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XVII PORCELANOSA AWARDS 2026

Driving talent and the value of ARCHITECTURE, INTERIOR DESIGN and real estate development



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RIKEN YAMAMOTO
Pritzker Prize Laureate 2024

PORCELANOSA Group Honorary Award 2026

"Materials must ensure that architecture remains in that place forever. This is a principle I apply in my work."



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EDITORIAL

Rising to the challenge



ON THE COVER: Riken Yamamoto, winner of this year's International Honorary Award, sees architecture as a way to understand and transform how people live together. **Photo:** DANALKA.com.

"The future will either be sustainable or it will not exist" has become both a mantra and an aspiration. Above all, it is an essential project already underway in countless architecture and design studios, as well as in the offices of developers and contractors. For years, it has also been a priority for the **PORCELANOSA Group**, which uses highly efficient technologies to develop materials and construction solutions that are reshaping spaces and how we understand habitability itself.

Riken Yamamoto, winner of the 2024 Pritzker Architecture Prize and Honorary International Architecture Award at the 2026 Porcelanosa Awards, is a clear example of how architecture is turning towards its surroundings, seeking a balanced relationship between exteriors, interiors and landscape. His work reflects a vision of architecture as a means of building social connection – bringing people together, making everyday life easier and improving wellbeing. It is a vision that is not merely theoretical, but one that is fully put into practice.

What are the new ways of building? How can sustainability be made both viable and affordable in increasingly strained cities? The answer lies in the collaborative work the **PORCELANOSA Group** has been carrying out with professionals across the sector. The needs – and aspirations – of our clients and partners drive the development of tailored solutions. We focus on the quality, durability and beauty of materials. We develop industrialised solutions for large-scale projects. And we pay attention to both the substance and form of each project through our collections and furnishings.

This is how we work, how we think and how we build a more sustainable future.

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Photo: Galerie Dior.

Maison Dior redefines the designer's legacy

Housed in a historic mansion on Paris's Avenue Montaigne, the Galerie Dior is a unique space designed to capture the spirit of haute couture while preserving the legacy of Christian Dior. As part of the European Heritage Days, it now offers a rare opportunity to step into the world of the Maison Dior through a groundbreaking immersive scenography that brings the French couturier's extraordinary creativity to life.

Kelly Wearstler x Edelweiss

For years, Edelweiss pianos have played a central role in Kelly Wearstler's interior design projects. That ongoing dialogue between the designer and the instrument led to a simple question: what if the piano itself became the canvas? The result is Timbra. Its circular shape gave her the opportunity to rethink the piano's function, not only as an instrument but also as a sculpture that gives meaning to spaces.



Photo: Giulio Ghirardi.



Photo: Courtesy of Blast Studio.

Works of art born from life – quite literally

London-based Blast Studio collects waste coffee grounds and combines them with fungal roots (mycelium) to transform existing man-made objects into one-of-a-kind pieces. The material is then 3D-printed directly onto the objects, where the mycelium grows into a layer that solidifies each piece. Inspired by natural geometric forms, the designs create microclimates that retain moisture and protect the living organisms as they grow. Once the process is complete, the mycelium is deactivated, and the piece is complete.



Magic Moments at rabat.net

RABAT

Waves Collection

The revolutionary Lucas Museum of Narrative Art comes to life

Film-maker George Lucas is preparing to unveil what is arguably the defining project of his career. Together with his wife, Mellody Hobson, he has managed to make his dream come true: the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art. Located in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, the museum will be devoted not only to cinema but also to exhibitions of digital art, painting – its collection includes works by Frida Kahlo, Norman Rockwell, Auguste Renoir and David Hockney – illustration, comics and more. All of this will be housed within a striking futuristic complex designed by Ma Yansong and MAD Architects.







Photos: Getty Images / Sean M. Haffey / Mario Tama / Eric Thayer.



Photo: Tom Welsh (Courtesy of the Pritzker Architecture Prize).

Smiljan Radić, the Pritzker laureate hailed for his 'radical originality'

This is how the jury for the 2026 Pritzker Architecture Prize, chaired by Alejandro Aravena, described the work of this year's laureate, Chilean architect Smiljan Radić. According to the jury, his work stands at "the crossroads of uncertainty, material experimentation and cultural memory". That creative vision is evident throughout his projects, many of which have been realised in his native Chile. Among the best known are the Bío-Bío Regional Theatre in Concepción, the NAVE Centre for Creation and Residencies, and the Mestizo restaurant, both in Santiago. Equally noteworthy is the temporary pavilion he designed for London's Serpentine Gallery in 2014, which reflected his enduring interest in experimenting with materials and emotion.

Kanal-Centre Pompidou, Brussels' Guggenheim

The former Citroën headquarters garage on Place de l'Yser in Brussels will reopen next November as Kanal-Centre Pompidou, a cultural hub set to invigorate the social and cultural life of the Belgian capital. Its impact has already been compared to that of the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and the Tate Modern in London. Spanning 40,000 m^2, the building will host major exhibitions featuring works drawn primarily from the Centre Pompidou collection, alongside pieces from the Kanal Foundation and numerous Belgian collections. It will also offer a programme of public events designed to showcase the rich legacy of artistic creation over the past century.



Image: © Atelier Kanal.

ZENIT



ZENIT | Designed by Rocco Este

ARKOSLIGHT

CO2 CARBON NEUTRAL COMPANY

Metallic finishes are changing the game

Metallic finishes are becoming an indispensable feature of contemporary architecture and interior design. Textures such as brushed stainless steel, aged copper and titanium have taken centre stage in wall and surface cladding, furniture and, above all, kitchens. They bring warmth and a tangible sense of materiality, complement large-format surfaces and reflect how the kitchen has evolved into a more sophisticated, experimental and vibrant living space, as seen in **Gamadecor**'s designs.





Biophilic design on the rise

Biophilia is a movement that champions the human need to maintain a regular connection with nature. It embraces architectural and design approaches featuring flowing forms, expansive skylights, water and vegetation as defining elements. One striking example is the spectacular waterfall at Singapore Changi Airport, a unique space in which **Krion®** materials play a prominent role.



Photo: Stock / P. Kijsanayothin.

Lorena Canals on craftsmanship



Since designing rugs in the garage of her home in 1998, Lorena Canals has undergone a remarkable creative evolution, shaped by her distinctive understanding of contemporary craftsmanship. Her work is based on the use of natural materials, which give rise to timeless and, above all, emotionally resonant pieces that evoke a warm response from her buyers. Without ever losing sight of functionality – her practical approach led her to create the world's first washable rug – her creativity, together with that of the team around her, has helped reaffirm the relevance of traditional craftsmanship in contemporary design.


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XVII AWARDS 2026 PORCELANOSA

THE BERNABÉU HOSTED THE **17TH EDITION OF THE PORCELANOSA ARCHITECTURE, INTERIOR DESIGN AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS** FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR. THIS ICONIC ARCHITECTURAL LANDMARK PROVIDED THE PERFECT SETTING FOR THE CEREMONY.

The event brought together almost 300 guests, including architects, designers, property developers and representatives from the business world, and has established itself as one of the leading events on the international architecture and design calendar. Throughout the evening, the winning projects and honourable mentions were recognised for embodying an approach to architecture and interior design that places people and their surroundings at the centre.

Emilio Butragueño, Director of Institutional Relations at Real Madrid, addressed the audience and highlighted "the strength and continuity of the relationship between the club and the **PORCELANOSA Group**". Built on shared synergies and the mutual growth of both organisations, this partnership has recently been strengthened through the incorporation of Porcelanosa materials into newly developed areas of the Bernabéu Stadium.

Héctor Colonques García-Planas, Commercial Director for Major Projects at the **PORCELANOSA Group** also highlighted the role of the awards in promoting talent and recognising the value of architecture.

The ceremony, held in the Bernabéu Press Room, was hosted by journalist and television presenter Isabel Jiménez. The celebrations continued with a gala dinner in the stadium's Executive Box. Banco Santander was the event's principal sponsor, with Arkoslight, Engel & Völkers, Miele and Occident participating as partner companies. The new all-electric BMW iX3 also featured as the event's official vehicle.

Awards Presentation

For this 17th edition, Porcelanosa assembled a distinguished jury of leading figures from the worlds of architecture and design: Rosa Agraz, co-founder of Arroyo Solís Agraz (Mexico); Lázaro Rosa-Violán, Founder and Creative Director of Lázaro Rosa-Violán Studio (Spain); Ju-Wei Chen, Founder and Creative Director of Txengo Studio (United Kingdom); Antonio de Martino, Vice President of the integrated design practice Gnosis Progetti (Italy); and Margherita Frezza, architect at 2Portzamparc Associés (France).

The **Future Design – Students** award went to Daniella Fanovich, a student at the University of Design, Innovation and Technology, who received the prize from Margherita Frezza and Ju-Wei Chen.

To further recognise innovation and creativity across different disciplines, this year's awards introduced a new structure for the **Design of the Year** category, dividing it into three separate awards.



1







1. The awards ceremony took place in the Bernabéu Press Room.
2. Riken Yamamoto, winner of the 2024 Pritzker Prize, received the Porcelanosa International Architecture Honorary Award at the Bernabéu Stadium.
3. Guests were served dinner on bespoke charger plates crafted from Porcelanosa ceramics.
4. The new all-electric BMW iX3 was the official vehicle of the 17th Porcelanosa Awards.

The **Product Design of the Year** award, presented by Antonio de Martino, went to César Frías, CEO of Morph Studio, for Frames, a collection of switches made from the **Krion®** mineral surface. Rosa Agraz presented the **Architectural Project of the Year** award to Maria João Andrade, co-founder and partner at MJARC Arquitetos Associados, for the residential project Douro Wood House. The final award presented during the first part of the ceremony was **Interior Design Project of the Year**, presented by Lázaro Rosa-Violán to Aleksandar Davidović, Founder and CEO of Studio Horkruks, for Kota111, an exclusive country club and resort in Serbia.

Honourable Mentions

The ceremony continued with the presentation of eight Honourable Mentions, recognising projects for their excellence and contribution to the industry.

The first, **Best National Retail Project** was awarded to LaFinca Grand Café. Manuel Terroba, Executive President of BMW Group Spain and Portugal, presented the award, which was accepted by Susana García-Cereceda, Executive President of Grupo LaFinca.

The **Best Property Development** award went to Residencial Nervión. Juan-Galo Macià, President of Iberia & South America at Engel & Völkers, presented the award to Rosa Villaseca, CEO of Grupo ABU.

The Integrated Intermediate Care Centre of Barcelona (CAIIB) received the **Best Sustainable Project** Honourable Mention. Isidro Rubio, Levante Regional Office Director at Occident, presented the award to Albert Vitaller, Managing Partner of Albert Vitaller Arquitectura.

Corales Villas received the **Best Branded Residences Project** Honourable Mention. Francisco Javier García-Sotoca Alepuz, Contract Sales Director at Arkoslight, presented the award to Leonardo Omar, CEO of Leonardo Omar Arquitectos.

The single-family home Casa Les Coves received the **Best Residential Project** Honourable Mention. Antonio Salgado, Managing Director of Miele Iberia, presented the award to Julien Luengo-Gómez, Founder of Junco Arquitectura.

Amàre Beach Hotel Sancti Petri won the award for **Best National Hotel Project**. Javier Gallardo Maroto, Regional Director of Banco Santander for the Valencian Community and the Region of Murcia, presented the award, which was accepted by Salvador Luque, CEO of Fuerte Group Hotels, and Pablo Liev, CEO of Liev Rodríguez Arquitectura.

Silvestre Segarra, Vice President of the PORCELANOSA Group, presented the **Best International Hotel Project** award to the Secrets Playa Esmeralda and Dreams Playa Esmeralda resorts in the Dominican Republic. José Luis Martinavarro, CEO of Inversora Playa Esmeralda, accepted the award on behalf of the project.

Finally, María José Soriano, Chief Executive Officer of the **PORCELANOSA Group**, presented the **Best Artistic Heritage Project** award to Sala de Arte Santander for its recently inaugurated Numismatics Museum. The award was accepted by Belén Fernández Arteagabeitia, Head of Banco Santander's Artistic Heritage Department.

A tribute to the legacy of Riken Yamamoto

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the **International Architecture Honorary Award**. Riken Yamamoto, recipient of the 2024 Pritzker Prize, received the honour from Héctor Colonques Moreno, President of the **PORCELANOSA Group**. The Japanese architect was recognised for his outstanding international career, shaped by a vision of architecture as a means of fostering social cohesion and strengthening communities.













1. Tristán López-Chicheri, Managing Director of L35; Héctor Colonques García-Planas, Commercial Director for Major Projects at the PORCELANOSA Group; Carlos Muriel, CEO of FIA; Mark Fenwick, Founding Partner of FIA; Colin Hutchinson, CEO of 10N; and José Antonio Pérez, Manager of Porcelanosa Madrid.
2. Óscar Luna, CEO of Hoteles Luna, and José Fuster from the PORCELANOSA Group.
3. Joaquín Chust, Eastern Region Delegate at HMY; Javier Timoner, Managing Director of SFI Consulting; Ana Hernández, Commercial Director at Domio Desarrollos; Rubén Navarro, CEO of InHaus; María García, Director of MURAD GARCÍA Estudio; Federico Gomis, Technical Director at GESFESA; Blanca Peris, Manager of Porcelanosa Valencia; Vicente Mestre, Managing Director of Vibo Investment; and Víctor Martínez from HMY's Commercial Department.
4. Jordi Bigorra, Managing Director of RAPEJUN; Pedro Marchante, Manager of Porcelanosa Catalonia; and Eduardo Albors, Design Team Manager at Gac3000.
5. Wenpeng Zhang, CEO of Soma Future; Yara Jussila, Technical Director at Soma Future; Rúben Rebelo from Porcelanosa Lisbon; and Conceição Santos and João Silva, both of Resi Famili House.
6. Raulino Silva, CEO of Atelier Raulino Silva; Maria João Andrade, CEO of MJARC Arquitetos; Pedro Neiva, Manager of Porcelanosa Porto; Anabela Moreira, CEO of BS Interiores; and Paulo Reis, CEO of Paulo M. Reis Arquitectura.
7. Journalist and television presenter Isabel Jiménez hosted the awards ceremony for the 17th Porcelanosa Awards.
8. Nearly 300 guests gathered in the Bernabéu Press Room.
9. Emilio Butragueño, Director of Institutional Relations at Real Madrid; Héctor Colonques Moreno, President of the PORCELANOSA Group; Ana García-Planas; and Héctor Colonques García-Planas, Commercial Director for Major Projects at the PORCELANOSA Group.
10. Emilio Butragueño addressed guests during the gala.
11. Julio Touza Rodríguez, Founder of Touza Arquitectos, shortly before the awards ceremony began.
12. Mariko Yamamoto; Riken Yamamoto; María José Soriano, Chief Executive Officer of the PORCELANOSA Group, and Silvestre Segarra, Vice President of the PORCELANOSA Group.
13. Architects Julián Zapata and Pablo Moreno at the welcome reception.
14. The gala dinner was held in the Bernabéu's Executive Box.
15. Fermín Vázquez, architect and co-founder of b720; Carlos Muriel, CEO of FIA; and Carlos Lamela, co-founder and Chairman of Estudio Lamela, during the gala dinner.

