with this in mind, the TOUCH series includes various shower components (also available in an integrated shower column). A new concept in water for sensorial delight, with state-of-the-art technology and offering different programmes: Balancing, Relaxing, Energising, and the possibility to manually control the kind of shower, water temperature,

chromotherapy, aromatherapy and music or radio. All this is installed on a Krion[®] surface fitted with a tactile screen with easyto-use controls.

2 Ecolite bathtub. **3** ATTICA shower doors: an extra-clear glass screen with extraordinary transparency. Its stainless steel fittings, quality materials and details, such as the natural leather handle, give the ATTICA shower an aesthetic quality of subtle and practical excellence. The easily accessible inside flush hinges make for easy cleaning and the glass is free of any inside element. The pivot door

hinge system guarantees watertightness.

4 Free-standing Modul bathtub in Krion[®] Stone with pure symmetrical lines. Its classic characteristics endow it with great flexibility when it comes to situating it in the bathroom, as it can be installed in the middle of the room or fitted. Its steel structure is available in two colours, black and chrome. Module basin with countertop in Krion® Stone and built-in overflow. Steel structure. Suite multifunction shower cabin: Kubox cabin, Sytek system and Krion[®] finishes.





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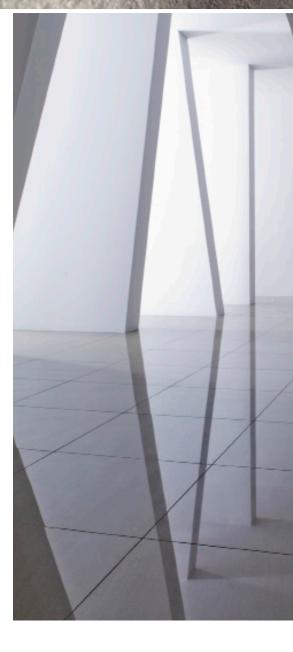
URBATEK

Anton



camel vintage oak, and an area with columns and tall cupboards in matt white. The Krion® worktop on an aluminium frame is fitted with a stainless steel sink and cooking surface. All handles are made of steel and embedded in the fronts. The kitchen columns are equipped with appliances and internal storage systems, and their edges are done in aluminium with a steel finish. 2 IN bathroom series: furniture unit with tops and fronts with mitre joints (to allow them to be used as handles). The series offers low and high modules, basin modules, mirrors fitted with a neon lighting system activated by a touch button, and two basin choices: Corfa basin done in Krion® and Ones basin in Gelcoat. Available in different glossy and matt lacquer, and in 'chapa roble blanco cal', 'roble moka', 'roble yeso', 'roble sabana', 'roble verde caqui', 'roble cacao' and 'roble petróleo'.

1 G680 Camel Vintage Oak / Matt White G480 kitchen: peninsula with fronts in 25-mm thick



1 Grey Texture FOSSIL, from the new FOSSIL collection, with stone-like relief, it is available in two soft and fashionable colours (Beige and Grey) and three finishes (Nature, Lappato and Texture). The latter, a textured finish, can also double as non-slip flooring and complies with current regulations requiring class-III non-slip surfaces. Available in different 60-cm modules (60 x 60 cm, 60 x 30 cm, 60 x 15 cm, 60 x 10 cm, 60 x 5 cm and 30 x 30 cm.) 2 Beige Nature FOSSIL.
3 Polished LESS Coal,
60 x 60 cm, from LESS collection, by Urbatek.
4 Beige Nature FOSSIL.





VENIS

2 The highlight of this space is Silver Sea, an exclusive large-format ceramic design. The bathroom walls and floors simulate the look of precious metals. A delicate treatment applied to each and every piece in an almost artisan way endows them with great added value. The result was a hit among the public attending the recent Porcelanosa

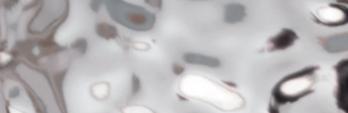
Group's International Show.

3 Zurich Grey is created with Eclipse technology which, when applied to ceramic combines highly defined matt and shiny effects giving the tiles a unique appearance.

