

AZURE

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CENTRE IN PORTUGAL

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SHOW REPORT

SWITCHING IT UP

AT THE INTERIOR DESIGN SHOW, MANUFACTURERS INJECTED FAMILIAR PRODUCTS WITH A NEW, ULTRA-MODERN STYLE BY DIANE CHAN

MAYOR ROB FORD'S ONGOING SHENANIGANS had no apparent effect on Toronto's 16th annual conclave of designers and architects. The show drew over 50,000 attendees, and attracted such luminaries as Dror Benshetrit, Dennis Askins for Successful Living from Diesel, and Patrizia Moroso (the guest of honour), who each delivered inspiring talks on opening day.

Offstage, Caesarsone led the way in what became a recurring theme, a growing interest in reprising the past with new forms and materials. The quartz manufacturer, in collaboration with London's Raw-Edges Design Studio, presented a series of domestic environments crafted out of quartz composite, which looked nothing like what we're used to seeing. The kitchen, for instance, displayed cabinetry that sat atop counters or

slipped into cut-outs like vertical drawers. The result: a grouping of serene, minimalist and poetic archipelagos.

Meanwhile, Hauser replaced the classic Muskoka chair with a version in non-porous high-density polyethylene; and Jardin de Ville reincarnated its outdoor furniture offcuts into sporty shoulder bags and hanging planters. Old becoming new also transpired in MSDS Studio's See the Light, a box that seems infinite, thanks to rows of Foscarini pendants reflected in surrounding mirrors. Though the monochromatic installation took cues from Superstudio's 1969 Continuous Monument, it had an of-the-moment air, perhaps enhanced by how many times it was photographed via selfies, Oxford's word of the year for 2013. **AZ**





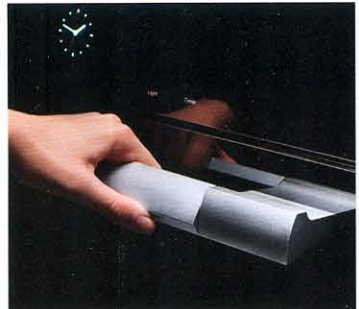
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1 FILLING THE VOID

Montreal's **Loïc Bard** introduced the three-legged Tokyo table to his expanding line of wooden furnishings. Finished in natural oil, it conceals a narrow compartment for stashing a magazine, and recalls the simplicity of Japanese furniture. loicbard.com

2 RELAXED TO THE MAX

The Lollygagger from **Hauser** is a take on the classic Muskoka chair, made of recycled high-density polyethylene, a non-porous material that repels dirt. Available in red, orange, green or blue. hauserstores.com

3 SMOKING HOT

Napoleon's Galaxy See Thru fireplace is ideal for the outdoors. Constructed from weather-resistant stainless steel, the GSS48ST features glass wind deflectors that keep the flame lit during blustery conditions. napoleonfireplaces.com

4 BATHING BEAUTY

The minimalist los tub from **Victoria+Albert** is made of patented Englishcast, a volcanic limestone and resin composite that gives it insulating properties, an easy-to-clean surface and tougher strength than acrylic. vandabaths.com

5 VINTAGE MOD

Diesel Social Kitchen, by **Scavolini**, showed off the fashion and furniture design label's love for the distressed look, mixing such worn-in materials as knotted oak with modern elements, including a bright yellow cart and green cabinetry. dekla.ca

6 TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

Toronto's **MSDS Studio** paid sweet homage to the influential Continuous Monument made by Superstudio in 1969, devising a similar room of mirrors, with Diesel for Foscarini lights suspended from the ceiling. msds-studio.ca

7 SALT OF THE EARTH

Erthcoverings' line of tactile 3-D natural stone veneers are both affordable and beautiful. With seven finishes, they can be used around fireplaces, on feature walls and for kitchen backsplashes. erthcoverings.com

8 READY TO MINGLE

Gamma Due's Mix and Match was on view at the **Ceragres** booth. The porcelain tiles come in four bold or neutral monochromatic palettes that afford endless chevron pattern options. ceragres.ca

9 SMOOTH OPERATOR

Markus Miele and Reinhard Zinkann were on hand for the North American launch of **Miele's** Generation 6000 appliance series, which takes refinement to a new level with such details as ergonomic hardware. miele.ca

10 LOUNGE LOVER

Andrew Richard Designs' Harrison line of outdoor seating exemplifies modern comfort at its best, with stainless steel structural components, and upholstery in Solartex and Sunbrella fabrics. andrewricharddesigns.com

11 ISLAND LIVING

Caesarstone invited Raw-Edges to create stand-alone domestic environments using quartz composite. The London studio delivered with a brilliantly realized series, Islands, that included a kitchen (shown), and a dining table that doubled as a Ping-Pong table. caesarstone.ca

12 GOING DUTCH

The Rem faucet (named for Rem Koolhaas) is part of **American Standard's** new DXV collection, and it appears to be cut from a single block of stainless steel. Also available in polished chrome or brushed nickel. dxv.com