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16. Héctor Colonques García-Planas, Commercial Director for Major Projects at the PORCELANOSA Group, addressed the audience during the gala.
17. The five members of the jury for the 17th Porcelanosa Awards.
18. Jury member Antonio de Martino presents the award for Product Design of the Year to César Frías, CEO of Morph studio.
19. Jury member Rosa Agraz presents the award for Architectural Project of the Year to Maria João Andrade, co-founder and partner of MJARC Arquitetos Associados.
20. Jury member Lázaro Rosa-Violán presents Aleksandar Davidovic, founder and CEO of Studio Horkruks, with the award for Interior Design Project of the Year.
21. Jury members Margherita Frezza and Ju-Wei Chen present Daniella Fanovich, a student at the University of Design, Innovation and Technology (UDIT), with the Future Design – Students award.
22. Manuel Terroba, Executive Chairman of BMW Group Spain and Portugal, presents Susana García-Cereceda, Executive President of Grupo LaFinca, and Raquel Castellanos, Director of Architecture at Grupo LaFinca, with an Honourable Mention for Best National Retail Project for LaFinca Grand Café.
23. Juan-Galo Macià, President for Iberia and South America at Engel & Völkers, presents Rosa Villaseca, CEO of Grupo ABU, with an Honourable Mention for Best Property Development for Residencial Nervión.
24. Isidro Rubio, Director of Levante Regional Offices at Occident, presents Albert Vitaller, Managing Partner of Albert Vitaller Arquitectura, with an Honourable Mention for Best Sustainable Project for the Barcelona Integrated Intermediate Care Centre (CAIIB).
25. Francisco Javier García-Sotoca Alepuz, Contract Sales Director at Arkoslight, presents Leonardo Omar, CEO of Leonardo Omar Arquitectos, with an Honourable Mention for Best Branded Residences Project for Corales Villas.
26. Antonio Salgado, Managing Director of Miele Iberia, presents Julien Luengo-Gómez, founder of Junco Arquitectura, with an Honourable Mention for Best Residential Project for Casa Les Coves.
27. Javier Gallardo, Regional Director for the Valencian Community and Murcia at Banco Santander, presents Salvador Luque, CEO of Fuerte Group Hotels, and Pablo Liev, CEO of Liev Rodríguez Arquitectura, with an Honourable Mention for Best National Hotel Project for Amàre Beach Hotel Sancti Petri.
28. Silvestre Segarra, Vice President of the PORCELANOSA Group, presents José Luis Martinavarro, CEO of Inversora Playa Esmeralda, with an Honourable Mention for Best International Hotel Project for Secrets Playa Esmeralda and Dreams Playa Esmeralda.
29. María José Soriano, CEO of the PORCELANOSA Group, presents Belén Fernández, Head of the Art Heritage Department at Banco Santander, with an Honourable Mention for Best Artistic Heritage Project.
30. Héctor Colonques, President of the PORCELANOSA Group, presents architect Riken Yamamoto with the 2026 International Architecture Honorary Award.
31. All award winners and jury members of the 17th Porcelanosa Awards.



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DOURO WOOD HOUSE

ARCHITECTURE STUDIO MJARC ARQUITETOS
DEVELOPMENT MARIA JOÃO ANDRADE



Designed with a deeply sustainable approach, this modular home in Portugal's Douro Valley is conceived as an architectural retreat, created with the clear aim of minimising the environmental impact of construction. Built from certified timber, the structure is lightweight and has a reduced carbon footprint.

The façade blends naturally into its surroundings, while the green roof improves thermal performance and maintains continuity with the landscape. The house is raised above ground level to avoid excavation, preserving the natural topography and local biodiversity. Carefully placed roof openings protect existing trees, fostering a direct relationship with the surrounding ecosystem.

The interiors continue this sense of immersion: the bathroom includes a private courtyard that brings together light and greenery, while the outdoor shower offers a unique sensory experience. The result is a discreet, environmentally conscious home.

In short, a project defined by authenticity and coherence, as well as MJARC Arquitetos' commitment to ecological principles, where both landscape and lived experience are given equal importance.







Conceived as an observatory over the Douro Valley, the house is shaped by carefully oriented openings and the warmth of timber, which together create a calm, contemplative atmosphere. Every aspect of the design has been carefully considered to sit naturally within its setting, always with a quiet, understated aesthetic.
The quality of the materials reinforces this sense of integration indoors, where the living spaces open onto the surrounding pine forest and are filled with natural light. In this project, we supplied waterproofing systems and drainage grilles for the built-in showers, including the bathroom, where bathroom fixtures, basins, taps and fittings are by **Noken** while the waterproofing and shower tray grilles are by **Butech**.

KOTA 111 COUNTRY CLUB & RESORT

ARCHITECTURE STUDIO STUDIO HORKRUKS
DEVELOPMENT ALEKSANDAR DAVIDOVIĆ

At the heart of this project lies a simple idea: under different conditions – whether through natural or artificial light, human presence, a fragrance, or music shaping the atmosphere – the materials that define a space can transform the way it is experienced. This shifting perception has been carefully considered in the interior architecture of this exclusive complex located in the Vojvodina region of northern Serbia, where cutting-edge design meets a strongly rural setting.

Architect Aleksandar Davidović describes it as “combining the serenity of form with the emotional dimension of space, because every project must have rhythm, narrative and sensitivity. Architecture should move, influence and create meaningful environments.”
Here, that atmosphere is defined by the relationship between materiality and the intense quality of light that fills the restaurant and surrounding spaces. Surfaces are not treated as simple finishes, but as active elements through which the space is constantly reinterpreted. Stone, mosaics and the warm textures of wood work through reflection, absorption and tactility, shaping the experience of the space. Warmth and natural elegance through experiential minimalism.



Photos: Jovana Rakezic.







To shape the emotional experience they were aiming for, the project team turned to materials and technical solutions from the **PORCELANOSA Group**. Natural materials and organic detailing give the restaurant a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere.

The flooring combines **Tempo Circle Beige** natural stone mosaic by **L'Antic Colonial** with **PAR-KER® Gent Castaño** porcelain wood-effect tiles by **Porcelanosa**.

The bar front is clad in **Kronos Dusk** glass mosaic by **L'Antic Colonial**.

Outdoor areas are characterised by the use of **Bottega Caliza** flooring by **Porcelanosa** and **Riven Brown** 20 mm paving by **Butech**, alongside columns clad in bespoke wood-effect **XLIGHT** pieces by **Porcelanosa**, all installed using **Butech** fixing and installation systems. For the bathroom, a lighter palette was chosen, with **Docia Marfil Piedra** wall tiles by **Porcelanosa** and **Odyssey Amber** metallic mosaic by **L'Antic Colonial**.

Washbasins in natural stone (**Picat Stand Lines** by **L'Antic Colonial**) are paired with **Round** bathroom taps in brushed copper finish by **Noken**.





FRAMES

CÉSAR FRÍAS

DESIGN STUDIO MORPH



Photo: Pepo Ubeda.

Frames electrical controls are made in aluminium and **Krion Solid® Surface**, a durable, low-maintenance material available in a range of finishes and degrees of translucency.
An integrated LED remains on when the light is switched off.

Morph XS is a division of the Morph studio dedicated to product design. Led by César Frías, founder and CEO of the studio, and Ramón Úbeda, design director with extensive experience in the field, its work is based on advanced parametric design technologies, translating the aesthetics of large-scale architectural projects into smaller-scale products.

ICÓNICO Series is part of this creative approach, bringing the freshness of architectural design into everyday objects that, while familiar, still function as pieces of art and engineering. This is what they have achieved with Frames, a range of electrical mechanisms inspired by the elegant industrial façade of Madrid's Nido Príncipe Pío building. The design picks up on the rhythm created by a sequence of flat and angled planes, bringing depth and a subtle visual tension to what might otherwise be dismissed as "just a socket". A discreet technical detail that enhances its functionality is the tiny LED integrated into the tip of the switch. Together, these refined, understated features highlight the value of the small things in design – the details we often overlook, yet which help shape a space's atmosphere in a very real way.

THE LAB

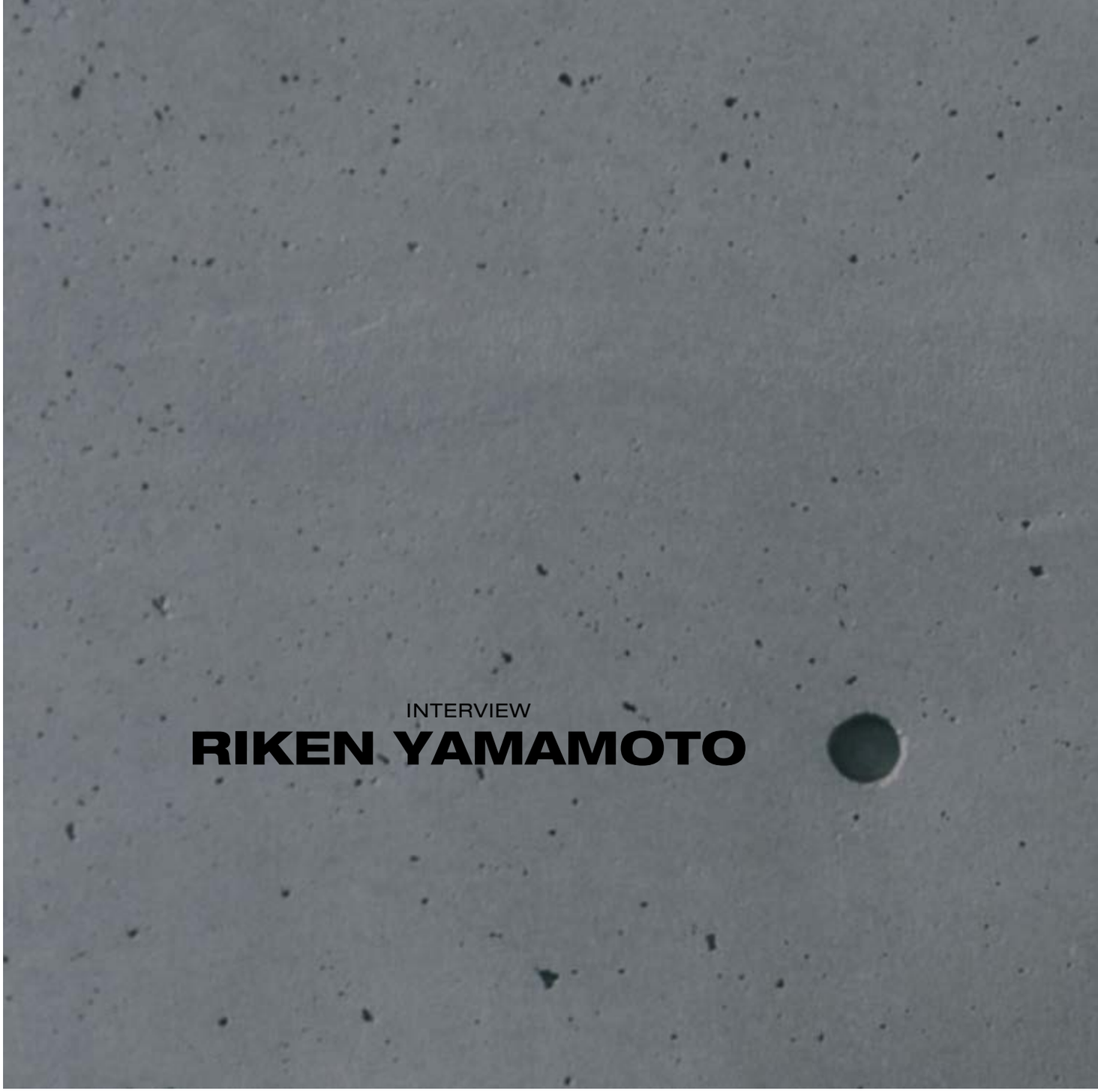
DANIELLA FANOVICH
CENTRE FOR STUDIES-UNIVERSITY OF DESIGN, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY (UDIT)



The Lab is conceived as an open-plan space with a minimalist, brutalist aesthetic, defined by clean volumes and a strong use of natural materials such as large-format porcelain surfaces, creating a balanced atmosphere that brings the chefs and their creations to the fore.
To achieve this, **XTONE Bottega Antracita** with a cement effect is used for wall cladding, together with **Berna Acero** anti-slip flooring by **Porcelanosa**.
In the open-plan kitchen furniture, **XTONE Titanium** introduces an industrial, modernista feel.



This disruptive project is inspired by Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*, which already warned that, little by little, "we as a society are developing traits that make us less human and more machine-like", says Daniella Fanovich. This vision is expressed through a brutalist approach that reinforces the concept behind the work, here applied to a restaurant: "Architecture and design should not overshadow the dishes, but complement them, almost as if providing what food cannot offer: atmosphere." A space, in short, designed to evoke emotion and individuality. As she explains: "As designers, we have a responsibility to change people's lives and offer a representation of reality or illusion. We should use this to raise awareness and show that not everything is lost if we choose otherwise."



INTERVIEW

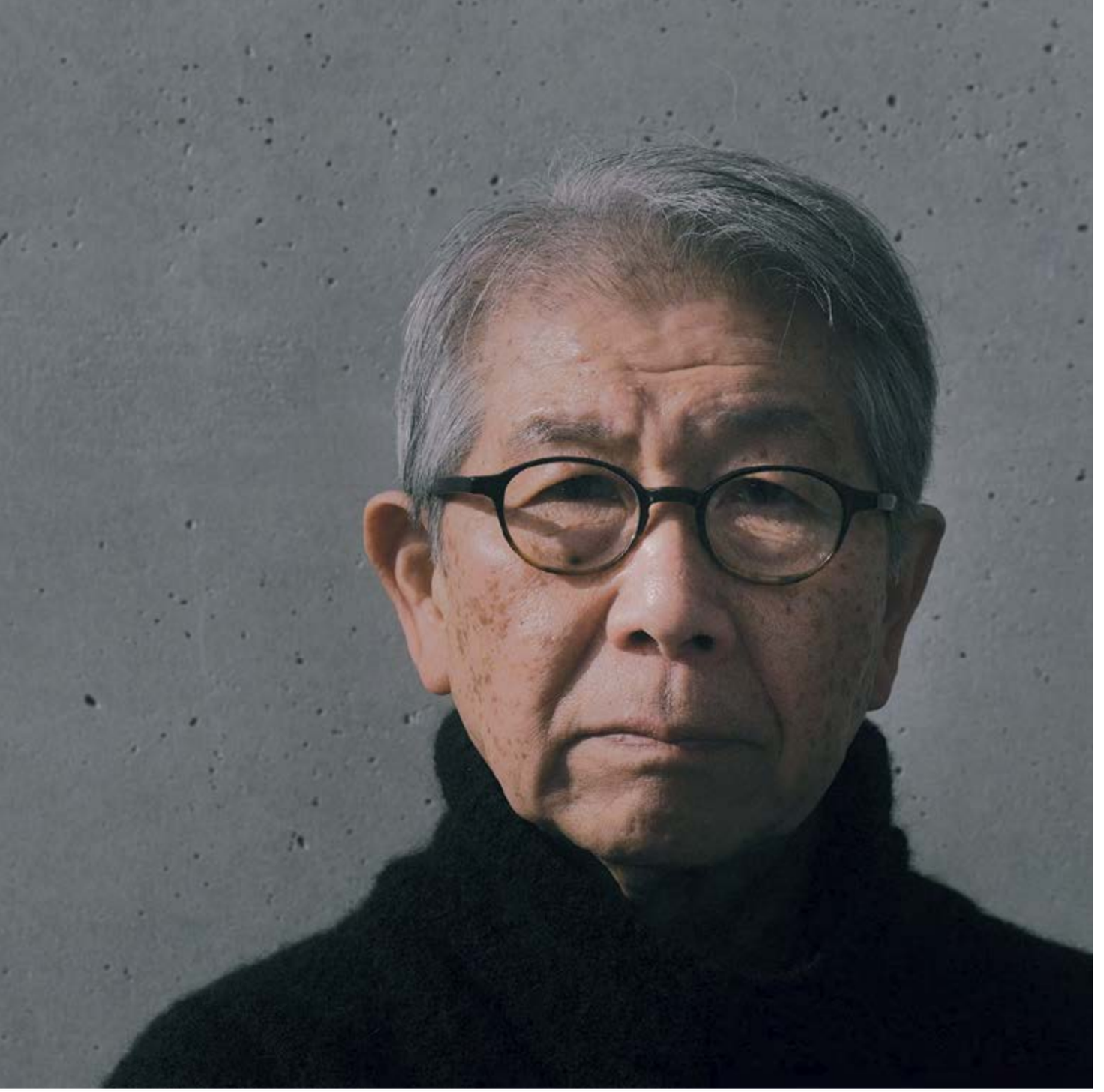
RIKEN YAMAMOTO

Photo: © Tom Welsh for The Hyatt Foundation / Pritzker Architecture Prize

Space, community and culture

Our International Honorary Award this year goes to the architect who has defined the integration of architecture with the natural environment, whose work is a commitment to liveable spaces, and who has made architecture a tool for understanding and transforming people's lives within communities.