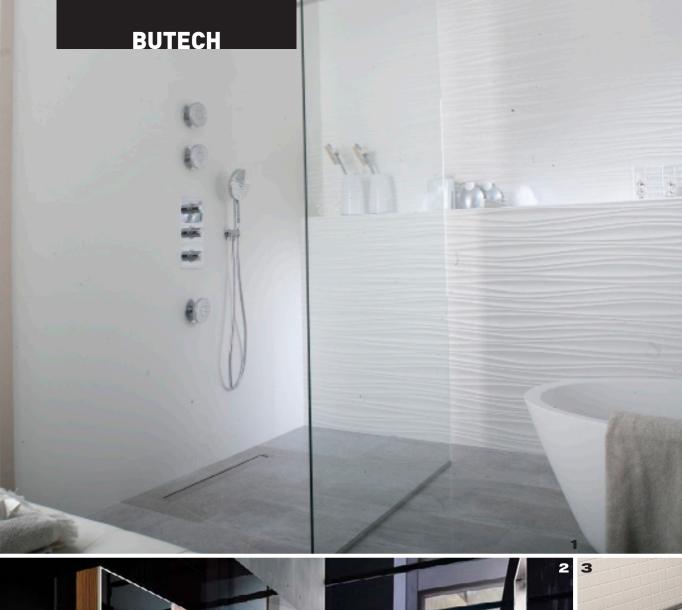








4 Silver Pearls,
33.3 x 100 cm, exclusive
large-format ceramic
design.
5 Silver Sea,
33.3 x 100 cm, exclusive
large-format ceramic
design.

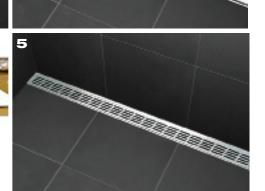


1 Easy to install, safe to operate, high performance and enduring, are some of the qualities of the linear Butech shower drains. 2 With beautiful golden touches, the Gold Swarovski shower drain with small embedded crystals, will look fabulous in elegant spaces. Also available in silver colour: Swarovski's Pro-mate 5 in chromed brass. **3** A special grille in linear shower drain. 4 Shower plate with solid frame. 5 Shower plate with special grille.



NOKEN





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of its main characteristics are its remarkably stylised forms and its overall elegant appearance. 2 Imagine Collection: with new golden details that enhance its splendour, this complete line of bathroom fittings turns bathrooms into spaces of classic style combining comfort and technology. **3** Essence-C Collection:

1 Hotels Collection: inspired by urban life, some

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turn bathrooms into spaces of contemporary design - an innovative collection with a ceramic cover that hides the concealed cistern and adds a modern touch to any space.



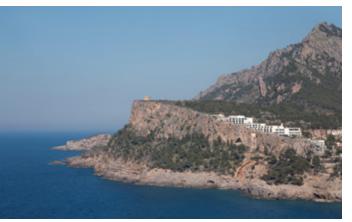
JUMEIRAH PORT SOLLER HOTEL & SPA

On a cliff over the Sóller bay, the Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa has just opened its doors with the intention of becoming a benchmark of quality on the island of Majorca. A five-star luxury hotel harmoniously integrated in its natural surroundings and respectful of the landscape of the area.

Text: MARTA SAHELICES Photos: ÁLEX DEL RÍO

he Jumeirah hotel group r e c e n t l y opened its first resort in Spain. The Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa (www.jumeirah. com) is an impressive establishment located

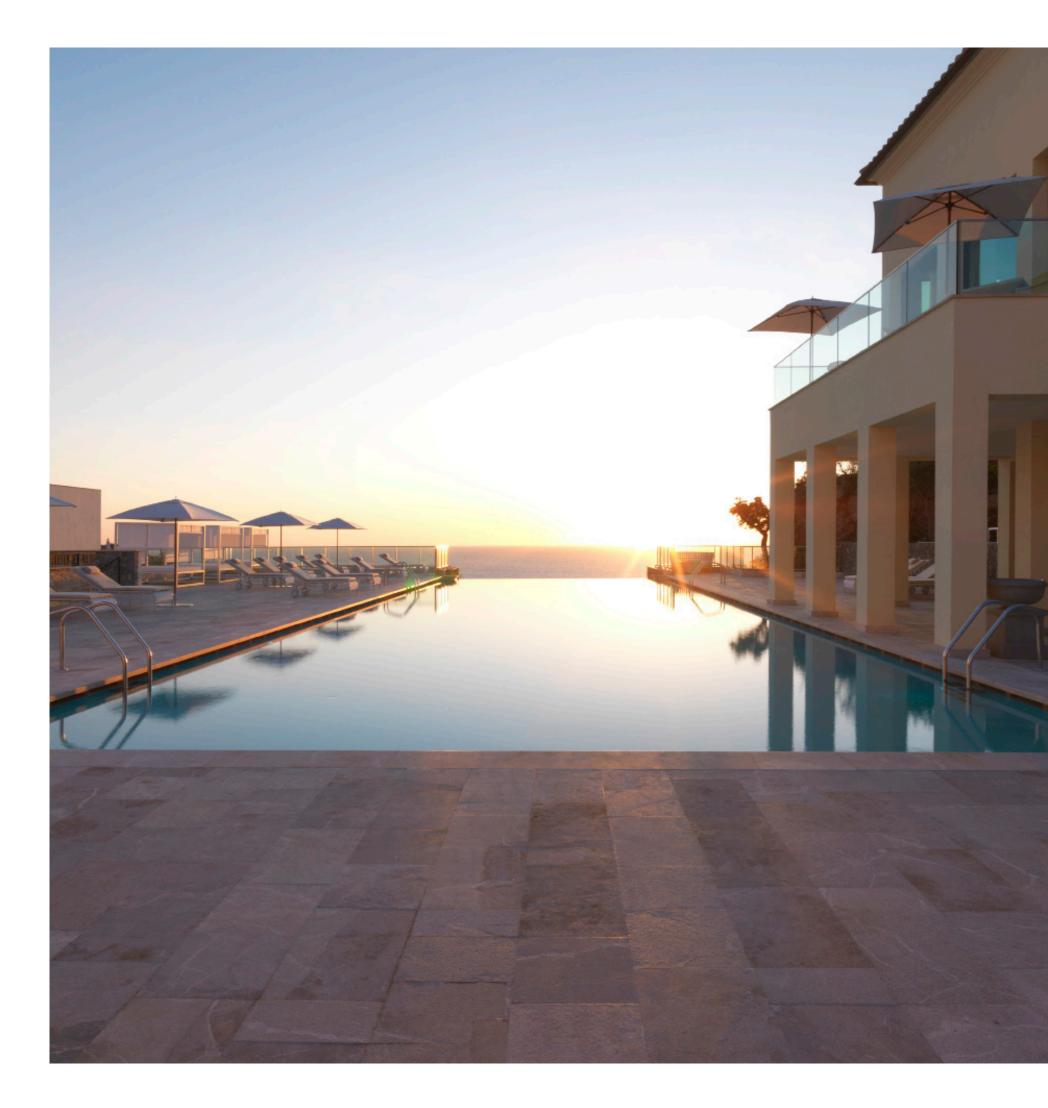
on a hill overlooking the port of Sóller in the northeast of the island of Majorca. In the middle of the Tramuntana Range, in the Valle de los Naranjos [Valley of the Orange Trees], this five-star luxury hotel follows one of the group's main philosophies: fusion with the environment to create a symbiosis with the surroundings. To achieve this goal, they have turned to the experience and know-how of the Peter Silling & Associates (www.hotelinteriordesign.de) design



