

# Architectural Record

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**Cultural Buildings**  
+ Products of the Year



Ring Lights (page 101) and Ribbon Bench (page 110), both from the Landscape Forms Typology Collection.

# Record Products 2021

The pandemic may have shut down operations worldwide in 2020 and 2021, but it didn't deter manufacturers from developing and launching innovative materials and products—some of which were even inspired by, or revisited for, the global health crisis. An independent jury of architects and designers reviewed some 200 introductions for Record's annual product competition and have selected the 58 on the following pages as some of the best.

Written by **Sheila Kim, Linda C. Lentz, Nigel Maynard, Rita Catinella Orrell, and Megan Mazzocco**



*OUR GOLD BADGE denotes winners with the highest jury score.*



*BLUE-RIBBON BEST reflects the Record editorial staff's picks in each category.*

## The Jury

### **Adaeze Cadet, AIA**

Having worked for 16 years in various phases of architecture, Adaeze Cadet joined the Los Angeles office of HOK as a design principal, involved on such projects as the Robertson Lane mixed-use development and EDITION hotel, both in West Hollywood. She carries a Master of Architecture degree from Prairie View A&M University.

### **Meryati Blackwell, AIA, ASID**

Meryati Blackwell is a principal and the director of interiors at Fayetteville, Arkansas-based Marlon Blackwell Architects. She has worked on a wide range of projects, most notably for the Crystal Bridges Museum and Northwest Arkansas Free Health. She holds a Bachelor of Architecture and Planning from the University of Miami.

### **Matt Ducharme**

A principal and the west coast design leader for Woods Bagot, Matt Ducharme has both a Bachelor of Science in structural engineering from the University of Wisconsin and Master of Architecture from the University of Michigan. His notable projects include 447 Collins Street in Melbourne and the MSG Sphere in Las Vegas.

### **James Cull**

Design director and associate principal at Rottet Studio in New York, James Cull specializes in luxury interiors for hospitality, residential, and retail projects, a natural fit for one who started his career at high-end interior and product design firm Yabu Pushelberg. He earned a Master of Science in Interior Design from New York's Pratt Institute.

### **Suzanne Troiano**

Suzanne Troiano is a director for the Department of Citywide Administrative Services, where she is tasked with workplace design for civic projects such as the Brooklyn district attorney's office. Previously, she was director of interior design at Ennead Architects. She earned her Associate of Applied Science from Parsons School of Design.



### Sunlit Days

Using its HybriQ technology, Silestone by Cosentino's Sunlit Days is said to be the first-ever carbon-neutral engineered stone. Composed of minerals, quartz, and 20% raw recycled materials, the collection is manufactured using 99% reused water and 100% renewable electric energy. As a result, the company is offsetting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for the line's entire life cycle. Five colors are offered.

[silestoneusa.com](http://silestoneusa.com)



**"The carbon-neutral Sunlit Days collection promotes responsible specification and has a beautiful range of 'on-trend' colors that feel youthful and modern."**

James Cull

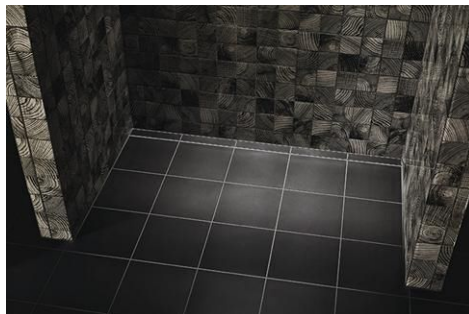


### Bowie

This tub by MTI Baths has an exterior pleated detail that references ancient Egyptian embellishments. Developed in collaboration with design firm Source, each is a blend of ground minerals and resins in a white or biscuit finish, with a choice of eight matte or gloss exterior colors.

Soaker and air-bath versions are both available.

[mtibaths.com](http://mtibaths.com)



### Stainless-Steel Shower Base

Originally launched as a custom commercial product, this Infinity Drain shower base is a rugged performer in residential projects. It comes with a pre-sloped floor, an integral linear or center drain, and a primed surface ready for tile installation. Factory-tested for leaks, the unit measures 30" x 60" and is offered in a curbed or curbless design and five finishes.

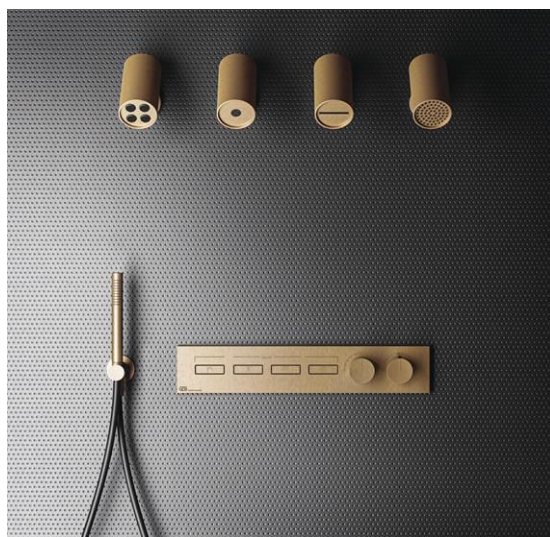
[infinitydrain.com](http://infinitydrain.com)



### Professional Drop-In Gas Cooktops

This Thor Kitchen professional cooktop is constructed of stainless steel, with sealed burners, metal knobs with blue illumination, and porcelain-coated cast iron grates. Its one-piece spill tray allows for easy cleaning of spills, grease, and crumbs. Two widths are available: 30" and 36".

[thorkitchen.com](http://thorkitchen.com)



### Hi-Fi Thermostatic Shower Mixer Collection

Gessi's Hi-Fi replicates the look and feel of an old-school stereo system. The stainless-steel controls also offer retro tactile sensations such as turning-knob clicks, buttons with graphic icons, and knobs that have radial dials. The mixers are available in three configurations and a wide range of finishes.

[gessi.com](http://gessi.com)