Text: SANDRA DEL RÍO



He was born in Beijing, but moved to Yokohama with his family at a very young age. They lived in a *machiya*, a traditional Japanese house where spaces are shared. “One side for the family, the other for the community. I was in between.”

His first sensory experience of architecture came at the age of seventeen, when he visited the Kōfuku-ji temple in Nara and was captivated by the Five-Storey Pagoda, whose tiers symbolise the five Buddhist elements: earth, fire, water, air and space. “It was very dark, but I could see the wooden tower illuminated by moonlight.”

In the 1970s, after graduating in Architecture from Nihon University and completing a Master’s in Architecture at Tokyo University of the Arts, and under the guidance of his mentor Hiroshi Hara, he began travelling the world, deepening his understanding of the intrinsic link between architecture and culture beyond differences in architectural form.

“Where there is no community, the architect cannot create architecture, as it is shaped by the will of the people who form it.”

In 1973 he founded the practice Riken Yamamoto & Field Shop. Since then, the studio has become an international benchmark for contemporary architecture in densely populated urban contexts, always driven by a humanistic vision focused on the creation of shared, interactive community spaces. Alongside his important work as a teacher, this has made him a key figure for new generations of architects.

Works such as Jian Wai Soho in Beijing, a landmark in the Chinese capital through the creation of urban space within the complex’s commercial streets; Yamakawa Villa, a private residence that expresses the relationship between architecture and nature; Future University Hakodate on the island of Hokkaido, another example of his vision and commitment to



"Materials must ensure that architecture remains in that place forever. This is a principle I apply in my work."





educational innovation that prepares students for the challenges of this century and beyond; and Fussa City Hall, 50 kilometres from Tokyo, an architectural landmark with an organic design focused on its users. Other works, to mention only a few by this unique architect, include The Circle at Zurich Airport, Ecoms House in a rural Japanese setting, Hotakubo Housing on the outskirts of Tokyo, and Nagoya Zokei University of Art and Design. And of course, his own home, GAZEBO, which stands as a symbol of Riken Yamamoto both as an architect and as a person. He himself expressed it in these wise and modest words: "I am not the best at design, but I pay very close attention to what is around me."

What do you consider to be the key reasons why Japanese art and architecture have had such a strong influence on global architecture?
In its process of modernisation, Japan was strongly influenced by European society. European culture merged with Japanese tradition, giving rise to new forms of art and architecture which, in turn, have influenced Europe. This reciprocal dialogue continues today.

I understand that one of your guiding principles is: "in architecture, as in democracy, spaces must be created by the will of the people." What does creating shared spaces mean to you, and how do you express this in your work?
When I speak of people, I do not refer to an abstract concept, but to those who form a community. Where there is no community, the architect cannot create





1. The Circle at Zurich Airport
Photo: © Flughafen Zürich AG

2. Future University Hakodate
Photo: © Isao Aihara

3. Fussa City Hall
Photo: © Riken Yamamoto & Field Shop

4. Nagoya Zokei University
Photo: © Riken Yamamoto & Field Shop

5. Yamakawa Villa
Photo: © Riken Yamamoto & Field Shop

architecture, as it is shaped by the will of the people who form it. Once realised, that architecture allows the essence of a community to be passed on to those who inhabit it in the future.

How do you give form and substance to your idea of social harmony?

Social harmony can be understood as a physical form. It is the form taken by the community of a city, and it is expressed in its urban landscape. Every architectural project emerges from the urban landscape of its specific place. At times, a single building can alter that landscape, and at others, reveal what was already extraordinary within it.

A key reference in your approach is the motto "open space, open mind". How do you manage to open up interiors and connect them to the landscape?

This guiding idea was formulated by the professors at Future University Hakodate who were involved in the conception of the campus. I created a large open space. It is an institution dedicated to research in information technology, but for me information should not be understood only as technology, but also as something that implies a relationship of trust with others. For this reason, processes of information exchange needed to be visible. That was the university I built.

What is accessibility for you?

A space capable of saying "I love you".

The aesthetic and ethical dimension of your work leads me to the idea of respect: respect for people, for environments and for communities. In a world facing serious challenges around liveability, how do you maintain this philosophy in your projects?

The aesthetic of my architecture is based on working with the "threshold space" that separates public and private realms while also connecting them.

Let's talk about materials. Which do you feel particularly drawn to? Are there new materials for a more sustainable and environmentally respectful architecture?

Materials must ensure that architecture remains in that place forever. This is a principle I apply in my work.

Can humanistic architecture coexist in harmony with artificial intelligence and new construction technologies?

I make use of new technologies to create human-centred architecture.

DREAMS & SECRETS PLAYA ESMERALDA RESORTS & SPAS
MICHES / DOMINICAN REPUBLIC





Vision for the future and sustainable luxury

Playa Esmeralda is not only a remarkable natural setting; it is also becoming a key driver of responsible development in the area. The recent opening of this resort complex, made up of two twin properties with distinct identities, is the clearest example of this.

The development has been carried out using solutions and products from the **PORCELANOSA Group**. From bespoke pieces created specifically for the project to the reinterpretation of coral stone in porcelain and refined geometric designs, every element contributes to a coherent, carefully resolved concept. The result is a space where materiality, design and execution come together in perfect harmony, with close attention paid to every detail.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ **Photos:** THIAGO DA CUNHA / JESSE DUROCHER













TOP LEFT: The reinterpretation of coral stone in porcelain creates a continuous material language linking bedrooms and bathrooms, reinforcing the project's calm, light-filled atmosphere. On private terraces, freestanding **Noken** bathtubs invite guests to enjoy the landscape in direct contact with their surroundings.
ABOVE THESE LINES: Bathrooms are conceived as wellbeing spaces where openness and material purity take centre stage. Large-format **XLIGHT** porcelain flooring and wall tiles by **Porcelanosa** are paired with a fully integrated **Noken** bathroom collection, bringing together design, functionality and comfort.
BOTTOM LEFT: The beachfront location of Dreams Playa Esmeralda allows the landscape to become a natural extension of the architecture, creating a continuous dialogue between interior and horizon.
ADJACENT: A space conceived as a meeting point, where carefully composed interiors create a warm yet refined atmosphere.

Playa Esmeralda is a kilometre-long stretch of fine, pale sand, washed by crystal-clear waters and offering visitors an unspoilt natural environment. This strong appeal has also become a driver of social and economic transformation. The arrival of leading names in sustainable luxury tourism is not only boosting employment and economic activity, but also helping to establish mechanisms to protect an invaluable natural heritage, such as the creation of a protected area for sea turtle nesting.

Within this philosophy of responsible tourism and positive impact lies the inauguration of the complex, formed of two five-star all-inclusive resorts which nonetheless retain their own identity: Secrets Playa Esmeralda Resort & Spa is an exclusive adults-only destination, while Dreams Playa Esmeralda Resort & Spa is designed for families and multigenerational groups. Owned by Inversora Playa Esmeralda, both form part of Hyatt's Inclusive Collection.

A distinctive feature of the complex is that, in addition to their separate activities and spaces, all guests over the age of 18 enjoy shared access to both properties, thanks to a public square that acts as a connecting hub. This broadens the leisure, dining and relaxation options and provides ideal flexibility for combined stays or short breaks for those seeking a balance between entertainment and exclusivity.

What defines this twin resort complex is its consistently high standard of service. At Secrets Playa Esmeralda, 500 suites are set either facing the sea or among tropical gardens, alongside an infinity pool, signature bars and high-end international restaurants. Dreams Playa Esmeralda offers 500 rooms, including swim-out suites with direct pool access from the terrace, as well as a water park, children's and teenagers' clubs, and a gourmet restaurant serving Dominican cuisine. Both resorts also feature the Preferred Club, which enhances the guest experience (private check-in, exclusive beach and pool areas, butler service, and more). And of course, guests can explore the highlights of the region: Montaña Redonda, with its famous panoramic swings; Laguna Redonda, ideal for boat trips through mangroves; Samaná Bay, where humpback whales can be observed; and El Salto del Limón, a waterfall over 40 metres high reached on foot or horseback through cacao plantations.

BELOW THESE LINES: Rooms open onto the landscape through generous private terraces, offering a sense of calm closely connected to the surrounding environment of the resort.
RIGHT: Bathrooms combine spaciousness, light and carefully selected materials. Coral stone, reinterpreted in porcelain by **Porcelanosa** is used across floors and walls, while **Noken**'s integrated fittings complete the space with an elegant finish.
BELOW: Terraces feature an exclusive ceramic design developed specifically for the project by **L'Antic Colonial**, giving the outdoor spaces a distinctive identity.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Secrets Playa Esmeralda blends into the Caribbean landscape through open, light-filled architecture.















LAFINCA GRAND CAFÉ MADRID / SPAIN

Beauty and efficiency in harmony

Its striking façade and interiors, featuring materials from the **PORCELANOSA Group**, define the vision of the group led by Susana García-Cereceda. A leisure and dining complex that stands as a model of efficient construction and architectural quality.

Text: PAOLA ROCCA **Photos:** ALEX DEL RÍO / DR





ABOVE: The striking façade is made from **Krion® K·Life 1100** in pure white, resistant to the passage of time and thermoformable according to the design. The **C-Bolt** façade system, developed by **Butech**'s façades department, allows for all kinds of forms, including double curvature.





LEFT: On the jetties, an outdoor leisure area, **Krion®** has been used in rounded forms.
RIGHT: To achieve this striking curved design, **Butech**'s technical team created a three-dimensional model of the project to ensure the façade fitted precisely.
Krion® panels are supplied pre-machined with a concealed fixing system that allows the façade to be installed without disrupting the visual continuity of the building envelope. No post-sanding of the **Krion®** panels is required.
BELOW: In the bathrooms, the countertop and basins in **L506 Coffee Cream** from the **Krion® Luxury** series stand out.





The building covers 40,000 m^2 across three floors, with two basement levels for parking and a spectacular rooftop. Designed by the studio LaFinca A+D, led by Raquel Castellanos, the exterior structure is clad in **Krion**. The integration of gardens with the surrounding natural environment and water features makes LaFinca Grand Café a cutting-edge construction model with a strong commitment to environmental sustainability.

The building opens onto a golf course and residential developments, all of which also use materials from the **PORCELANOSA Group**. Inside, spaces for leisure, gastronomy, beauty, fitness, food retail and a large pet-friendly area make it one of Madrid's most attractive meeting points. A 40-metre LED screen also creates a striking visual effect. The project has been awarded BREEAM certification for responsible construction and efficient design.

The use of glass, marble, stone and **Krion**, together with carefully designed landscaping across all exterior areas, makes LaFinca Grand Café an exemplary project in architecture focused on social interaction and leisure.

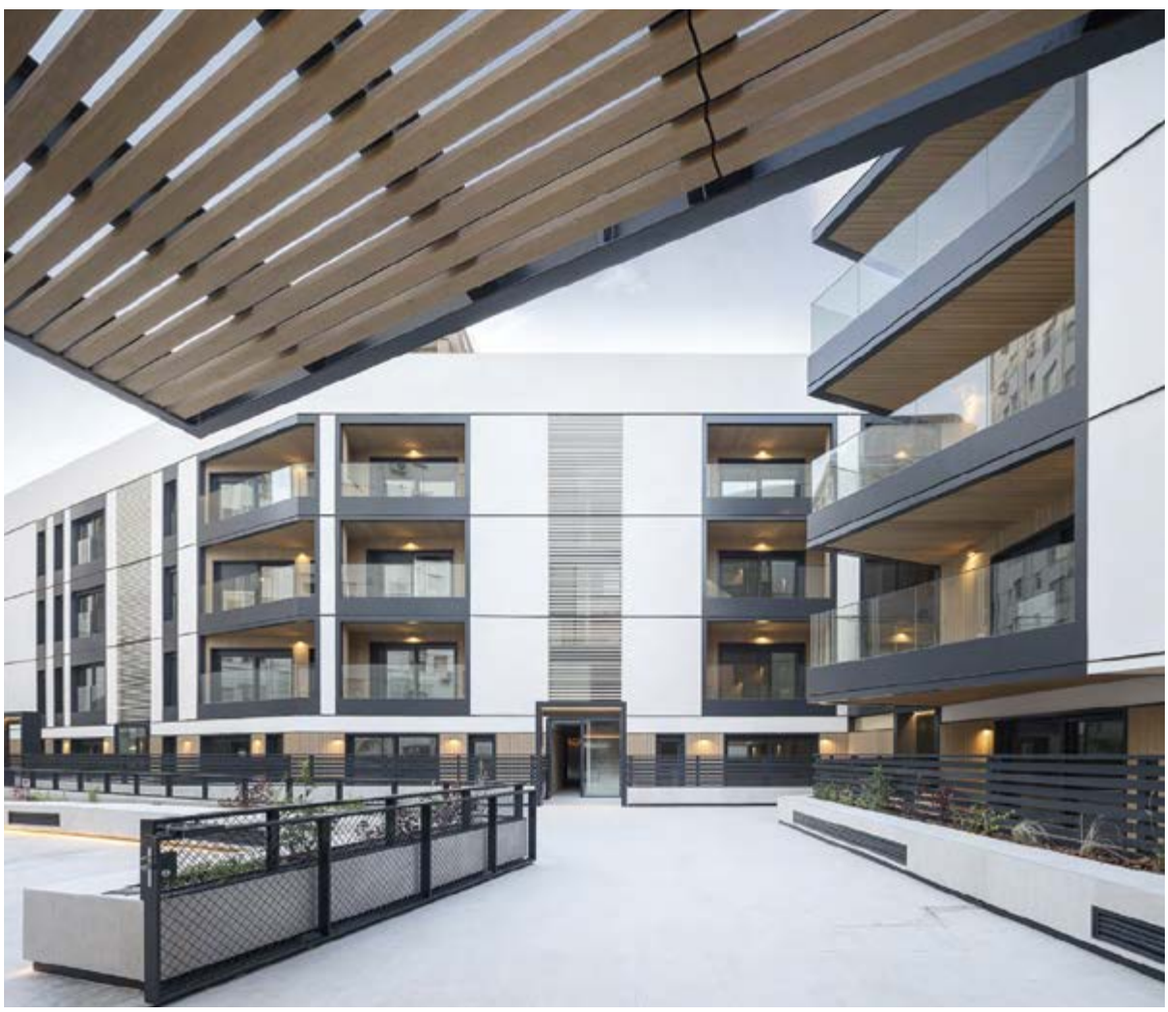
MALLÉN / NERVIÓN RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT
SEVILLE / SPAIN

An exclusive concept in an urban setting

A concept centred on refined everyday comfort defines the identity of this project, which aims to offer a quiet sense of exclusivity at a more human scale, closely connected to its urban surroundings.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ **Photos:** JUAN CARLOS LAGARES CÁCERES





The project fully incorporates products and services from the **PORCELANOSA Group**. In the communal areas, **Porcelanosa**'s **Bottega Caliza** porcelain tiles create a sense of spatial continuity, while the terraces are finished with **PAR-KER®**, installed using **Butech** systems.
The interiors likewise feature **Gamadecor** kitchens, **Noken** bathroom fittings and **Krion** surfaces.