TOP Views from the hotel. ABOVE An outside view of the resort which shows its 11 buildings distributed on different levels. OPPOSITE Infinity pool at dusk. Asian expansion, has offices in Germany, as well as in Hong Kong and Thailand. With a team of 65 people, the studio has attained worldwide fame thanks to its specialisation in

studio, which, after its

the interior design for luxury hotels of A-class international chains. In the specific case of the Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa, Peter Silling & Associates has taken into account "luxury with roots" typical of the Jumeirah hotels, and has included small details to evoke the tradition of the island: from the typical ceramic tiles in blue, white and yellow covering the front of the reception area, to small objects of Majorcan blown glass.

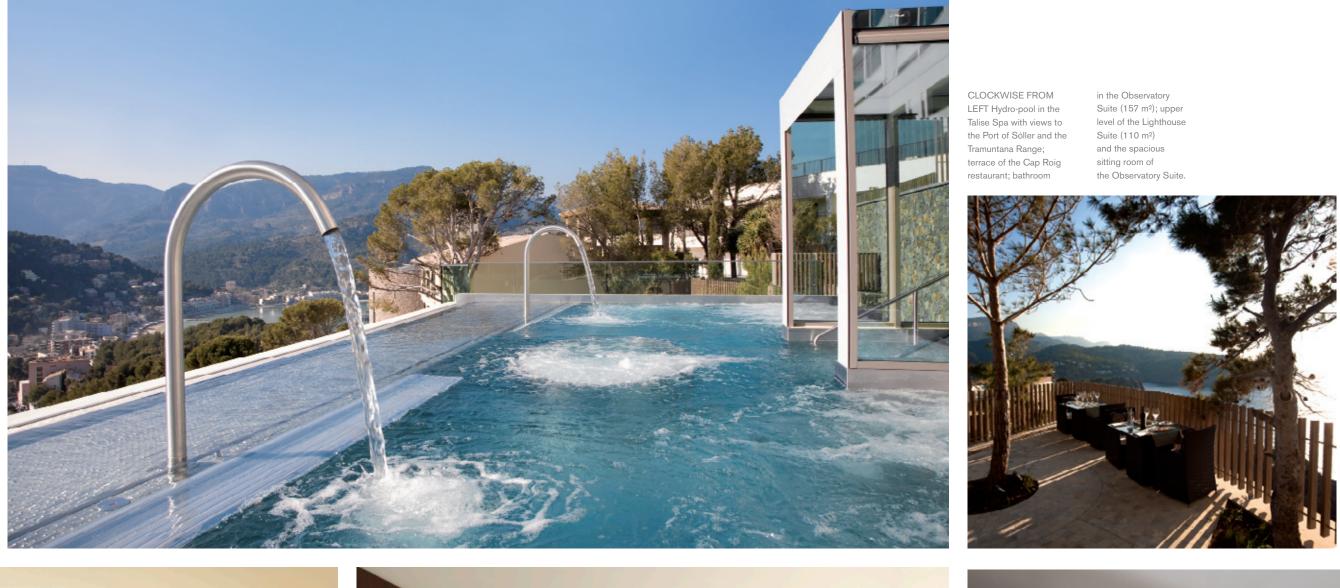


In the most pure contemporary style, beige, brown and ochre and quality materials such as wood endow the rooms with an elegant simplicity and harmony, and nothing interrupts or disrupts the pleasure of the views to the sea, the mountain or the port.

