SCENE

WRITTEN BY REBECCA GART | PRODUCED BY ELIA ESSEN

Creative Collaborations



EXPLORE AND IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES WITH THESE FRESH OPTIONS FOR FLOORS, WALLS, UPHOLSTERY AND LIGHTING.

WRITTEN BY ANH-MINH LE

Claudia Afshar x Marius Aurenti for ABC Stone

L.A. designer Claudia Afshar shares that "a connection to nature, materiality and simplicity" are through lines of her new Natural Edit microcement collection. Created in partnership with French manufacturer of decorative surfacing materials Marius Aurenti, the collection is available exclusively through ABC Stone. "The Mediterranean was a major source of inspiration, not only its colors, but the way material, landscape, architecture and light come together," she says, noting microcement offers tremendous flexibility in application and can move seamlessly from interior to exterior. **claudiaafshar.com; mariusaurenti.com; abcworldwidestone.com**



Young Huh x Lee Jofa

"We have collaborated with Lee Jofa for so long, it felt like a dance with a longtime partner," says Young Huh of the development of Sijo, her debut collection of fabrics and wallcoverings with the historic textile and furnishings house. Indeed, the New York City-based interior designer has incorporated Lee Jofa into nearly all her projects. Sijo, she elaborates, "is a conversation between tradition and modernity. The collection draws upon historic textiles, botanical forms, and Korean and Western decorative arts but interprets those references with a contemporary sense of color and scale." The joint endeavor's 32 fabrics and 13 wallcoverings represent a mix of motifs and textures, as well as a palette that spans both neutrals and bolder hues. **younghuh.com; leejofa.com**



Richard June x Visual Comfort & Co.

Richard June's inaugural line for Visual Comfort & Co. embodies "quiet refinement," says the Oregon-based furniture and lighting designer. With the 35 pieces, he is "interested in finding that point where beauty and function feel inseparable rather than like competing ideas." Take the Liora collection: Its matte glass diffuser's stepped detail echoes old schoolhouse fixtures while solving the problem of an exposed bulb. The collaboration features raw ceramic stoneware, wood, linen, glass and brass—materials that retain some of their natural character. "For me," June adds, "that honesty gives an object a kind of soul and, hopefully, helps it become more beautiful with time." **richardjune.com; visualcomfort.com**

CLAUDIA AFSHAR X MARIUS AURENTI FOR ABC STONE PHOTO: POZE PROD. YOUNG HUH X LEE JOFA PHOTO: ELIZABETH O. BAKER. RICHARD JUNE X VISUAL COMFORT & CO. PHOTO: ZACH DOLEAC.



SHOWROOM SHOWCASE

ORO BY KITCHEN DISTRIBUTORS

Kitchen Distributors introduces Oro, a multibrand Denver showroom that expands the company's longtime focus on kitchens into a broader expression of contemporary European living. Connected to the existing bulthaup showroom, Oro brings furniture, lighting, surfaces, textiles and interior systems together under one roof. Here, Kitchen Distributors owner Tom Hartman shares the thinking behind the new concept. **oro-kd.com**

What inspired Oro? We've always believed the kitchen is part of a larger architectural environment. Over time, it became clear there was an opportunity to extend the same level of thought, craftsmanship and design throughout the home.

Why is Denver the right place for a showroom like this? Denver has a sophisticated architecture and design community, and we saw the chance to bring together a distinctive collection of European brands in a more architectural, collaborative setting. Oro is intended as a working resource where architects, designers and clients can study materials, review plans and develop solutions.

What attracts you to European design? I'm drawn to its restraint, craftsmanship and material integrity. Good design doesn't have to announce itself; quality is often found in the details and how something ages over time. Our partners, Porro, Living Divani, Agape, Agapecasa, Listone Giordano, JOV and Brokis, each have a distinct identity, but there is a dialogue between them.

What do you hope visitors take away? A sense of discovery and quiet luxury. We want people to slow down, sit in the furniture, notice the lighting and leave with a different perspective on how they want to live.