Located just a few minutes from Santa Justa station and the Nervión Plaza commercial area, this residential development stands on a former industrial site, now part of the wider transformation of this part of Seville. Developed by Grupo ABU, designed by architect Javier Romero and with interiors by the group's own team, the project is conceived on an intimate scale: just 36 homes for residents who value not only location but also design and quality of life.

The building has a restrained, contemporary and light-filled aesthetic, with large windows opening onto private outdoor spaces such as terraces and gardens, alongside a carefully designed communal entrance. Together, these elements enhance the sense of openness. Inside the homes, day and night areas are clearly separated, while the kitchen, living and dining spaces form a single open-plan layout, also connected to the terrace. Neutral tones, light woods and a refined Mediterranean sensibility run throughout the interiors.

In addition, Grupo ABU's bespoke personalisation team works with clients from the outset, advising on finishes, materials and climate systems to help create a tailored and enduring residential experience.

ROYAL HIDEAWAY CORALES VILLAS
ADEJE / SPAIN

The essence of an island

A collection of luxury villas has been seamlessly integrated into a landscape shaped by the constant presence of the sea and volcanic terrain. The design solutions developed by the project team enhance this distinctive identity.

Text: ABRIL CANO **Photos:** MANOLO YLLERA / JOHN ATHIMARITIS





BOTTOM LEFT: The terraces are conceived as a natural extension of the architecture. **Vela Natural** by **Porcelanosa** has been used for the flooring.
LEFT: General view of Royal Hideaway Corales Villas, a development designed to blend into the landscape.
BELOW: The sun deck is finished with **Vela Natural** flooring by **Porcelanosa**, whose anti-slip surface ensures both visual continuity and reliable performance in the outdoor areas around the pool.



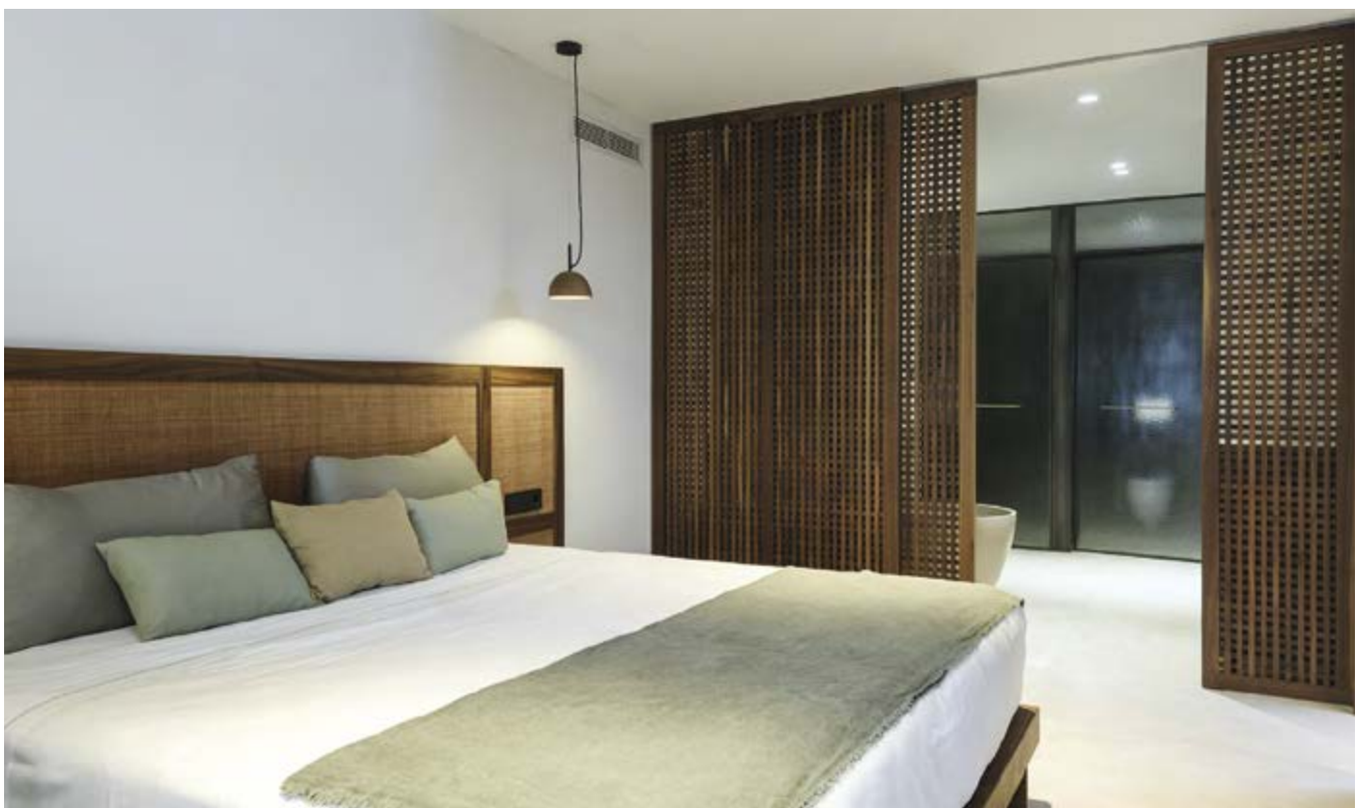




ADJACENT: The shower areas are conceived as wellbeing spaces, where generous proportions and natural light create a calm, relaxed atmosphere.
BOTTOM LEFT: Natural materials, organic textures and a carefully considered colour palette define the interiors. As a unifying thread throughout the project, **Vela Natural** flooring by **Porcelanosa** brings continuity and warmth to both bedrooms and bathrooms.
RIGHT: The continuity of materials reinforces the coherence of the whole, creating a harmonious combination of surfaces, finishes and fittings that results in an integrated experience where design and functionality go hand in hand.









Leonardo Omar Arquitectos is responsible for the development of this exclusive collection of villas within the five-star Royal Hideaway Corales Resort. It is set on a hillside next to the fishing harbour of La Caleta, in the Barranco Las Torres area of Adeje, within the southern metropolitan area of Tenerife. Built on sloping ground, the complex adopts a stepped design that balances the built volumes, all oriented towards the sea, with elements that help shape and integrate the landscape.

The architectural forms have been designed to strengthen the relationship between inside and outside. Key features include cantilevered volumes that create natural shade, volcanic stone walls that frame the landscape and large expanses of glazing that maximise natural light and panoramic views. Green roofs and internal courtyards have also been introduced to improve sustainability and thermal comfort. The result is a collection of villas offering the highest levels of comfort, each with a terrace, private swimming pool, generous living space and striking views over the Atlantic.

The Greek studio K-Studio was responsible for the interior design. Drawing inspiration from the wide island views offered by the site, it has worked with a palette of stone and wood tones, ochre, off-white and volcanic black. Furniture has been designed specifically for each space, using high-quality materials, natural fabrics and bespoke pieces. Lighting also plays an important role. Recessed systems highlight architectural textures, complemented by decorative fittings and indirect lighting that bring warmth and refinement to the spaces.



JORDÀ INTERMEDIATE INTEGRATED CARE CENTRE (CAIIB)
BARCELONA / SPAIN

Architecture centred on care

This healthcare facility marks a step forward in healthcare architecture. It introduces technical and design solutions aimed at rehumanising hospital spaces, creating an environment that promotes health and dignity.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ









ON THE OPPOSITE PAGE AND NEXT TO THESE LINES:
PORCELANOSA Offsite has participated in the CAIIB Jordà project with its modular façade system, a solution that integrates the façade itself along with windows, planters and adjustable solar shading louvres, helping to improve thermal and acoustic comfort. The exterior cladding of the modules is particularly notable, using **Moon White Nature** ceramic from **XTONE** which brings light and brightness to the building.
RIGHT: The panels, designed according to the centre's room module, were manufactured at the **PORCELANOSA Group**'s facilities in Vila-real. There, full assembly took place: metal frame, ventilated façade, motorised solar shading louvres and metal carpentry. Their industrialised construction enabled a fast, controlled installation in just three to four months.





The project for the new CAIIB Jordà, managed by Fundación Hospitalarias Barcelona Nord, responds to the need to provide the best possible care for older people with chronic conditions or loss of personal autonomy. "The guiding concept is humanised resilience. We wanted a healthcare facility of great technical precision, but with the soul of a home and an environment that supports patients," explains Albert Vitaller, partner-director of Vitaller Arquitectura, the studio behind the project. The central idea was to create a patient-centred room model: beds facing each other separated by a movable partition, direct access to natural light and therapeutic gardens, and the use of finishes and decorative vinyls that help create a welcoming space.

The building, accessed via a transparent pavilion with ceramic latticework, "has a layout designed for flexibility. It is L-shaped, and each floor is divided into two wings that can operate completely independently," explains Albert Vitaller. For the exterior, we drew on **Butech**'s expertise in industrialised construction systems. The panels arrived on site fully finished, with insulation and joinery already integrated. This drastically reduces construction time and waste, while delivering far superior airtightness and thermal performance compared with traditional construction methods."

CASA LES COVES BENIDORM / SPAIN



Space and harmony

This spectacular home meets its owners' needs for style and comfort, while remaining closely connected to its rural Mediterranean setting.

Photos: DAVID FRUTOS





TOP LEFT: The entire project has been completed using a single large-format collection by **Porcelanosa** throughout. For the **XLIGHT** envelope, applied to both walls and ceilings, a ventilated façade system with concealed fixings developed by **Butech** was used. The interior ceilings add warmth thanks to **L'Antic Colonial**. In the pool area, including the basin, **Porcelanosa** porcelain tiles with an anti-slip finish have been used.
ABOVE THESE LINES: The combination of the same materials (**Porcelanosa** flooring and natural wood by **L'Antic Colonial**) runs throughout the rest of the house, including the living room.
LEFT: In the **Gamadecor** kitchen, the island worktop in polished natural stone from the **Altissima** range by **XTONE** is a key feature.
RIGHT: The bathrooms, finished in the same **XLIGHT** material by **Porcelanosa** used throughout the house, are fitted with an **XTONE** worktop, topped with a circular **Slender** basin and a **Round** single-lever tap in black by **Noken**. The matte-black wall-hung toilet with dual-flush plate is also by **Noken**, as are the matte-black shower fittings and the **Lounge** bath in a **Finish Studio** finish, with **Round** floor-mounted bath tap.



For Julien Luengo-Gómez, director of Junco Arquitectura and the architect behind the project, the site is the first thing to consider before starting any design work. Topography, orientation and, above all, the defining features of the surroundings all need to be taken into account. In this case, the home sits on a 22,000 m^2 plot in the municipality of Benidorm. It lies at the heart of a rural landscape shaped by traditional farmland, old terraced fields and dry-stone walls that make farming possible on sloping ground.

This respect for the setting has resulted in a building that sits comfortably within its surroundings while remaining entirely contemporary. The 5,000 m^2 of built space are arranged like a “horizontal skyscraper”, split across two levels, each with its own architectural identity.

Junco Arquitectura also made sustainability a key consideration in the project: the building is energy self-sufficient, powered by photovoltaic panels installed on the roof and hidden from view so as not to compromise the overall aesthetic.

Another expression of the project’s overall harmony, it reinterprets rural living without losing sight of the urban sensibility its owners sought.





AMÀRE BEACH HOTEL SANCTI PETRI
CÁDIZ / SPAIN

The subtle elegance of light

The natural beauty of the Cádiz coastline is not simply a matter of climate. It also plays a defining role in the relationship between a luxury hotel, its exceptional natural surroundings and its guests. It shapes the entire guest experience. It is no coincidence it is known as the Costa de la Luz – the Coast of Light.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ **Photos:** FALTA FIRMA





LEFT: Natural light, organic forms and a carefully curated selection of materials shape a serene and sophisticated arrival space.
BOTTOM LEFT: With open views over the coastal landscape, the pool area blends seamlessly into the architecture. The flooring is **PAR-KER® Tanzania Almond** by **Porcelanosa**, with a slip-resistant finish in areas close to water.
BELOW: The bar becomes one of the focal points of the space thanks to **Effect Triangle Caramel** cladding by **L'Antic Colonial**. Its three-dimensional geometry adds texture and character to an open setting facing the Mediterranean landscape.



Located in the Cádiz municipality of Chiclana de la Frontera, Novo Sancti Petri is a leading destination for luxury tourism in Andalusia. It lies just 55 km from Jerez de la Frontera airport and a little over half an hour from Cádiz. The area is home to some of the finest hotels in Spain. Here, excellence in service is taken for granted, as is the extraordinary sunset over La Barrosa beach. It is here that Fuerte Group Hotels has opened Amàre Beach Hotel Sancti Petri. The five-star, adults-recommended property is conceived for couples or groups of friends seeking a refined escape in a unique natural setting.

The location is one of the first things that strikes visitors. Behind the hotel lies the Nova Sancti Petri golf course, designed by legendary golfer Severiano Ballesteros and attracting enthusiasts from around the world. In front, the sandbar of La Barrosa stretches out towards the Atlantic, becoming a natural extension of the suites. The hotel also offers The One personalised services programme, as well as Amàre Wellness Sancti Petri – a sanctuary dedicated to wellbeing with high-quality facial and body treatments – and an exquisite gastronomic offering.