In turn, the walls of the different buildings are decorated with contemporary Balearic works of art: in the rooms with views to the Mediterranean, the motifs and colours of the pictures refer to the mountain landscape, and those with views to the Tramuntana Range are adorned with maritime images. In addition and as a nod to the old hotel that once occupied one of the renovated buildings, old photographs of the hotel taken in the 80s have been hung along the corridor.

With a total area of 18,000 square metres, the Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa is comprised of 11 low buildings respectful of the surroundings and quietly integrated into the landscape. To this end, Space Coppola, the company entrusted with the landscaping project, has opted for native plants and for the typical Majorcan terraces used for farming.

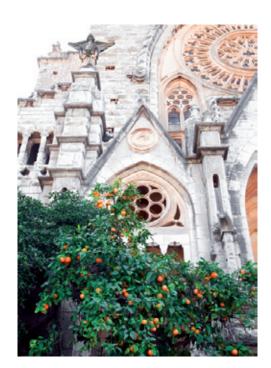
The rock that wraps the central building of the hotel is also typical of the island and, like the vegetation, helps to fuse the structure with the splendid cliff overlooking the bay of Sóller on top of which it stands.





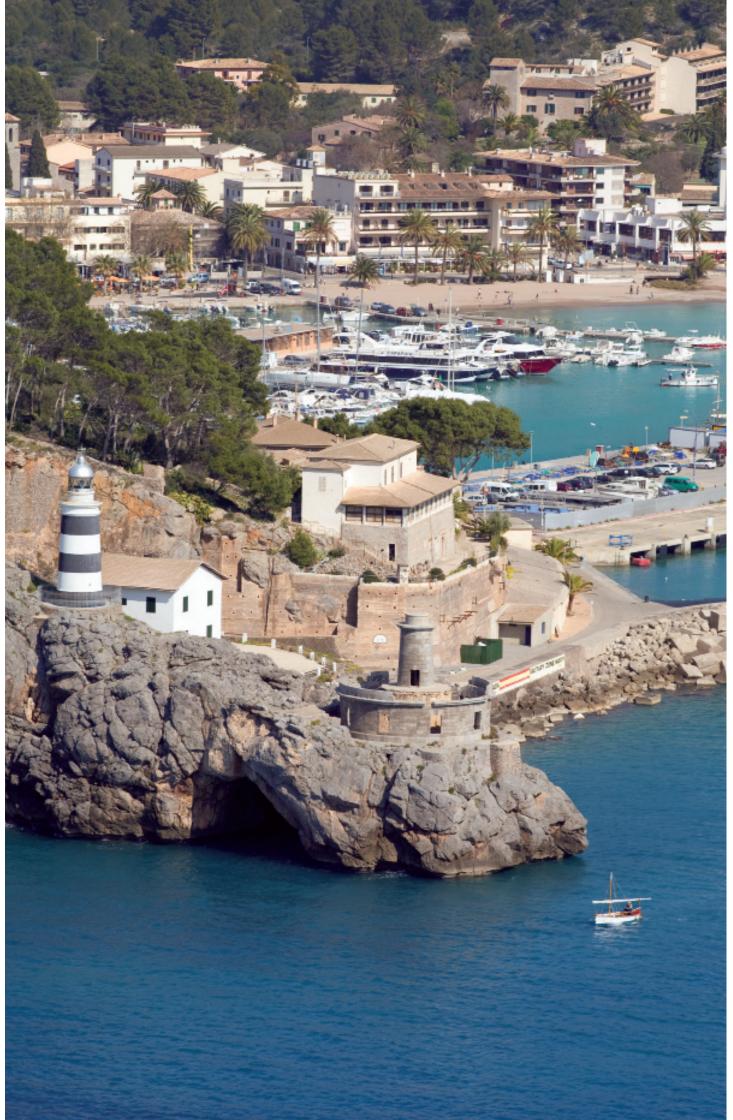














THE SURROUNDINGS The Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa offers different options to get to know the region, from trekking trails and mountain bike routes to any of the 26 golf courses on the island. It will also arrange vessel rental to reach isolated coves, and sailing, fishing, diving and snorkelling. **OPPOSITE** The parish church of Sant Bartomeu; coca de trampó [a kind of vegetable pizza] with tuna at the Es Faro restaurant; the tram that connects the port and the village of Sóller, and a view of the Port of Sóller. ABOVE AND RIGHT A narrow street, and views of the neighbouring village of Fornalutx.

