

# identity®

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The hard of it: modern floors with latitude  
Diane von Furstenberg's interior wrap  
Basel's on time art+design movement  
Aircraft regeneration: from the scrap yard

DHS 15



# For hearth and home

With Ramadan underway, many stores in town are marking the holy month with special exhibitions and promotions, while elsewhere there are plenty of industry awards and product launches to enhance efficiency in the kitchen and create to a spa-like ambience in the bathroom. **TEXT: CAROLINE ALLEN**

## WORD PERFECT

The beauty of Arabic calligraphy is being showcased in eyecatching hues by lifestyles and accessories company Irony Home, as part of a Ramadan collection in its Dubai Mall outlet. The centrepieces of the range are marble sculptures featuring Arabic calligraphy in precious and semi-precious stones like lapis, mother of pearl and amethyst.

Cushions with silk and satin hand embroidery, and oriental lanterns in vibrant shades of blue, green, purple and yellow also make for sumptuous accessories. Irony Home founder and interior decorator Rima Dardenne aims to help customers inject a strong sense of individuality into their living and work spaces.



## DRESS TO IMPRESS

Paris-based interior architect and designer Stéphane Parmentier has launched his first furniture collection in partnership with Ormond Editions at L&B London. Parmentier, who worked with fashion heavy hitters such as Givenchy and Karl Lagerfeld, has now come up with a line of accent pieces.

The Altair designs can be used as stools, tables and bedside tables. Natural materials such as stone and wood take a leading role as the contrast between simplicity and sophistication is emphasised.

With *Kask*, Parmentier used slate and marble, which only reveal their true identities when touched. He rendered them light with perforations and geometric cutouts. This approach also appears in *Helios*, where silver and untreated wood is blackened by the colour of coal through a process of silver pulverisation that produces an effect of graduated colour.



## IN THE HOT SEAT

If your living space is in need of a colour injection, Verzelloni's *Kelly Light* chair with its multi-coloured wool fabric covering, is sure to provide some eye candy. Created by Spanish design studio Lieveiro Altherr Molina, its seat cushion forms one unit with the structure to unobtrusive, compact effect. Presented at the last Milan Furniture Fair, this definitely makes us want to take a seat.



#### TIMELY INTERVENTION

The *Tourbillon Ottanta* watch, designed by Italian car design firm and coachbuilder Pininfarina for Swiss watchmaker Bovet, has been selected by *Robb Report*'s editors as the "best-of-the-best" men's watches in the annual ranking to commend the luxury world's exceptional launches.

Every aspect of the design and production of the watch's 514 parts is the work of DIMIER 1738's engineers and watchmakers and the Pininfarina Extra team. This multipurpose timepiece, which depicts Pininfarina's 80th anniversary, celebrated last year, can be worn on the wrist with either of its two faces displayed or with a titanium chain as a pocket watch. It can also be used as a miniature table clock.

#### RISE AND SHINE

Interiors has launched the *Sunrise* collection, part of the Italian Giorgio range. Inspired by the serenity of the day's beginning, the materials fused include leather, wood and stainless steel. Bird's eye maple veneer, printed iguana leather and stainless steel handles have been incorporated in pieces to ensure purity.

Furniture from the *Sunrise* collection, along with blown glass vases, lamps and silk hand-knotted carpets from the Murano range, will ensure relaxed good looks throughout the home.



## Design agenda

**New York IGF 2011**, New York, USA, August 13 – February 18

**Lighting Fair 2011**, Fredericia, Denmark, August 28-29

**Auckland Home Show 2011**, Auckland, New Zealand, August 31 – September 4

**Dragon Furniture Fair 2011**, Shunde, China, September 6-9

**Abitami 2011**, Rho Milan, Italy, September 8-11

**Macef September 2011**, Rho Milan, September 8-11

**Maison & Objet 2011**, Paris, France, September 9-13

**Maison & Objet Outdoor Indoor 2011**, Paris, France, September 9-13

**NOW! 2011**, Paris, France, September 9-13

**Scenes d'interieur 2011**, Paris, France, September 9-13

**Domotex Middle East 2011**, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, September 12-14

**Light Middle East 2011**, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, September 12-14

**Habitare 2011**, Helsinki, Finland, September 14-18

#### GOLD STANDARD

In need of inspiration for elegant Eid gifts? Baccarat has a whole variety of accessories that beautifully fit the bill. The gold *Our Fire* lamp incorporates a Versailles 230 candlestick – a reproduction of the Harcourt glass – serving as a receptacle for the candle and a gold metal-coated crystal shade. The numbered pieces bear the signature "Baccarat by Starck" on the candlestick.

For something more decorative, the *French Zenith* candlestick is an option. Inspired by the Zenith chandelier collection, a Baccarat classic style from the 19th century, it features diamond cuts, hanging crystal octagons and darts. If you're thinking of the table, the *Mille Nuits* pastry stand makes for an eye-catching centerpiece. Two and three-levels are available in this self-assembly product, in clear or midnight crystal.



#### GLASS ACT

Aiming to make the most of even the most challenging spaces and dimensions, Snaiidero's versatile *Orange* kitchen – previously available in over 70 different colours and materials – now offers five more finishes to its glass version, in both glossy and satin finishes. Cut-to-size technology ensures doors can be speedily manufactured.

The 3D depth of the doors and worktops evokes a sense of lightness and transparency. The worktop is in 12mm lacquered tempered glass with an acid-etched surface. The range of *Orange* glass finishes includes: artic white; graphite grey; the new feather grey; Atlantic grey; sangria red; burned brown and black.

#### SURFACE CHARM

RAK Ceramics' *Jewel* collection – sparkling with multi-designed stylish surface finishes for floors and walls – was showcased at the Marseille Fair 2011 in June. The *Novelda* and *Draintree* porcelain floor tile series impressed with its chic durability. Also on display were *Connexion*, *Silkywood*, *Sensation*, *Prism*, *Wallpaper*, *Juliet*, *Endless* as well as the *Stone Art* and interlocking tiles collections, incorporating the latest digital printing technologies.

Conferred the SuperBrand 2010 Award, RAK Ceramics continues to be a global pioneer through innovative products such as the *RAKSLIM*, a 4.5mm-thick tile which sets new industry benchmarks in thickness, strength, cost and ease of use. It is a founding member of Emirates Green Building Council, which supports the development of sustainable buildings in UAE.



#### TRIPLE TREAT

A hardworking piece of kitchen kit, the Kenwood *kMix* triblade handblender has been designed to prevent splashing. The three blades make light work of preparing fruit, vegetables and sauces. Attachments are designed for pan blending, mashing, food processing, chopping and whisking.

Complete with a mini food processor, the triblade can also chop, slice and mix effortlessly. This Red Dot design award winning blender is available in a range of colours and comes with recipe cards.

#### STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE

WC flush plates are the latest piece of bathroom kit to receive the private spa treatment. GROHE's *SKATE Cosmopolitan Leather* comes in quilted or plain leather in black, white, red and brown, framing push buttons in brilliant GROHE StarLight Chrome. The new flush plates are available with two-volume flushes and start-stop function. Saving water is facilitated by GROHE EcoJoy technology. The new plates can be mounted vertically and horizontally. The latest additions include mirror surfaces and anti-fingerprint technology.

With the GROHE *Ondus Digitecture-Light* flush plate, ambient lighting is brought into to the bathroom by incorporating colourful LEDs into a flush plate. The square-shaped flush plates are available with a velvet black or moon white glass finish. Two-volume flush can be triggered in touchless or tip-on mode. The light surrounding the plate like a halo can be personalised by choosing from over 200 colours while a timer can deactivate the lighting. 