As we can see, natural light takes centre stage in this project designed by Marbella-based Liev Rodríguez Arquitectura. The studio has more than 30 years of experience across Spain and the Caribbean, spanning

RIGHT: Material continuity reinforces a sense of spaciousness in the hotel's communal areas. **Matika** porcelain flooring by **Porcelanosa**, combined with **Paradise Lake Stone Blanco** natural stone by **L'Antic Colonial**, defines bright, timeless interiors. *NEXT PAGE, BOTTOM RIGHT:* The common-area bathrooms stand out for their use of high-quality materials. **Gravity Aluminium Wave Metal** cladding by **L'Antic Colonial** adds texture and sophistication. **Krion®** countertops, bathroom fittings and taps by **Noken** complete a functional yet elegant scheme.

















LEFT: Natural-inspired materials define rooms conceived for wellbeing. **Linkfloor Town Beige** flooring by **L'Antic Colonial** brings warmth and continuity, reinforcing a calm, serene atmosphere.
TOP: The bathroom features a fully integrated solution developed specifically for the project by **Butech**. **Monobath** brings together all elements of the space in a coordinated system, ensuring coherence, functionality and efficiency in execution. It includes countertop basins and **Krion®** elements, the **Óptima** shower screen by **Krion**, **Slate** shower trays, as well as bathroom taps, accessories and fittings by **Noken**.

hotels, residential developments and private villas. Outdoors, everything has been set up to make the most of the region's more than 300 days of sunshine a year. Options include suites with private rooftop jacuzzis. The same light filters through the shared spaces: restaurants, bars, terraces, the lobby and the Amàre Polo Lounge, with its comfortable loungers.

Inside, the rooms are spacious and welcoming. They are decorated in soft, calming tones – whites, blues and natural woods. Natural materials are used throughout, creating a sense of understated luxury, modernity and comfort. This reflects a commitment to excellence that began in 1957, when entrepreneur José Luque Manzano from Estepa opened Fuerte Marbella, the first hotel in central Marbella (and the first with a lift on the Costa del Sol). It laid the foundations for what would become Fuerte Group Hotels, which continues to pursue a forward-looking vision with this latest opening.



SHA WELLNESS CLINIC L'ALBIR (ALICANTE) / SPAIN

Natural evolution

The flagship SHA Wellness Clinic in the Valencian Community has undergone a major renovation, introducing a new design that brings together architecture, interior design, materials and sensory experience. The result is a significant step forward in advanced integrative medicine and the pursuit of healthy longevity.

Text: PAOLA ROCCA **Photos:** SHA





TOP LEFT: General view of SHA Wellness Clinic in L'Albir, a complex designed to integrate architecture, landscape and wellbeing.
BOTTOM LEFT: The relaxation spaces are conceived as intimate refuges of calm, where carefully selected materials create a sense of ease and comfort.
RIGHT: The spa area, clad entirely in **Taranto Marfil** by **Porcelanosa**, conveys a sense of balance and sophistication. The continuity of materials reinforces the overall feeling of serenity.



Since its foundation in 2008, SHA has become an international benchmark in health and wellbeing. The recent opening of SHA Mexico, along with the upcoming launch in the United Arab Emirates, further strengthens the Spanish group's medical expertise. Now, the renovation of its flagship property opens new horizons for SHA's commitment to longevity, extending it beyond the clinical sphere into a more holistic vision of wellbeing.

The renovation has been led by leading architecture and interior design studios, including Lázaro Rosa Violán, responsible for the redesign of the lobby and reception, as well as the Grand Suites, Superior and Deluxe rooms, and the lifts. Across these spaces, high-quality materials – many from the **PORCELANOSA Group** – combine with carefully considered lighting and seamlessly integrated technology.

The Italian architect based in London, Fabiano Continanza of FabDesign, has overseen the complete transformation of the spa and hydrotherapy areas, a central focus of the project. More than 300 m^2 have been dedicated to the water circuit and its associated spaces, also featuring materials from the **PORCELANOSA Group**. Stone, wood and softly textured surfaces in a muted palette create calm, cohesive environments that sit naturally within the wider design. The hydrotherapy area has been conceived as a continuous sensory journey, featuring a swimming







TOP: The rooms embrace a timeless aesthetic defined by the continuous use of **Taranto Marfil** flooring by **Porcelanosa**. Its subtle, travertine-inspired patterning adds visual depth and a refined sense of cohesion.
ABOVE: In the bathroom, the richness of the surfaces is complemented by **Noken**'s **Round** taps in a copper finish and carefully integrated fittings, creating a warm, refined atmosphere.
TOP RIGHT: The precision of the finishes reveals an architecture in which every detail contributes to a sense of visual harmony.
RIGHT: Open terraces overlooking the landscape extend the interior spaces outwards, enhancing comfort in dialogue with the surroundings.
The flooring is **PAR-KER® Manhattan Cognac** by **Porcelanosa**.







BELOW: The main bathroom combines spaciousness, light and rich materiality to create a calm, relaxing atmosphere. The Lounge bathtub by **Noken** becomes the focal point of a space designed around wellbeing.
RIGHT: The living areas integrated into the bedrooms maintain the project's aesthetic coherence, defined by continuous surfaces and a careful interplay between architecture and interior design.
BELOW: The terraces are paved with **PAR-KER® Manhattan Cognac** by **Porcelanosa**.





pool, a swimming lane, a sauna, a steam bath and changing rooms. The experience flows seamlessly, where water, light and materials interact to enhance therapeutic benefits and support the recovery of vitality and wellbeing.

Fabiano Continanza describes his vision as "creating spaces that regenerate, relax and convey vitality", fully aligned with the luxury wellness philosophy that defines the Group's international destinations.

Architect De Palacios has led the renovation of the boutiques, integrating state-of-the-art digital screens and overseeing sustainability throughout all phases of the project.

In total, more than 930 m^2 have been transformed, where gardens, terraces and sweeping views of the Mediterranean and Serra Helada extend the living spaces and dissolve the boundary between architecture and landscape – with guest wellbeing as the guiding principle.

In the words of Alejandro Bataller, managing partner of SHA and the AB Living Group, "at SHA, the experience







goes far beyond individual treatments; it is an immersive journey in which architecture and space are an essential part of the experience. This allows us to evolve without losing our essence as the true home of health optimisation."

Alongside the major renovation of its flagship in the Valencian Community, SHA has also announced the creation of a scientific advisory board at SHA Mexico, bringing together leading international experts in regenerative medicine, longevity, integrative women's health, immunology and stem cells. "The creation of this board reinforces both our credibility and the rigour of our protocols. Health is no longer a service category, but the strategic asset that defines contemporary life," adds Alejandro Bataller. "It is another step towards our ambition of becoming the world's leading institution in health optimisation."

In line with this philosophy, SHA places longevity, health and sophistication at its core, shaping an experience designed to enhance quality of life.

Functional solutions that create light, elegant spaces

This family home combines functional design with an almost rationalist aesthetic, creating a pared-back yet highly liveable atmosphere. The interior palette is soft rather than muted, punctuated by high-quality materials and natural finishes.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ **Photos:** MIKHAIL LUKASHUK





BOTTOM LEFT: The warmth of the interior comes from **PAR-KER® Nobu Arce** maple flooring by **Porcelanosa**, used throughout the home as a unifying element. **XTONE Liem Black** runs through the project as a guiding thread, appearing in wall panelling, countertops, side tables and other bespoke elements that bring continuity and character to the whole scheme.
LEFT: Detail of a side table in **XTONE Liem Black**, a piece that highlights the versatility of the material and its ability to integrate into interior design with elegance and precision.
BOTTOM RIGHT: Furniture designed in **XTONE Liem Black**, combining functionality, purity and material continuity.















TOP LEFT: In the bathroom, **XTONE Liem Black** lines the wall behind the shower and bath, where the continuous surface enhances the sense of space and sophistication.
TOP: The kitchen is organised around a sculptural island in **XTONE Liem Black**.
PAR-KER® Nobu Arce maple flooring by **Porcelanosa** creates a natural flow between the different areas of the home.
TOP RIGHT: Detail of the kitchen island in **XTONE Liem Black**, where precise junctions highlight the quality of execution.
LEFT: The bedroom maintains the coherence of the scheme with a headboard and bedside tables integrated in **XTONE Liem Black**, bringing a strong sense of unity to the space.

When a family has a dream – and the determination to realise it – the obstacles along the way, however complex, become simply part of the process. This is the case for the young Ukrainian family who are the clients of this residence, located in one of the most welcoming areas of Dnipro, on the banks of the River Dnieper. The house is arranged on a single level, designed to allow easy movement throughout and a strong sense of openness and privacy at the same time. In the main living area, a combination of large sofas, daybeds and chaise longues defines generous, individual seating zones. This sense of openness runs throughout the home, expressed through a spatial dialogue between wood-effect ceramic flooring and elements finished in an understated marble effect, used in the kitchen island, table and the wall panel supporting the television. These transitions extend across all areas of the home, including the bathroom and bedroom, which opens onto a large window.

This minimalist interior, with subtle references to rationalist architecture, has been designed by local studio Dmitri Loparev. The aesthetic responds closely to the owners' lifestyle, focused on everyday comfort: a clean, uncluttered space, natural materials, calm tones and functional solutions. This close collaboration has resulted in a light, refined design and a modern, elegant atmosphere, where small details do not interrupt the flow but instead enhance the overall sense of continuity.

INTERVIEW

CARLOS LAMELA



The landmark project that defines a city

Málaga now has its Three Towers: a landmark residential development that has become a new symbol of both the city and the Costa del Sol. Designed by Estudio Lamela, it represents a commitment to the future while paying tribute to the past.

Text: SANDRA DEL RIO **Rendering and portrait:** ESTUDIO LAMELA **Photos:** FERNANDO GÓMEZ MATEOS



Architect Carlos Lamela talks to *Lifestyle* about Málaga Towers (left), the residential development that has become a new landmark for the city and the Costa del Sol. The façades of Málaga Towers are clad in Krion by Porcelanosa.

"These towers are hugely important, not only from a tourism perspective but also as a major residential development for the city."





The striking façades, with their cantilevered forms, sculptural volumes, and interplay of light and shadow make Málaga Towers a residential development unlike any other in the city or on the Costa del Sol. Designed by Estudio Lamela using **Krion** by **Porcelanosa**.

Your father, Antonio Lamela, was behind some of the Costa del Sol's most iconic projects. Does Málaga Towers feel like both a tribute to him and a continuation of his legacy?

Yes, absolutely. My father was one of the architects who shaped the development of the Costa del Sol during the 1960s and 1970s, and his contribution has been widely recognised, including with the Gold Medal awarded by Torremolinos Town Council. He was responsible for a number of landmark projects in Málaga and Torremolinos, including the former Meliá Hotel, which sadly no longer exists, having been inexplicably demolished a few years ago.

He also designed La Nogalera, which at the time was one of the most important tourist developments not only on the Costa del Sol but anywhere in Europe. Playamar is another of his projects, along with many others. After many years away from the Costa del Sol, we were fortunate to be entrusted by two major developers, Metrovacesa and Sierra Blanca, with what is arguably the most significant project to be built anywhere along the Mediterranean coast in recent years. So yes, it is undoubtedly a tribute to my father and to that remarkable period in the history of the practice, when it was at the forefront of tourist architecture. But it is also a continuation of that legacy, even if it took many years for the opportunity to come along.

It has been enormously rewarding for us, and I believe we have achieved an exceptionally high standard of quality. We're extremely pleased with the project and with the way it has turned out.

What do these towers mean for the city of Málaga from an architectural point of view?

I think these towers are hugely important, not only from a tourism perspective but also as a major residential development for the city. They're located in an area that was ready for regeneration, right on the edge of the city, close to the municipal boundary with Torremolinos, at the far end of the beach. Fittingly, the area has become informally known as Playa Sacaba, because it is literally where Málaga comes to an end.

I think the development stands out for its distinctive character and the quality of its architecture, and I'm convinced it will become one of the city's defining landmarks. We're delighted that people already refer to it simply as the Málaga Towers.

Three towers comprising apartments and duplex penthouses, with shared amenities and services,





Large-format **XLIGHT** by **Porcelanosa** was used for the interior wall cladding and reception area.





"We're extremely pleased with the result we've achieved using Krion, produced by Porcelanosa. It has enabled us to create a truly contemporary façade unlike almost any other in Spain."



exceptional sea views and the highest standards of luxury and comfort. How have you also ensured such high levels of energy efficiency and sustainability?
Well, I don't think it's possible nowadays to design a significant building or development without paying close attention to energy efficiency. I wouldn't say the highest possible, because that suggests something that can't be improved, and there's always room to do better. But energy efficiency is one of the cornerstones of architecture today, and sustainability is equally important: creating buildings that are economically viable, even at the highest end of the market. A building that uses energy responsibly isn't wasting heating or cooling, or consuming resources unnecessarily, even if those costs can be afforded. That's something we've achieved here, as you would expect from any project of this scale.

Málaga Towers is a residential development with striking façades. Could you tell us about the materials you chose, and in particular your decision to work with the PORCELANOSA Group?
I think the façades are undoubtedly one of the project's defining features. We chose **Krion** because it allowed us to create perfectly smooth surfaces with a spectacular finish that we're extremely proud of. The building has a remarkable sculptural quality, created through its cantilevered forms, projecting volumes and the interplay of light and shadow. We achieved this by composing a series of planes that are modulated and combined as the towers rise. The same architectural language also defines the three towers themselves, which, although they may appear identical, are in fact all different. The central tower was developed entirely independently from Towers One and Three, which were developed by Metrovacesa.
Even so, we've managed to create a perfect dialogue between all three because they share the same architectural language, the same design principles and the same aspirations. We're extremely pleased with the result we've achieved using **Krion**, produced by **Porcelanosa**. It has enabled us to create a truly contemporary façade unlike almost any other in Spain.

Looking ahead, does Estudio Lamela have any other projects planned for Málaga?
Yes. We're currently working on a hugely important project: the new Hospital Virgen de la Esperanza, which will be one of the largest hospitals in Spain, if not the largest, with 800 beds. It will be a key healthcare facility for Andalusia, as well as for the city and province of Málaga. The new hospital will sit alongside the existing Maternal and Child Hospital and Civil Hospital, creating a single hospital complex. It's a project we've been involved with for many years, ever since winning the competition. Construction on the initial phases is already under way, and we hope that, once completed, it will rank among the finest hospitals in Spain while also being one of the largest building projects currently under way anywhere in Europe. I'm sure it will be an important and exciting project, and another milestone in the history of the city.

ANARA SPA IBEROSTAR JARDÍN DEL SOL CALVIÀ (MALLORCA) / SPAIN

A signature project that aims to stand the test of time

This adults-only hotel, set in the quiet bay of Santa Ponsa on Mallorca's Costa de la Calma, is home to a space of flowing forms and soft light, designed to feel like an invitation to unwind.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ **Photos:** GORI SALVÀ









TOP LEFT: The main spa pool, designed with the **Durango** stone collection by **Porcelanosa**. The non-slip finish creates a seamless flow throughout the space.
ABOVE: Corridors and circulation areas continue the same material language, with the **Durango** collection by **Porcelanosa** unifying the project through a natural stone-inspired look.
LEFT: Reception, designed with a consistent material identity that sets the tone for calm and wellbeing from the moment you arrive.