The resort has 120 rooms and suites, among which two very special rooms stand out: the Observatory Suite, which is the biggest (157 m²) and connects with a junior suite and a deluxe suite, and the Lighthouse Suite (110 m²) on two levels and with a terrace that offers almost 360° views to the bay and boasts a private Jacuzzi.

The Jumeirah Port Soller Hotel & Spa has four bars, two swimming pools and two restaurants. Cap Roig is outstanding and hopes to become a culinary benchmark on the island with its modern cuisine based on local products and an extensive, high-quality wine cellar.

Under the Talise Spa brand, launched by the Jumeirah group in 2007, the hotel will offer the most exclusive beauty treatments: from natural Aromatherapy Essentials to the innovative and technological Natura Bissé, not forgetting exclusive international treatments by Linda Meredith and Bastién González.

The spa occupies over 2,200 square metres and contains ten treatment suites (some of them are interior while others are outdoors with views to the mountains) and a thermal area with an aromatherapy cabin, Arab hamman, ice fountain, sauna with views to the valley, a relaxation hall with a fireplace, a boutique and an open-air hydro-pool. /





ARCHITECTURE HEALING/RESPONSIBLE/AIRPORT-LIKE

Healing architecture: a building including semi-open spaces. Green areas are interspersed between the different pavilions and the rooftops are gardens. **Responsible architecture:** a hospital design with the user in mind, less stressful and aggressive than traditional buildings. It is fragmented and has low-rise volumes, natural lighting in all rooms and a user-friendly layout.

The airport-hospital: overall functionality is the goal. Movement inside is optimized, access to services is easy, the different functions and uses are made clear and maximum flexibility is planned for future adjustments and expansions.







ospital architecture is determined by functionality as are all complex, massive and specialised buildings. A 21st-century hospital should thus adapt to new hospital management models as outpatient departments grow in number and the need for long stays is reduced. The latest technologies require restructuring of treatment and diagnosis spaces and new criteria emerge for organising volumes and movement within the building.

A visit to a hospital is usually considered stressful and so the Vidal y Asociados arquitectos (VAa) studio works on a more human scale. Hospitals involve the movement of hundreds of doctors and workers as they perform their daily tasks, and this architecture studio has devised an organisation based on vertical specialisation. Thus, each pavilion is shaped along a central axis containing a single hospital service making the autonomous management of each area easier. This vertical structure keeps the different movement paths and routes inside the hospital separate depending on functions (internal, external and supplies), thus optimising patients' movement and transport, without losing communication between the different areas.

After thoroughly studying the flow of movement of patients, visitors and doctors, Vidal y Asociados have achieved a hospital structure designed to give patients privacy, connection between services yet keeping the desired autonomy. At the same time, it will be possible to expand each area separately depending on future needs. The modular construction inside the building will allow for spaces to be exchanged and expanded or reorganised very easily in the future and as for the outside, each



Architect Luis Vidal began his career in 2004 founding the studio Vidal y Asociados arquitectos (VAa).

building can be extended either horizontally or vertically.

As the study explains, the full-empty concept of a hospital like this, designed on a central axis, permits the incorporation of gardens in the spaces between the annexes. Thus, all rooms are bathed in natural light and enjoy views of plants and trees ensuring that the landscape is another element of the healing process.

As hospitals are large consumers of resources, their design should be linked to responsible management and VAa's commitment to this is reflected in a hospital with an optimal budget. A flexible design allows for future possible spaces and thus better use of the constructed area. It also enables the integration of gardens on the rooftops and on the plot, and to use insulation and thermalacoustic control techniques, specialised façades, optimised natural lighting and ventilation as well as local materials and passive measures for energy efficiency and state-of-the-art facilities.

CAN MISSES HOSPITAL, IBIZA

REINTERPRETING IBIZA'S TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE

idal y Asociados arquitectos, in collaboration with Ingeniería Arup, D-fine and CSP, have designed an 80,000-m² hospital that reinterprets Ibiza's typical architecture with its distinctive small apertures, fragmented buildings and use of white.

With an approach that includes energy responsible use, there are green areas throughout the hospital, pluvial drainage systems and natural light and ventilation everywhere. By studying how patients, visitors and doctors move around the hospital, the privacy of patients is improved as is communication between the care units, the emergency wards and ICU.

