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Kitchen & Bath Business

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THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF KBIS

**Kitchen and Bath Trends from Milan
The Smart Kitchen Uprising
Family Needs Inspire Renovations & Additions**

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European Style: A Forecast for the Kitchen and Bath

An in-depth look at the trends and products at Milan's Salone del Mobile

THIS YEAR SAW THE RETURN OF MILAN DESIGN WEEK AND SALONE DEL MOBILE – the annual international contemporary furniture fair – and *KBB* traveled to Milan's fairgrounds in April for new ideas and an eye out for trends. The fair, which includes the biennial kitchen show, EuroCucina, and international bath show, Salone Internazionale del Bagno, brought 372,151 visitors from more than 160 countries to a massive fairground brimming with energy and innovation.

With more than 24 huge halls to peruse, we focused on the kitchen, bath and technology in the kitchen areas. While contemporary design and a focus on functionality are always a theme

across the two halls, new and creative shapes were another overall trend. **Laufen (1)** partnered with designer Toan Nguyen for Ino, a unique washbasin that appears carved out of the countertop. **Caleido (2)** also introduced a vertical radiator, Cut Vertical, which features open slits in the material to resemble paper, and **Smeg (3)** went creative with its unique gas hobs with laminar burners, including one resembling birds.

“This show has a lot of companies rethinking materials,” said designer Drew McGukin, of New York City-based Drew McGukin Interiors, who was working with Cosentino at the show. “They are considering how to get more out of materials and improving the functionality, while also playing with interesting shapes and ergonomics. Everything, as you might expect, is very contemporary.”

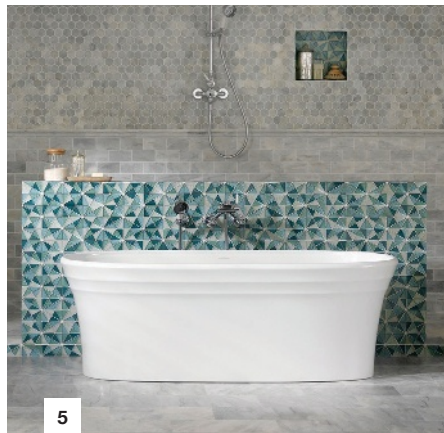
RETHINKING THE BATH

The bath displays at Salone Internazionale del Bagno catered to European customers with space-saving innovations – like the less-is-more-inspired Cut washbasin from **Valdama (4)** – and even more often to grander spaces with spa-inspired baths. A few surprising trends stood out across the board: matte finishes are growing in popularity, with companies like **Victoria + Albert (5)** introducing tubs like the Warndon bath with a matte finish on the exterior and a glossy finish on the interior. This allows for a matte look but an

BY ERINN WALDO



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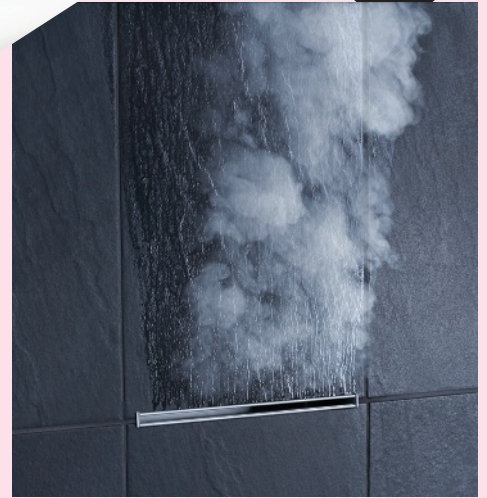


What's Hot

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What's Hot in Shower Fixtures

1. From **AMERICAN STANDARD**, the Fluent bath and shower trim kit includes an oversized showerhead for a more luxurious spray and a longer tub spout for convenient functionality when bathing.

2. As the latest member of **CALIFORNIA FAUCETS'** family of showerheads and hand showers, StyleFlow Air features a patented device that infuses shower water with air to create fuller droplets without increasing water consumption.

3. The Linear SteamHead from **MRSTEAM** is set flush to the wall and is contained almost entirely within it. Its thin, horizontal contour creates a reverse waterfall of steam that flows upward, dissipating in the shower in an even, gentle pace.

4. **FANTINI's** Acquadolce is a collection of multi-functional showerheads designed by Franco Sargiani featuring rain, waterfall and mist functions on the same panel or on two different panels.

5. **NEWPORT BRASS** introduces the Luxtherm 1/2-in. thermostatic mixing valves that incorporate an integrated volume control and multi-port diverter. These solid brass shower trim sets are available in all of the company's collections and finishes.

6. Designed as a traditional showerhead or a handheld shower, the Swivel Shower Arm with Integral Wall Elbow from **ISENBERG** has a wide range of motion for ease of use and a minimalistic design for a clean look.

7. **GRAFF's** M-Series is a concealed modular system and includes a thermostatic module valve, two diverter valves and a stop/volume valve. The installer has the option to arrange diverters and stop/volume valves in different combinations for a variety of applications.



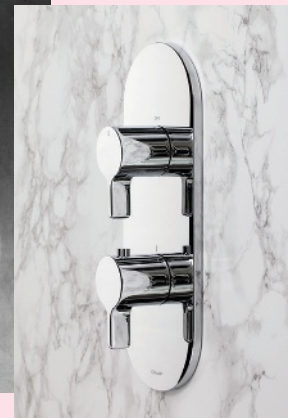
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What's Cool



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What's Cool... Everywhere Else



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1. Contourz, a new collection of three-dimensional concrete tiles from **Lunada Bay Tile**, measures just eight millimeters thick to allow the concrete tiles to be used in combination with other tile collections for a mixed-media effect. 2. **Franz Viegner's** Revere Wood Faucet features such details as a curved spout suspended at a right angle from the fluted faucet body. The wooden lever handles are made of iron wood and are set on top of sculpted escutcheons polished to a fine sheen. The faucet is available in eight corrosion- and tarnish-resistant finishes. 3. The Designer Series system from **Revel Custom Wine Cellars** is composed of independently rotating plates integrated onto a sturdy steel tower that securely holds wine bottles of varying sizes and shapes. 4. **ICERA** introduces the iWash-S-10 Bidet Seat designed to convert an existing toilet into a bidet and boasts a heated seat with adjustable water temperature, a warm air dryer and an LED nightlight. 5. Finished in stainless steel, **Ruvati's** Maestro Pull-Out Spray Faucet features a splash-free aerated stream and a 360-degree swivel for a minimalist look inspired by the famous Nardis Waterfall in Italy. 6. The Dressage Freestanding Tub from **GRAFF** brings avant-garde artisanship and simplicity to the bathroom. Designed by Nespoli and Novara Design Studio, the piece fuses tradition and innovation by mixing the use of solid wood with the functionality of modern materials. 7. **Native Trails** has introduced Farmhouse Quartet, a one-of-a-kind kitchen sink designed with flexibility in mind. With four installation options – apron-front and undermount, bow-front or straight front – the sink is priced at \$1,775 and is available in three colors.