RIGHT: Floor and wall tiles from the **Durango** collection by **Porcelanosa**.
BELOW: The treatment rooms combine the **Durango** collection by **Porcelanosa** with **Undora®Campaspero Greige** cladding by **Krion**, creating warm, cocoon-like spaces with a clean, refined feel.
NEXT PAGE: The consistent use of the **Durango** collection creates a cohesive look throughout the spa.
BELOW: Detail of the **Durango** collection by **Porcelanosa**, a defining feature of a project where texture and natural finishes enhance the sense of relaxation and wellbeing.











Interior designer Marga Rotger is behind Anara Spa, the surprise addition at the Iberostar Selection Jardín del Sol Suites. “We wanted to create a space where wellbeing starts the moment you walk in, long before you have a treatment or use the spa facilities,” she explains. “The idea was for the architecture itself to help you switch off and slow down. From the outset, we worked with light, materials and soft, flowing forms to create a calm atmosphere throughout the experience.”

Material choices were key. “They needed to bring warmth and a sense of wellbeing,” she says. Walnut wood was used for that reason (“it adds elegance and warmth”), while mineral finishes and sandy tones “soften the light and help create a more relaxed feel.” Light was just as important: “We didn’t want the fittings to stand out, but to blend into the architecture. The curves, niches and different volumes allowed us to shape the lighting very precisely, bringing out the texture of the materials and adding depth to the spaces.” The result avoids “a literal interpretation of the Mediterranean. We were inspired by what Mallorca really feels like: its light, natural materials, calm, warm tones and close connection to the landscape.”

A journey well worth taking

This Madrid-based studio has established itself as one of the most active and sought-after in Spain. Born from the coming together of two complementary creative sensibilities, it has developed into a practice that has become a benchmark in interior architecture.

Text: ABRIL CANO



Susana Sancho and Vicente Porres joined forces professionally in 2006 during Casa Decor. Two years later, in 2008, they founded Noviembre Estudio. Since then, starting with Dogozo (a granite urban bench that was their first project and which, a year later, won the National Crafts Award), they have followed a path "of discovering places, meeting people, touching lives. This is our design philosophy: enjoying the journey, visiting places, making friends. Developing major spaces, products and experiences."

Dogozo was followed by a series of projects that quickly drew the attention of the industrial and interior design sector: the S1 panoramic lift cabin for ThyssenKrupp (2009), the Little Friend and h2o chair collections, a reinterpretation of the traditional wine boot (2011), the Mr Cervus bar cabinet, awarded Young Designer Talent Spain in 2013, the Cret-cret table (2014), and more. The secret to this success lies in the combination of their training and their distinct sensibilities. Susana Sancho, with her eye for detail, curiosity and passion, holds a PhD from the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos and a degree in Fine Arts from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. Vicente Porres, an industrial designer who describes himself as "a craftsperson when it comes to problem-solving", trained at the Istituto Europeo di Design, Escuela de Arte 12 and ESNE. In this way, Susana's aesthetic and critical vision is complemented by Vicente's engineering ability to bring designs to life.

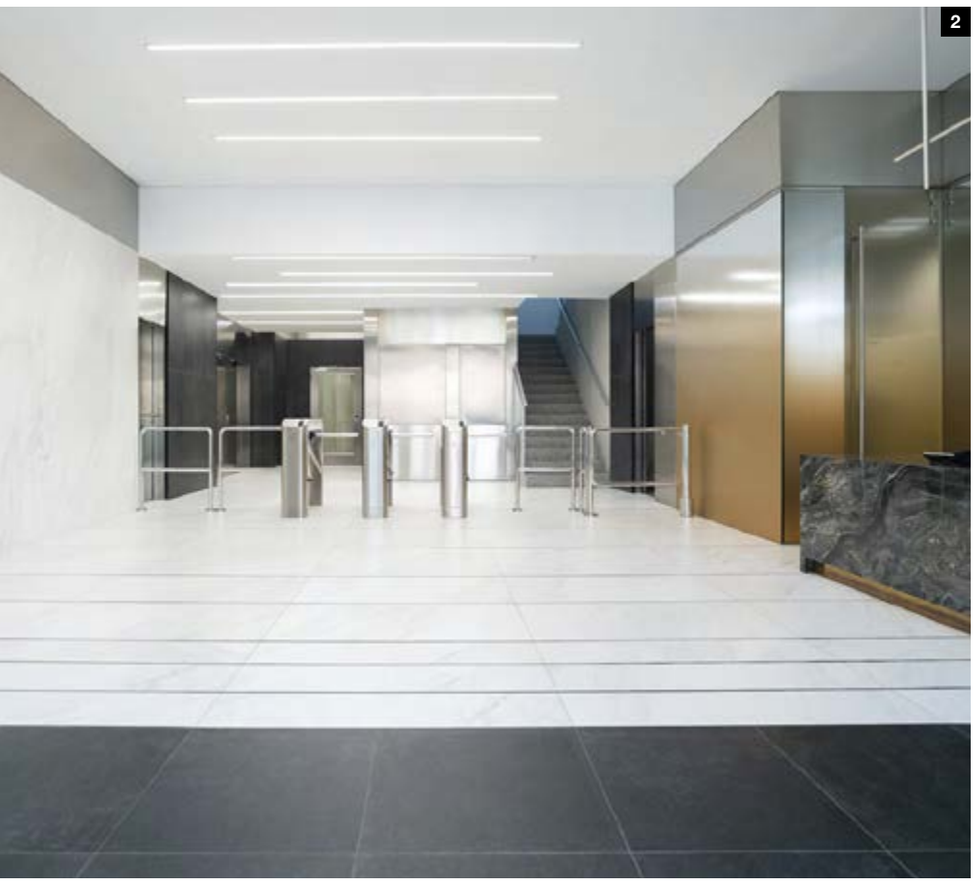
However, in such a competitive sector, constantly evolving in technology and processes, the real challenge lies in maintaining that commitment to



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1. Edificio Egeo, Madrid. From the entrance onwards, and as a guiding thread throughout, **Porcelanosa**'s **Butan Bone** porcelain tiles give structure to the project through a careful modulation that naturally organises and guides movement through the space. The composition is completed with **Fitwall Rolling White Sand Vertical** cladding from **Krion** and **Airslate** surfaces from **L'Antic Colonial**, materials that add texture, depth and character to a contemporary architecture defined by restraint, continuity and the warmth of its finishes.
2. The combination of **Verbier Dark** and **XLIGHT Glem White Nature** by **Porcelanosa** creates an elegant contrast between depth and light, reinforced by **Butech Pro-Part Coal** decorative profiles. The **XTONE Orobico Dark** countertop lends a sculptural quality to the space, reinforcing the project's refined character.
3. Recoletos 37, Madrid. The countertop in **Krion® Lux 1100 East** by **Krion** contrasts with the texture of **Airslate Graphite** from **L'Antic Colonial**.




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4. Edificio Egeo, Madrid. Bespoke furniture in **Krion® Lux A503** by **Krion** sits alongside **Fitwall Rolling White Sand Vertical** cladding, which brings texture, rhythm and a refined verticality to partition elements.
5. Edificio Egeo, Madrid. **Butan Bone** porcelain by **Porcelanosa** defines the central space, organised around a counter clad in **Airslate Graphite** by **L'Antic Colonial**.
6. Ortega y Gasset, 100, Madrid. **XLIGHT Liem Black Nature** by **Porcelanosa** lines the bathrooms and extends into the furniture and countertops via **XTONE**, while washbasins in **Krion® Lux A504** by **Krion** bring a distinctive character to the space.
7. Edificio Egeo, Madrid. The exterior areas incorporate **Porcelanosa**'s **River Silver** anti-slip collection, alongside bespoke terracotta-style ceramic seating elements.



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8. Tucumán, Madrid. **PAR-KER® Nobu Roble** flooring by **Porcelanosa** contrasts with **Rodano Acero** porcelain used on floors and walls, while the countertop combines **XTONE Nylo Noir** and **Lux A503** by **Krion®**.
9. PAR-KER® Nobu Roble flooring by **Porcelanosa** is paired with **XLIGHT Montreal White Texture** wall cladding, installed using a magnetic system, alongside **Newark Bone** decorative elements.
The composition is completed with **Pro-Skirting LED White** profiles by **Butech**.


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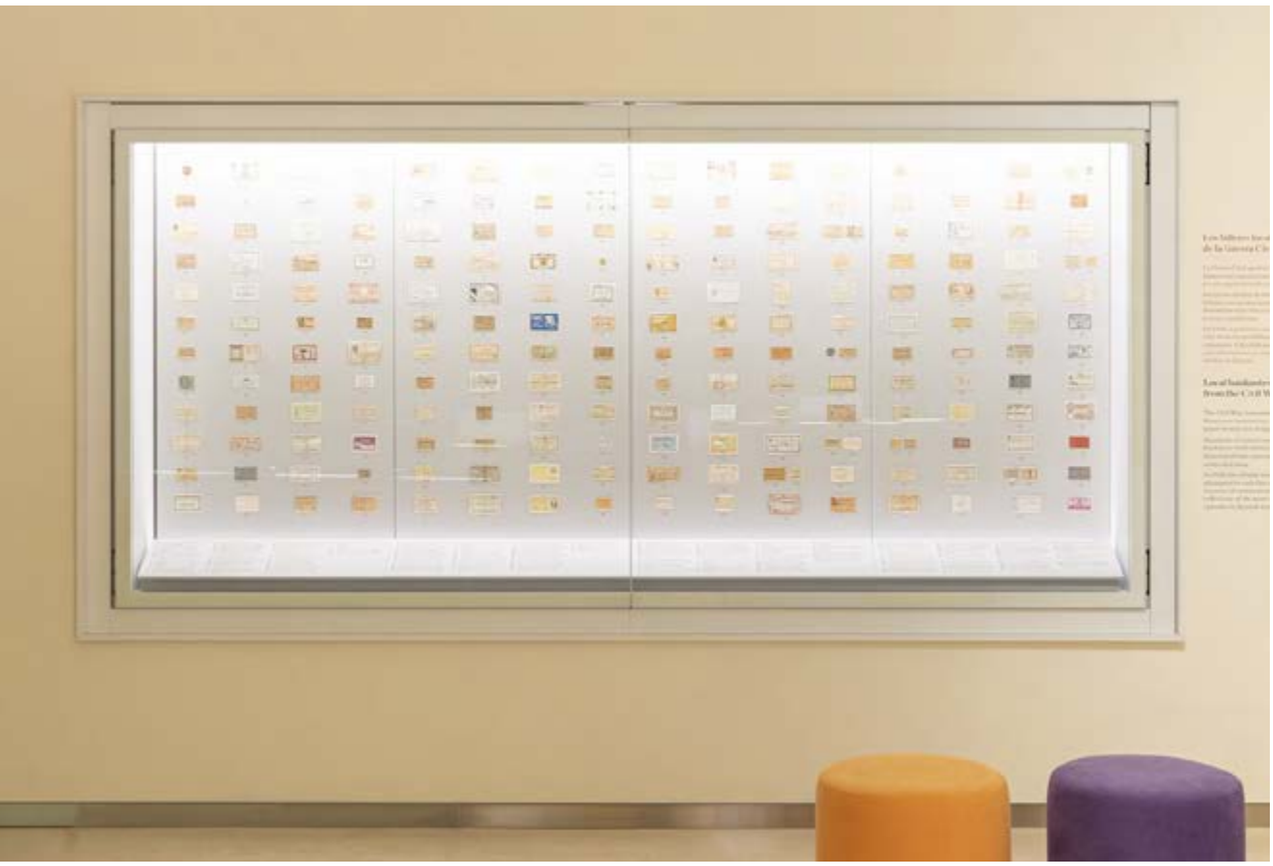

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creativity in response to the demands of each era. Noviembre Estudio works across design, furniture, lighting, corporate spaces, interior architecture, exhibition projects and user experience. This includes collaborations with companies such as Inmobiliaria Colonial (ongoing corporate architecture projects, communal areas, signage and lobbies) and the **PORCELANOSA Group** (experimental material research, presentation and product design, such as the Rock&Soft experimental piece shown at the Beyond Design festival).

This holistic approach is complemented by an active cultural and educational programme, as well as a sustained presence in both general and specialist media. They define this vision as metadesign: “a conceptual framework where design is not only conceived, but also managed, experienced and developed on another level.”

This concept has shaped their practice, which in recent years has expanded its focus to include materials research, biophilic design, lighting, the relationship with nature (they have a strong affinity for outdoor spaces) and the connection between physical and digital design. A new phase that continues to reflect their commitment to creating “places” meant to be inhabited, understood and enjoyed.

SALA DE ARTE SANTANDER
BOADILLA DEL MONTE (MADRID) / SPAIN





The numismatic collection occupies 165 m^2 out of the total 3,000 m^2 that make up the Sala de Arte Santander. The new exhibition area offers more generous spaces, with tables and backlit display cases that make it easier to view and explore these small objects. For the tables and display cases, **Krion® Lux 1100 East** solid surface has been used. Its properties make it easy to maintain and ensure durability and resistance in areas with heavy footfall.

Valuable witnesses of everyday life

Banknotes and coins are objects we use almost without noticing. Perhaps that is why we rarely reflect on their importance in helping us understand the reality of a society over time. The refurbishment of the museum space dedicated to the numismatic collection in the Sala de Arte Santander undoubtedly helps us to better understand this cultural richness.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ











The refurbishment paid particular attention to the educational dimension, offering different levels of interpretation and understanding. At the same time, the tables, drawers and vertical panels, designed for easy access, allow all the pieces to be viewed quickly and comfortably. **Krion® Lux 1100 East** solid surface, in a luminous white finish, thermoformable, backlit and with imperceptible joints, has helped create warm and welcoming spaces that reinforce the educational purpose behind the refurbishment.

Something as simple and humble as a coin can tell us a great deal. A Roman denarius bearing the likeness of Octavian Augustus, for example, is one of the earliest known examples of a coin being used for political propaganda. Minted in Emerita Augusta (Mérida) between 25 and 23 BC, it forms part of Banco Santander's extensive numismatic collection. Today, the collection comprises 3,500 pieces: 962 coins and 2,538 banknotes, including both historical banknotes and locally issued banknotes from the Spanish Civil War period (1936–1939).

The numismatic collection forms part of the Banco Santander Collection and is housed in the Sala de Arte exhibition space at Ciudad Grupo Santander in Boadilla del Monte (Madrid). It is the result of an ambitious project that seeks to raise the profile of a cultural field that remains relatively unfamiliar to the wider public. "Banco Santander's intention has also been to highlight the importance of both coins and banknotes in understanding our history, as well as the connections they establish with broader cultural contexts through art, literature, economics and more," explains Belén Fernández Arteagabeitia, Head of the Art Collection Department at Banco Santander. For this reason, the educational dimension "is one of the fundamental pillars of this project, in line with Banco Santander's commitment to promoting culture and making it accessible to everyone. This has been achieved largely through the introduction of interactive audiovisual content that allows visitors to explore the numismatic collection in greater depth."