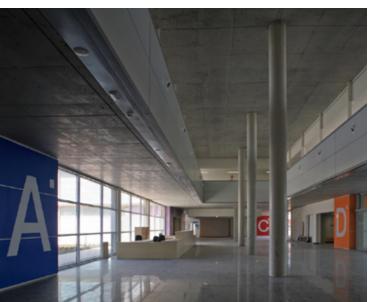




INFANTA LEONOR HOSPITAL, MADRID

SUSTAINABLE, EFFICIENT, FLEXIBLE. ITS COLOURS, NATURAL LIGHT AND SPACES IMPROVE THE EXPERIENCE OF PATIENTS

esigned by Vidal y Asociados arquitectos y Araujo + Berned arquitectos, this U building is immersed in its natural surroundings and was developed using a modular structure that can be easily expanded: the hospital complex (130,000 m²) is distributed around a central axis surrounded by six annexes of different sizes. Clear and simple signs make it easy to get around inside and its spaces public, hospital care and emergency department - were planned to be independent of each other allowing for a smooth flow of people. Sustainable strategies have been applied to optimise natural light inside the building and control energy consumption.











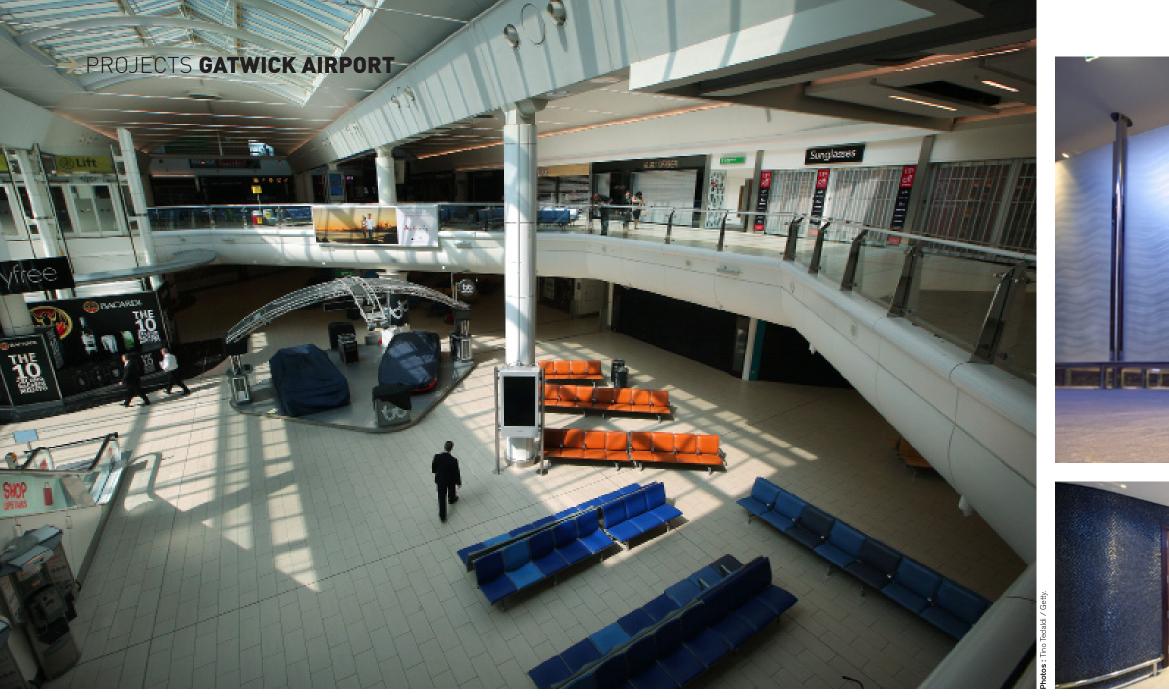


VIGO'S NEW HOSPITAL

HEALING ARCHITECTURE AND THE EVER-PRESENT THERAPEUTIC GARDEN

he Vidal y Asociados arquitectos studio, with the collaboration of Vicente Fernández-Couto and Jacobo Rodríguez-Losada, undertook this project designed for the wellbeing of patients: healing architecture achieved through spaces lit with natural light and an ever-present "therapeutic garden" devised to help reduce stress. The 270,000-m² building takes advantage of the existing slope and is set on the terrain on different levels, thus creating a clear functional division. On the ground floor, close to the River Barxa, a stone area houses outpatient surgeries. Above these are the main hospital entrances, located in a large landscaped public space overlooked by the six blocks of rooms and wards from where patients can enjoy views of the valley. In the technical block on the upper floor are the accesses to the specialised accident and emergency wards.





Five-star luxury toilet block

CS was commissioned, together with EV Creative Studios, to design and build a unique toilet block for the arrivals area at London Gatwick Airport's South Terminal. These were to include a men's, women's and PRM area. It was essential that all areas were finished to a 5 star luxury standard. This project was a great opportunity for RCS to show that they "stand for innovative ideas".