SHOWROOM SHOWCASE PHOTO: SCOTT HASSON PHOTOGRAPHY. NEW & NOTEWORTHY PHOTO: COURTESY NEW RAVENNA.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

DECORATIVE MATERIALS

Stone and tile purveyor Decorative Materials has opened its third remote architectural and design library, bringing its dedicated luxury showroom concept to Steamboat Springs. The idea—first piloted in Telluride and later expanded to Crested Butte—gives interior designers, architects, builders and homeowners in Colorado's mountain communities access to an extensive selection of materials and samples, even when a design consultant isn't on site. Clients make an appointment and enter via lockbox. Once inside, they can browse or connect with the Decorative Materials staff by phone, video call or text for guidance. "It gives clients independence without losing the support of having a design consultant," explains Kara Levine, showroom manager. The Steamboat library's initial assortment was shaped by the region's established mountain design aesthetic, with selections expected to evolve as the team learns more about what local designers and builders are seeking. The collection spans a wide range of tastes and budgets, including quick-turnaround materials stocked in the company's Denver warehouse, handcrafted ceramics, natural stones and luxury mosaics. The expansion reflects Steamboat's rapidly growing design and building community, which had been requesting increasingly frequent visits from the Decorative Materials team. Across the region, Levine is seeing renewed interest in old-world details, such as chiseled edges, checkerboard patterns and ornate mosaics, paired with clean and contemporary elements. "It's been really fun to see these traditional materials and patterns return with a fresh twist," she notes. **decorativematerials.com**





NEW ARRIVAL

DENVER MODERN

Colorado-based furniture brand Denver Modern has released its biggest product launch to date: 10 new pieces that balance the brand's signature modern vibe with a layered mix of materials, shapes, textures and finishes. The latest arrivals span seating, tables and storage, further accelerating the company's evolution beyond its best-selling Vail counter stool and dining chair. "We have an established reputation for kitchen seating, but it's so much more exciting to connect the dots from the kitchen to dining to storage to the living room," co-owner Donnie Criswell says. Among the fall collection's highlights are new iterations of dining and counter stools in finishes such as striped velvet, heritage plaid and flax linen, all paired with walnut or white oak frames. An instant hit, the Canyon dining chair brings a tailored look, with leather and velvet upholstery options that complement the natural character of the wood. For a more sculptural silhouette, the Alma swivel counter stool combines a clean profile with whimsical upholstery selections from flax linen to a textured tapestry fabric. The new collection also introduces the Luna credenza, adding streamlined storage and hand-carved craftsmanship to dining rooms, living spaces and entryways. Luna's doors feature subtle circular patterns in varying depths, creating a dimensional effect inspired by the phases of the moon. "Storage is functional, but it can also act like art," co-owner Lindsey Criswell notes. Rich brown leathers, darker woods and organic materials give the new pieces a moodier, more tactile feel for colder months, all while staying true to the brand's Colorado sensibility. "Our hope and dream is that we can be in multiple rooms in people's homes and be cherished," Donnie adds. **denvermodern.com**

TILE TALK

ANN SACKS X KELLY WEARSTLER

WRITTEN BY MAILE PINGEL

"Pattern can do far more than decorate a surface," designer Kelly Wearstler says. "It can create rhythm, establish order and shape atmosphere." And with Treillage, her ninth tile collection for Ann Sacks, she has drawn inspiration from historic landscape architectural elements, from the trellising and conservatories of the 19th century to the Renaissance's parterres. Adding Wearstler's signature edge with a grid-based form, the series of tiles creates the illusion of depth and movement. A single pattern will produce a uniform repeat, while combining them has a dazzlingly intricate and complex effect. "We approached each tile the way I compose a room," she explains. "Every pattern has its own personality, but the real magic emerges in how they interact. That tension between elements creates endless opportunities for customization." Produced by the artisans at Ann Sacks' factory in Portland, Oregon, the collection features five 6-inch square patterns (Cross, Diagonal Left, Diagonal Right, Grid and Weave) in rich colorways like Eclipse, Currant, Vert and Spiced Ginger. "What excites me about handmade production is that it introduces humanity into something highly structured," says Wearstler, noting the tiles are available in earthenware or stoneware. "You get the rigor of geometry but also the subtle variation and warmth that only comes from the hand." **annsacks.kohler.com; kellywearstler.com**

PHOTOS: COURTESY RESPECTIVE BRANDS.