Among the highlights is a Greek drachma from Emporion (modern-day Empúries on the Girona coast), dating from the mid-3rd century BC and considered the first coin minted in the Iberian Peninsula. Among the banknotes are the eight reales of Philip V, minted in Mexico in 1745, and the 100 peseta note dated 1 July 1874, from the first issue of the Bank of Spain after it was granted the monopoly on banknote production, which already incorporated safeguards against forgery. Conservation also plays a crucial role for these coins and banknotes, many of which bear signs of use that have, in some cases, threatened their integrity over time.

This led to a thorough refurbishment of the space dedicated to the collection. Several aspects were considered in the redesign, explains Belén Fernández Arteagabeitia: "On the one hand, the aim was to make the exhibition space more engaging and informative, while also providing more information about each coin and banknote. On the other, one of the priorities was ensuring the space was accessible to all audiences. From a technical point of view, the design and adaptation of bespoke display systems for exhibiting a selection of key pieces stands out, as does the creation of a storage area that allows both the display and examination of all items."

Conservation presented another major challenge. "Paper-based items in particular required individual treatment depending on specific issues, such as tears, creases or the presence of old adhesives." For this reason, "the choice of conservation materials used to install the pieces in the new display systems was a key part of the process, helping to ensure the collection's preservation." This work now allows us to appreciate the value of these objects and the history they embody.

HOTEL SPA JOHN TE LO BUSCA
CASTROJERIZ (BURGOS) / SPAIN

A welcoming retreat

The ancient Camino de Santiago now offers another reason to stop: this welcoming country hotel, where stone, wood and ceramics combine to create spaces that blend tradition with modern comfort, designed to help guests relax and unwind.

Text: PACO MARTÍNEZ





TOP: The **Bottega Caliza** collection by **Porcelanosa** runs throughout the communal areas, creating visual continuity and a calm, stone-inspired atmosphere.
RIGHT: The main lounge becomes the heart of the project, shaped by the presence of the backlit stone-effect cladding **Pangea Altissima** by **XTONE**, whose texture and scale bring a strong sense of monumentality to the space.







TOP: The swimming pool is integrated into the architecture through the continuous use of **Bottega Caliza** by **Porcelanosa**, with a non-slip finish around the pool and the same material lining the pool itself.
The design is completed by a matt black **Smart** column by **Noken**.
LEFT AND RIGHT: Bedrooms and bathrooms share a consistent material palette through the **Bottega** collection, reinforcing a sense of cohesion.
In the bathroom, **Marne** furniture and basin by **Noken** are paired with **Round** taps in black, giving a clean, contemporary feel.
TOP RIGHT: The interplay of volumes in the staircase creates a strong contrast of light and shadow. Wood and porcelain are woven throughout the project, bringing warmth into balance with architectural precision.







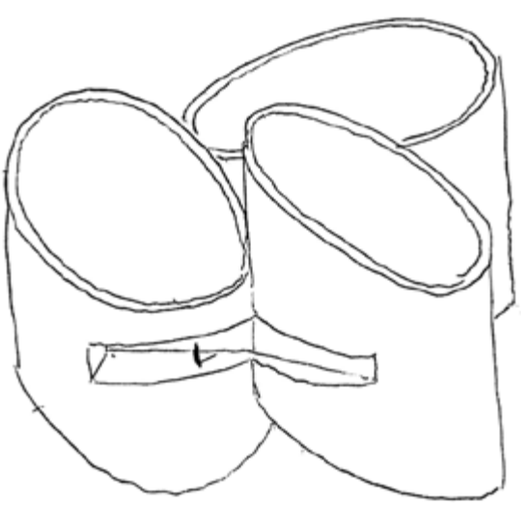


A strong belief in himself is a defining trait of Burgos-based designer Jonathan Arribas. That confidence, together with the need to break free from the constraints imposed by the pandemic, led him to create John Te Lo Busca, establishing himself as an influencer in construction and, especially, full-scale renovations, through his active presence on Facebook and Instagram. In search of “new challenges that push beyond what I’ve done so far”, he launched this hotel project with pool and spa in Castrojeriz, a small village in Burgos on the Camino de Santiago.

What now stands as a charming five-star hotel was, in reality, “a group of derelict houses tucked away behind the mountains”. But John saw the potential of the site to create a country hotel that would make pilgrims’ journey along the Camino more comfortable. “We had to knock them down because they were collapsing; in fact, only the side walls could be saved,” he explains. It was a really intense period of work. “We wanted to link up the cellars underneath, but there wasn’t enough space for the vats. We rebuilt the walls and put the whole timber structure together, including the beams, like Lego pieces.” Wood is one of his favourite materials, which he combines with (“with a smooth finish to bring everything together”) to create warm, welcoming interiors defined by exposed stone walls with backlighting. As for colour, “I like to reflect the identity of the place: the ochre and earthy tones of the stone, the white cement of the mortar, the yellow sand of the castles in this area... This project really represents our brand identity.”

SINGLE-FAMILY HOUSE
LAS ROZAS (MADRID) / SPAIN





The evocative power of form

The artistic use of cylindrical geometry turns this single-family house in the Guadarrama mountains into a striking piece of sculpture. Architect Fran Silvestre plays with light and materials to create a home that may seem surprising at first, but soon wins you over.

Text: ABRIL CANO **Photos:** FERNANDO GUERRA

Set in the Madrid municipality of Las Rozas, with sweeping views of the Guadarrama mountains, the house is made up of five truncated volumes that contain both the living spaces and service areas, including the swimming pool. Large-format **Savannah Caliza** porcelain by **Porcelanosa** is used throughout, on both floors and walls, inside and out.





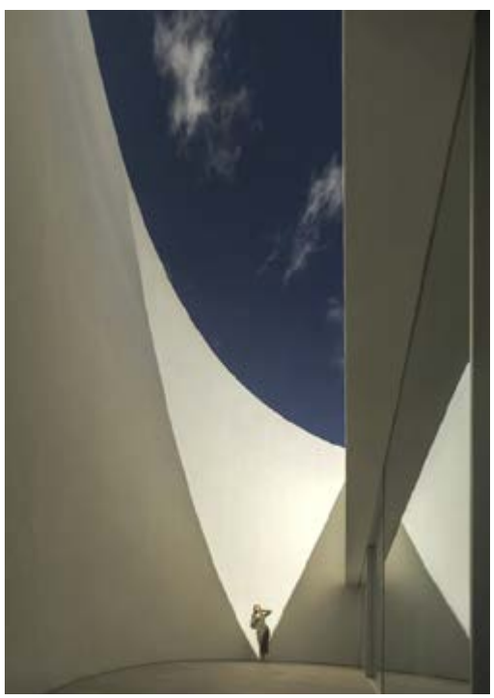


Savannah Caliza by **Porcelanosa** is the material that ties the whole house together. Used for floors, wall cladding and architectural features such as the staircase and the pool surround, it creates a seamless visual flow between inside and out, strengthening the connection with the surrounding landscape. Its subtle texture brings a sense of calm to the interiors while enhancing the natural light that fills the conical volumes shaping the house.

BOTTOM OF NEXT PAGE: The bold, sharply angled geometry creates spaces of surprising subtlety, such as the small internal courtyard, which changes throughout the day as the sunlight moves across it. It also reveals another source of inspiration for the architects: the sculpture of Andreu Alfaro.







The Guadarrama Mountains serve as an unexpected canvas where artistic inspiration blends with a daring use of geometry. Designed by Fran Silvestre Arquitectos, this detached house stands out in white across a 25,000 m^2 site. The first thing you notice is the way the building breaks down into five truncated cylinders, recalling “Homage to Brancusi”, the sculpture Valencian artist Andreu Alfaro dedicated to Constantin Brancusi in 1972, widely regarded as the father of modern sculpture. The sculpture’s sloping section has been reinterpreted here to help the house sit naturally on the sloping site, while also bringing light in from different directions through the pitched roofs traditionally found in this part of the Guadarrama range.

The floor plan is organised into orthogonal sections arranged at 120-degree angles that interlock to form an interior courtyard, accentuating the building’s sculptural character. This geometry allows the changing light to transform its surfaces, subtly altering the feel of the spaces throughout the day. Carefully positioned openings frame different views of the surrounding landscape. Each cylindrical volume also has its own outdoor space, with sheltered courtyards in two of them and an open terrace in another. Each cylinder has its own outdoor space, with wind-protected patios in two of them and an open terrace in another. At the same time, each cylinder has its own function: the bedrooms, the living area, the volume housing, the vehicle entrance and garage, the pool, and the entrance area. All of this is embodied in structures that give the entire complex a character that is hard to match.

A vibrant city

The British capital has lost none of its charm or character. Every day brings new openings and experiences that add to its already exceptional cultural, gastronomic and leisure scene, while also reinforcing the pride Londoners feel for their city. Here are just a few.

Drawings: CLAUDIA R.C. **Photos:** GEORGE APOSTOLIDIS / JAMES MERRELL / STOCKPHOTO / GETTY IMAGES

1 Porcelanosa Showroom

Opened in 2021, this showroom is located on a historic square just south-west of Oxford Circus, where six of the main streets in Mayfair's shopping district converge. Conceived as a source of inspiration for architects, designers and private clients alike, it also serves as a support hub for professionals in the sector. Spread across three floors, the space has been designed to showcase the architectural applications of the different product ranges through displays and innovative interior settings. Interactivity plays a key role, allowing visitors to discover the full range of solutions offered by the brands of the **PORCELANOSA Group**.
7-10 Hanover Square
www.porcelanosa.com/uk/showroom-porcelanosa-london-2044/





2 The MAINE Mayfair

Less than a two-minute walk from Hanover Square, this restaurant occupies a former mansion dating from 1720, retaining its original Georgian façade, and has become one of the most sought-after addresses in the new Mayfair. Inspired by European and American brasseries, it combines elegant interior design with a large central bar, a speakeasy and a sophisticated atmosphere featuring jazz and burlesque evenings, especially popular among the creative, financial and design crowd working in the area.
6 Medici Court
www.themainemayfair.com/



3 Mandarin Oriental Mayfair

The hotel to stay at, whether for its location, its sense of hospitality and sophistication, or simply the way it welcomes its guests. Designed by the architectural practice Roger Stirk Harbour + Partners and occupying a corner of Hanover Square, the building offers spacious, modern and welcoming interiors, with particularly bright suites that make guests feel more than welcome. Among its highlights is the Mazarine Restaurant, French-inspired and specialising in some of the finest seafood in London.
22 Hanover Square
www.mandarinoriental.com/en/london/mayfair

4 Halcyon Gallery

With more than forty years of history, this is one of London's most prestigious and sought-after art galleries, with three spaces along New Bond Street. Specialising in 19th- and 20th-century painting and sculpture, it also offers visitors a first encounter with the work of emerging artists. The gallery is equally renowned for its outstanding exhibitions devoted to artists such as James McQueen, David Hockney, Andy Warhol and even Bob Dylan himself.
29, 143 and 148 New Bond Street
www.halcyongallery.com/





5 Shepherd Market

One of those hidden corners well worth discovering. Just moments from bustling Piccadilly lies a charming network of cobbled streets dating back to 1735, leading to a central square lined with restaurants serving breakfasts, lunches and dinners inspired by cuisines from around the world. There are also pubs serving English beer alongside fish and chips, wine bars, shops selling designer watches and jewellery, boutiques, art galleries and traditional barbershops where you will feel like a local.
Shepherd Market, Shepherd Street
www.shepherdmarket.com/

6 The Lanesborough Club & Spa

Quite possibly the best, and certainly one of the most exclusive, spas in London. This private club is also open to guests of the prestigious hotel. The concept of luxury wellbeing takes shape through an extensive range of treatments and facilities: saunas, a hammam, individual treatment suites, a hydrotherapy pool and massages, all under the guidance of leading professionals. An oasis of peace and relaxation in the heart of London.
2 Lanesborough Place
www.lanesboroughclubandspa.com/



7 Tate Modern

A former power station transformed into the most visited contemporary art museum in Europe. Designed by Herzog & de Meuron, the building opened in 2000 and was extended in 2016. Its spaces, including the impressive Turbine Hall, have hosted works by Anish Kapoor, Sol LeWitt, Olafur Eliasson and Tracey Emin, as well as major figures of contemporary culture such as Frida Kahlo, to whom it is dedicating a retrospective exhibition until the end of 2026. As if that were not enough, its terrace offers one of the finest views over the City of London.
Bankside
www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern





8 Unique markets

For centuries, markets have helped shape the identity of Londoners. Take Borough Market, for example. Located on the south bank of the Thames, it specialises in showcasing the very best flavours of London and much of the world beyond, with produce sourced from almost every imaginable corner of the world. Officially established in 1756, it is a paradise for devotees of top-quality fresh food. Meanwhile, Old Spitalfields Market has transformed a once-overlooked part of east London, between the neighbourhoods





of Shoreditch and Brick Lane. It is home to dozens of street food stalls, alongside a wide gastronomic offering and shops run by emerging designers and craftspeople, all of which contribute to the area's distinctive energy.
www.boroughmarket.org.uk/
www.spitalfields.co.uk/

9 Liberty London

A classic destination for stylish shopping that is constantly reinventing itself. It has appeared in films, been the subject of its own documentary, and hosted exclusive collections by Yves Saint Laurent, Vivienne Westwood, Vans and Adidas. From its historic headquarters beside the legendary Carnaby Street of Swinging London in the 1960s, this London institution feels as vibrant as ever. Across its various floors, visitors will discover the very best in fashion, accessories, homeware, jewellery and gifts, from timeless classics to the latest contemporary designs.
Great Marlborough Street
www.libertylondon.com

10 The Red Room

The wine bar at The Connaught is an intimate and discreet space reached through a doorway draped with red velvet curtains. Alongside its exceptional wine list, guests can enjoy wine-inspired cocktails and a carefully curated selection of cheeses and artisan charcuterie. Designed by Bryan O'Sullivan, the space also displays red-themed artworks by visionary artists including Louise Bourgeois, Ti-a Thuy Nguyen and Trina McKillen.
Carlos Place
www.the-connaught.co.uk/restaurants-bars/red-room/



11 Victoria & Albert East Storehouse

The 16,000 m^2 of the Press Centre from the London 2012 Olympic Games have been transformed into a museum-storage facility designed by Diller Scofidio + Renfro (DS+R), housing thousands of objects, books and artworks from the collection of the famous decorative arts museum that cannot usually be displayed for lack of space. It is a living space where visitors can observe conservators at work caring for pieces of incalculable value.
Parkes Street. Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Hackney Wick
www.vam.ac.uk/east



12 Sotheby's

An unexpected experience: attending an art auction at the world's leading auction house, wandering among works awaiting future auctions, and visiting this London institution's private collection, worthy of a museum in itself. Visitors can also enjoy a good meal in its restaurant or a lighter bite at the more informal The Story Café, browse the shop or, for watch enthusiasts, search for the most exclusive model to suit their needs.
34–35 New Bond Street
www.sothebys.com/en/?locale=en



13 Twentytwentyone

Considered one of the most influential design shops in Europe, it was founded in 1996 by Tony Cunningham and Simon Alderson under the motto "good design enriches your life". It caters both to professionals – including institutions such as the Barbican Centre and Tate Modern – and to private clients looking to discover the best in contemporary furniture, lighting and accessories. It also showcases new additions to its own collection, created by designers such as William Plunkett and Robin Day.
Shop: 274–275 Upper Street, Islington
Showroom: 18c River Street, Clerkenwell
www.twentytwentyone.com/

14 Holland Park

Surrounded by streets lined with Victorian buildings, it is the perfect place for a stroll and a moment of calm. It features two Japanese gardens – the Kyoto Garden and the Fukushima Memorial Garden – as well as Leighton House, known for its splendid Victorian interiors, and the Belvedere restaurant, a former 18th-century ballroom located beside the orangery.