Their inspiration for the design was an 'Urban Forest' theme with an interactive fusion of nature and modernity. This theme was carried throughout the design and was incorporated into the shapes and materials used. A tactile blend of glass, steel and porcelain tiles has helped bring this inspiration to life.

They made full use of the space available and adopted a simple yet visually pleasing style to create an attractive, functional and wellorganised area. Working within a pre-existing space, they successfully increased the size of the facilities without encroaching too far into the terminal, increasing to 20 the women's toilet cubicles, to 11 the men's ones – including 8 urinals – plus three cubicles for PRM, as well as a room for families with babies.

Working within an airport a number of crucial design elements required attention. RCS considered at length the needs of passengers and consequently installed large self contained cubicles. Easy to use, each cubicle contains a toilet, sink and hand-dryer. The cubicles are also large enough to allow passengers to take hand luggage in with them.

Due to the high volume of users, the ventilation units installed continuously refresh the air and







ABOVE Flooring for access to the toilets and also inside are done in Arizona Anthracite 43.5 x 65.9 cm, by Porcelanosa.

LEFT AND BELOW For the wall covering at the toilet entrances, two kinds of materials have been combined for their matching colours and also their different textures: on one side is Brick Bhutan 40 x 10 x 1.5/2 cm, by L'Antic Colonial, and on the other, Air Black 30 x 30 x 1 cm, by L'Antic Colonial.







ABOVE On the facing wall Brick Bhutan 40 x 10 x 1.5/2 by L'Antic Colonial has been used. ABOVE LEFT A fragment of Air Black covering, 30 x 30 x 1 cm, by L'Antic Colonial. LEFT On the left wall

of the men's toilet, several wall coverings have been combined: on the upper section of the wall is Qatar Mother-of-Pearl 31.6 x 90 cm by Porcelanosa; in the centre is Montana Honey 19.3 x 120 cm by Venis, and below is Cosmos Nature 30 x 60 cm by Urbatek. Air Black 30 x 30 x 1 cm, by L'Antic Colonial has been used on the edges of the dividing walls. Several elements by Noken have also been used: wall-mounted Acro urinal with flush mechanism above, and wall-mounted

Acro 35 cm W/H basin. The floor is Arizona Anthracite 43.5 x 65.9 cm, by Porcelanosa. BELOW The wall covering chosen for this bathroom is Brazil Natural 33.3 x 100 cm, by Venis. Elements by Noken are: the Soft BTW Pan toilet, Soft 55 cm W/H basin, Irta infra-red BSN MXR CHR

tap and Quatro Robe hook.

also release a natural scent ensuring this area always smells fresh.

As the British company wanted to create toilets which would be as sustainable and efficient as possible to go hand in hand with their work philosophy, all materials used are recyclable. Lighting and hand-dryers are all low energy consumption. They also installed sensors on taps and flushes to avoid excessive use, thus reducing water consumption.

"Our 5-star luxury toilet facilities are unlike any found at other European airports, in fact we are yet to see evidence of a similar design at any other airport worldwide," says RCS. \checkmark

(RCS Pro AV Limited, CP House, Otterspool Way, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 8HP; tel. +44 01923 215 999).



→ PROJECTS **MK VALENCIA**

A taste of New York on the other bank of the Hudson River

n the most pure Manhattan style is how CKC Design & Construction renovated the MK Valencia restaurant located in Ridgefield Park, on the other bank of the Hudson River, in New Jersey (United States). A gastronomic venue comprised of modern architectural elements designed by this architecture company that has designed some of the Big Apple's most emblematic projects since 1990.

On this occasion, the CKC Design & Construction (www.ckc-nyc.com) experts designed a restaurant with a lounge-like atmosphere whose bar and entrance are perfectly distinguishable and separate from the dining room and which give customers more privacy. In addition, the dining room has a delightful extra feature – a terrace with a garden at the back of the restaurant for eating outdoors during the warmer months.

MK Valencia's menu surprises the visitor with a wide range of dishes with modern, refined flavours that ensure a varied experience. It also boasts oysters and an extensive wine cellar that offers customers a personal space for storing their own wine collections. Not for nothing is the attainment of "an easy transition between imagination and reality" one of the main features of CKC Design & Construction when it comes to undertaking an architectural project.











The bathroom wall coverings (above) are Grey Star Mosaic, 20 x 33.3 cm and White Star Mosaic, 20 x 33.3 cm both by Venis. In the other bathroom (left), Victoria Collection White Island Star Mosaic, 24 x 24 x 0.7 cm wall covering (mesh), by L'Antic Colonial, White Thebes Round Basin, 50 cm and Nora Chrome mixer tap, both by Noken. The dining-room floor is done in Black Nature Avenue 30 x 60 cm, by Urbatek and the back wall covering is Twin Chrome Steel, 37.3 x 65.9 x 1 cm, by Porcelanosa. For the columns in the bar London Mother-of-pearl, 31.6 x 90 cm, by Porcelanosa has been used The inner courtyard is done in 3D Blueker Expo.

→ PROJECTS HOTEL PETIT PALACE SAVOY ALFONSO XII









Love for the detail

he Hotel Petit Palace Savoy Alfonso XII, belonging to the High Tech hotel chain, has just opened its doors a stone's throw from the Puerta de Alcalá and overlooking El Retiro Park, a green lung in the city of Madrid. The building, an old palace built in the 19th century, has been painstakingly restored and converted into a modern hotel. The result is truly luxurious for all the senses and on entering this contemporary establishment one finds a sophisticated and cosy atmosphere. "Our goal is to make you feel like you are away from home, and via our design and interior decoration approach we have intentionally highlighted the hotel's singular and privileged urban location," comments Jesús Ángel Miranda, the designer who imbued its interior spaces with a life and personality of their own.

This project is located in one of Madrid's most exclusive areas and this fact was taken into account when converting the old mansion into a

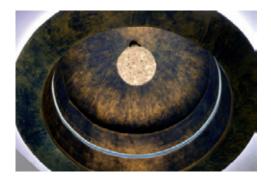
hotel. Thus, a series of different requirements had to be combined – the old structure was respected without neglecting the layout of the rooms or the choice of new materials and design needs. "We wanted not only the functionality demanded by hotel facilities but also rational yet surprising aesthetics which would help the management requisites of the Director, and which customers could also enjoy," the project designer explains.

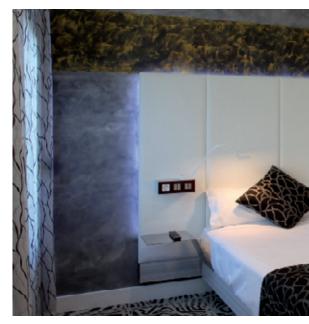
An essential and distinctive aspect of the hotel, in keeping with current needs, is its diversity: there are rooms designed for long stays, XXL rooms for people with specific needs as well as self contained apartments. It also has many references to the Garden of El Retiro and a by Venis. curious feature: at the cyber-corner, guests can see the time in cosmopolitan cities such as New York and Tokyo, as well as in Barakaldo - a personal touch and a nod to Jesús Ángel Miranda's home town.

The hotel has 87 rooms and the walls were decorated by Zeni & Lovelly, an Italian studio that uses a stucco technique originally used in Venetian palaces. The main entrance was moved to the old carriage access to accommodate the reception area - it has Habana Dark Flame paving. 20 cm x length to order, by L'Antic Colonial. ABOVE In the room's kitchen, the G-215 cooker is by Gamadecor, and the wall covering is in Crystal Dark, 33.3 x 100 cm, by Venis. The lounge flooring is Tavola Kenya, 19.3 x 120 cm,











LEFT The bathroom wall covering is Qatar Motherof-Pearl, 31.6 x 90 cm, and Seoul Mother-of-Pearl, 31.6 x 90 cm, by Porcelanosa, and the floor is in Patagonia Slate, 30 x 60 cm, by L'Antic Colonial. The Soleil Round SX4 bathtub is by Systempool, and accessories are from the Tecnik and Nantes series, by Noken. ABOVE Extra White Line wall covering, 33.3 x 59.6 cm, and White Candles, 33.3 x 66.6 cm, both by Venis, as depending on the room.

well as anodized aluminium Pro-Part, 12.5 mm, by Butech. The floor is done in Bali Anthracite, 31.6 x 31.6 cm, by Porcelanosa. The toilet is Nk Compact and the stand-alone basin is Black XL Kube, both by Noken. The Tecnik accessories are also by this brand as is the white high-spout Urban mixer tap. The special shower set is Imag by Systempool, as are the Land shower travs. in different sizes and colours

→ PORCELANOSA IN THE WORLD

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This Performing Arts Centre is surprising with its stunning sphere almost embedded in the building and suspended over the streets of Taipei. A dynamic public space that will energise the city's skyline.







Theatre in an impressive sphere

n 2009 the OMA architecture studio, headed by Pritzker Award winner Rem Koolhaas, won the tender for the construction of the Performing Arts Centre in Taipei, Taiwan and work began on his stunning, head-turning design in 2012. With a budget of around €140 million it is scheduled to open its doors in 2015. A total of 50,000 m² will make up this bold and assertive building. The main theatre will seat 1,500 spectators and the other two halls will seat 800 people each. This ambitious project led by Koolhaas along with his partner, David Gianotten, intends to update and surpass traditional forms thus breaking today's architectural lull with regard to this kind of building. The Centre will become a flexible space containing three types of theatre allowing room for a wide variety of performances. Their forms will make them suitable for experimental shows with different sized stages and so attract a wider public. /