When the weather is fine, there is nothing better than attending a concert at the open-air theatre, home to the Holland Park Opera House. And to round off the visit, the Design Museum, located by the Kensington High Street entrance.
www.rbkc.gov.uk/parks-leisure-and-culture/parks/your-local-park/holland-park
designmuseum.org/





Photos: Andrew Gambrell.

Spaces that inspire emotion

The aesthetic sensibility of Italian designer Roberto Coin – whose motto is “I seek beauty everywhere” – is reflected in creations distinguished by remarkable quality, exquisite detailing and a design that seeks to forge an emotional connection with his clients. That connection calls for spaces capable of reflecting and enhancing it, as seen in the new boutiques recently opened across the United States in partnership with Watches of Switzerland. The locations are exceptional: Hudson Yards, Manhattan’s new luxury destination; the Forum Shops at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas; and the Miami Design District. Visitors are welcomed into an inviting setting created by the Neumann & Rudy studio, where wood-effect flooring, green-toned wall panelling and bright yet understated lighting allow the display cases to remain the focal point. Inside are Roberto Coin’s exclusive creations: necklaces, bracelets, earrings and tiaras. The atmosphere is inspired by his beloved Venice, *La Serenissima*, and includes a distinctive detail: the comfortable armchairs serve as a reminder that each piece of jewellery contains a small ruby hidden within. According to Venetian tradition, the ruby rests against the wearer’s skin, bringing happiness and good fortune.











The **Atlanta Brown** ceramic flooring by **L'Antic Colonial** brings warmth and a sense of tradition to the space, reinterpreting natural materials to create an atmosphere that is both welcoming and timeless.

A Mediterranean dream brought to life



Photo: GettyImages / Mediterranean.



Named Best Secret Destination in Europe in 2024 by the specialist platform European Best Destinations, Villajoyosa, on the Costa Blanca in Alicante, is one of those places worth discovering. A small, authentic town that has evolved into a high-quality tourist destination without losing its identity.

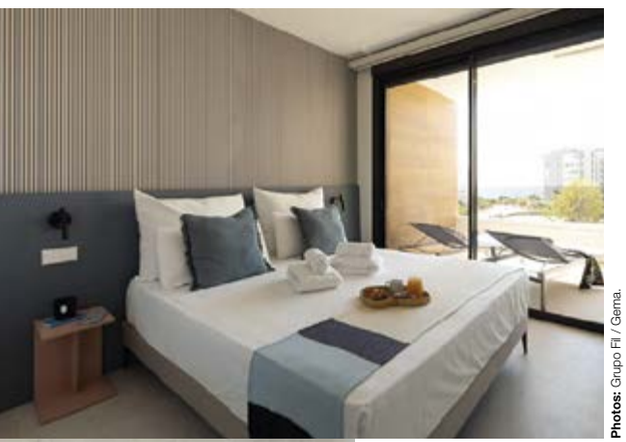
That same sense of connection to place defines the work led by Grupo Fil and managed through its tourism brand Be Line Hotels & Apartments. Beyond construction quality and carefully considered interior design, its projects are rooted in a strong sense of place, interpreting the value of Mediterranean light, the landscape and local ways of life. This favourable setting allows them to create homes that sit naturally within their surroundings and reflect the lifestyle of the Alicante coast.

The result is residential developments where architecture, landscape and wellbeing come together in harmony. Homes open to the outdoors, designed to make the most of natural light and sea views, go beyond mere housing to offer a way of life shaped by the unmistakable character of Villajoyosa.









Photos: Grupo Fil / Gema.



TOP LEFT: The kitchen in the FIL-20 NIU project combines the warmth and character of **Linkfloor Realm Persia** flooring by **L'Antic Colonial** with the sleek design of **Gamadecor** furniture.
TOP: Detail of furniture by **Gamadecor**.
OPPOSITE PAGE: The terrace at Villa Lucentina is conceived as a natural extension of the interior spaces, thanks to porcelain flooring and **PAR-KER®** solutions by **Porcelanosa**, installed using the laying systems developed by **Butech**.
LEFT: The bathroom, fully designed with the **PORCELANOSA Group** products, stands out for the harmony between materials, design and functionality, creating a calm, timeless atmosphere.

Casa Castello: a home away from home

This idea was the driving force behind the PORCELANOSA Group's participation in Fuorisalone 2026, during Milan Design Week. Casa Castello was conceived as a two-storey apartment designed to be experienced from the inside. The journey began on the ground floor, where shared living spaces flowed seamlessly into one another, with gentle transitions between the kitchen, dining area and lounge. Materials, light and texture combined to create a continuous atmosphere that guided visitors through the space. As the journey moved upstairs, the atmosphere shifted towards more intimate spaces designed for rest and personal wellbeing. Beyond the layout of rooms and furnishings, the concept sought to connect directly with visitors, inviting them to see themselves in the spaces and understand how they are lived in.



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Casa Castello was enhanced through collaborations with a carefully curated selection of Spanish brands, including Cereria Mollá, Create, Gandía Blasco, Inesita's, Heimat Atlantica, Lorena Canals, Mybarks, Rígido, Sally Hambleton, Silbon and Terria. Integrated naturally throughout the apartment, their contributions added to the overall aesthetic through proposals rooted in popular craft traditions or exploring materials and objects from different perspectives. The journey concluded at a vintage kiosk clad in S-Tile ceramic by L'Antic Colonial. Here, visitors could choose a postcard from a limited-edition collection and send it directly to anyone they wished. The simple act of writing and posting a card created a connection with Casa Castello that extended and reinforced the experience.

Throughout the event, Casa Castello also hosted an ongoing programme of events: Open Night, where gastronomy and music came together; Bubble Lounge, centred on Noken's I-Smart taps; the private Live Cooking Experience, featuring a menu prepared live using a Smart Kitchen with invisible induction technology; the more relaxed Casa Castello Mornings; and the international launch of Undora®, the new decorative mineral surface developed and produced by Krion, presented in the style of a film premiere.



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1. Visitors to Casa Castello queue to enter the **Porcelanosa** showroom in Milan.
2. The richness of metal, wood and ceramic shapes a kitchen designed to be lived in.
3. Geometric forms, texture and light come together in the **S-Tile** ceramic wall cladding in the living area.
4. Even from the outside, Casa Castello conveyed its central idea: creating a home, a space designed to be lived in.
5. The letterbox where visitors posted their postcards to their chosen recipients.
6. A visitor selects one of the limited-edition postcards displayed in a kiosk clad in **S-Tile** ceramic by **L'Antic Colonial**.
7. Creations by a range of Spanish brands, including the Atlantic-inspired pieces by Heimat Atlantica, enhanced the visitor experience.



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Grand opening of Porcelanosa's new showroom

On 25 May, Porcelanosa officially inaugurated its new showroom in Plaza Euskadi, one of Bilbao's main shopping thoroughfares. Numerous business leaders and professionals from the architecture and interior design sectors attended the event, which had the well-known television presenter Anne Igartiburu as its honorary patron.

The new showroom is part of a new generation of retail concepts designed to deliver exclusive customer experiences, a model that will soon be rolled out in other cities. The new space is organised into four areas, with the ceramic library – featuring interactive elements – as its focal point. It also includes a technical water solutions area and a product exhibition displayed in a variety of lifestyle settings. *Home Senses* is the most innovative area: an immersive experience that dynamically showcases the applications and solutions of the **PORCELANOSA Group** brands through a tour inspired by a smart home.



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1. Porcelanosa's new Bilbao showroom provided the perfect backdrop for a very special evening.
2. Television presenter Anne Igartiburu attended the opening ceremony as the event's guest of honour.
3. A traditional *aurresku* performance offered a tribute to Basque culture and heritage.
4. Chefs Fernando Canales Etxanobe and Iván Álvarez Iturbe presented a live cooking demonstration using Gamadecor's invisible induction hob.
5. Manuel Rubert, Head of Stores at Porcelanosa Iberia; interior designer and influencer Natalia Zubizarreta; and Víctor Bejerano, Manager of Porcelanosa Bilbao.

Porcelanosa strengthens its presence in the Nordic countries

Conceived as a meeting place for the local and international design community, Porcelanosa opened its new showroom in Copenhagen during 3daysofdesign, Denmark's leading design festival. It is the brand's second dedicated showroom in the Nordic region, following the opening of its Stockholm showroom in 2025.

To mark the occasion, Porcelanosa unveiled the Rosenborg Hus concept, inspired by the iconic Rosenborg Castle, one of Copenhagen's best-known landmarks. Under the theme "Your Home Away From Home", visitors were invited to feel at home in spaces where materiality, creativity and everyday life came together naturally. As part of the experience, guests could also send limited-edition postcards inspired by Copenhagen and Porcelanosa's visual identity. The programme included guided tours, a private event with live music and Spanish-inspired cuisine, and the presentation of Undora®, Porcelanosa's new decorative mineral surface.





Throughout 3daysofdesign, the new **Porcelanosa** showroom, reimagined under the Rosenborg Hus concept, welcomed design professionals to a programme of special events featuring live music, the opportunity to send limited-edition postcards inspired by Copenhagen, and the chance to discover the latest collections from the brands within the **PORCELANOSA Group**.





The sensory experience of XTONE at Casa Decor 2026

The Palacio del Marqués de los Vélez, in the heart of Madrid's Barrio de las Letras, hosted the 61st edition of Casa Decor, a key event for leading interior design studios and some of the most prominent names in the world of decoration. XTONE took part with "XTONE Living Spaces", a proposal presented through four spaces exploring new ways of living.

Created by Sandra Antón (ESs Interiores), Manuel Espejo Estudio, Estudio Viteri/Lapeña and S de Studio, these environments highlighted the versatility of the materials, which adapt to all kinds of typologies and projects, expressing their sensitivity across kitchens, bathrooms, living areas and furniture elements. The guiding idea was that material is not merely a finishing touch, but the starting point for creating spaces – spaces designed not only to be seen, but above all to be lived in.



Photos: Alberto Cubas.



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THE DESIGNERS

(Top, from left to right)
Elena Lapeña
Viteri/Lapeña.
Manuel Espejo
Manuel Espejo Estudio.
Sandra Antón
ESs Interiores.
Paola Hexel
S de Studio.
Aitor Viteri
Viteri/Lapeña.

THE SPACES

1. BIRDCAGE, Manuel Espejo Estudio. In this proposal for Edelmann Kitchen, the interior designer treats the kitchen as a sophisticated setting. **XTONE Mallorca Texture** clads the worktop of the central island, with integrated sink, reinforcing the warmth of the overall composition.
2. KAMALEOHM, Estudio Viteri/Lapeña. This circular space for Strohm Teka conceives the bathroom as a setting with a strong sensory focus. **XTONE Camouflage**, used for the flooring, reinforces this interior architecture.
3. 'LA VIE CHEZ NOUS', S de Studio. A 1970s-inspired living and dining space created for PH Collection, where aesthetics and functionality come together. The use of **XTONE Camouflage** and **XTONE Alpinus White** creates a sense of continuity through the material palette.
4. COBALTO, ESs Interiores. Antón designs a welcoming yet theatrical lobby. The versatility of **XTONE Andes Blue** and **XTONE Glem White**, applied in a checkerboard pattern across flooring, wall cladding and furniture elements, creates a play of contrasts that brings dynamism to the space.

Spanish and Portuguese Property Developers' Meeting



Porcelanosa hosted the tenth edition of its Spanish and Portuguese Property Developers' Meeting at its headquarters in Vila-real. Bringing together almost 150 professionals from leading property companies across Spain and Portugal, the event has established itself as a forum for discussion and reflection on the challenges and opportunities shaping the future of the residential sector.

Over the two-day programme, attendees took part in technical visits to the showrooms and production facilities of the companies that make up the **PORCELANOSA Group**, gaining first-hand insight into the latest innovations in materials, design and construction solutions. One of the highlights was a visit to the Porcelanosa Offsite production facility, which specialises in industrialised construction. Here, participants explored a range of optimised prefabricated bathrooms and discovered the benefits this approach offers in terms of efficiency, quality and sustainability.

One of the standout moments of the event was a round-table discussion on design, sustainability and industrialisation – three of the key forces shaping the future of construction. Moderated by journalist Gemma Font, the panel brought together Samuel Tortosa, Head of PORCELANOSA's Technical Façades Department; César Frías, CEO of Morph and President of the Council of Vertical Urbanism Iberia; Jorge Leal, Director and Works Coordinator at Grupo Ferreira; and Enrique Blanco, Head of Projects at Brosh.



Throughout the two-day event, the property professionals invited by Porcelanosa took part in a range of activities, including a round-table discussion on design, sustainability and industrialisation, a visit to the Porcelanosa Offsite production facility, and a keynote talk by speaker and trainer Víctor Küppers on approaching life and work with purpose and enthusiasm.

Earlier, representatives from Siemens studioLine and Porcelanosa took part in a discussion exploring the evolution of kitchens within the residential sector.

The programme also featured a keynote talk by Víctor Küppers on Thursday afternoon. Known for his engaging and energetic style, Küppers spoke about the importance of approaching both life and work with purpose, enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

With this tenth edition, Porcelanosa has reaffirmed its commitment to innovation, knowledge sharing and the development of solutions that contribute to the continued evolution of the property sector. The 10th Property Developers' Meeting was sponsored by Siemens studioLine, Schneider Electric, EMCO, +GF+, Saint-Gobain and Daikin.







Eclipse is the new bathroom collection that makes a clear design statement: a fusion of contemporary elegance and craftsmanship. Made from **Krion® Solid**, it has been designed for those who see the bathroom as a space for wellbeing, self-care and aesthetic expression. Its design language is defined by organic forms and soft lines that convey calm, balance and sophistication. One of **Eclipse**'s key strengths lies in its range of finishes. The collection is available in the classic smooth, silky version of **Krion® Solid** as well as in a hand-applied textured finish, which makes each piece unique and gives it its own character. This dual-finish approach allows the collection to adapt to different interior styles, while preserving the material's quality and purity.





Design, wellbeing and functionality come together in a seamless bathroom concept. The large, round freestanding bath stands out as a sculptural piece with strong visual presence, becoming the focal point of the space and inviting relaxation and reconnection with what is essential. The basin range is designed to sit naturally within different layouts, bringing versatility and visual coherence to the collection as a whole. Completing the scheme, furniture in **Breeze Oak** introduces warmth, while mirrors with integrated perimeter lighting enhance the sense of spaciousness and sophistication. The result is a calm, contemporary atmosphere, with **Eclipse** at its centre.

ENGEL&VÖLKERS



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