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Dialogue with a Designer:
Karen Black

New Luxury Products Emerge From The Dpha Show!

Exciting Trends From The 21st Conference + Product Showcase In New Orleans

New Orleans was a fitting backdrop for the 21st annual Decorative Plumbing & Hardware Association conference. Held October 27-30, the event was hosted in the historic French Quarter, with nearby Bourbon Street providing networking opportunities to view and experience emerging trends in product design. We are delighted to share highlights of some product launches

that caught our attention, as well as a few of our favorite award winners. The 2022 conference reflected the premise that every object in a home should have a story and mirror one's individual style, these new products provide ample opportunity to make personal style statements in the kitchen and bath.



Gessi's Venti20

Product of the Year – Water Delivery

Gessi partnered with renowned Spanish designer Lázaro Rosa Violán to create the eclectic Venti20 collection of bath hardware. With elegant detailing and simple lines, the award-winning series brings the infectious spirit and joy of the Roaring 20s into modern times. Venti20 has a definite industrial vibe – notice the detailed handles, fluted bodies and reflective cuts – and adds interest with soft curves and inviting textures. Each piece is carefully considered and balanced to look beautiful from every angle. Gessi has expanded the collection to include all manner of mixers for basins, baths and showers, as well as freestanding tubs, washbasin and bidets, and even towel rails and soap holders. Venti20 designs are offered in an amazing selection of fine finishes, from traditional favorites like aged bronze and antique brass to modern options such as chrome and brushed black metal.

Product of the Year – Bathroom Fixture

Claybrook Interiors caught the judges' attention with their colorful rainbow of MarbleForm wall hung basins. Six new



Claybrook Interiors' MarbleForm basins

color options -- including Forest Green, Brick, Midnight Blue, Leather, Nude and Olive Green – are joined by four new basin styles to really ramp up the number of design possibilities. Wall-hung basins are increasingly popular for their space-saving benefits and chic modern style. MarbleForm is a sustainable up-cycled product produced from reclaimed marble dust left over from the production of mosaic tiles. Using patented technology, the dust bits are combined with high-performance resins and color pigments to create a non-porous finished product that is extremely durable, stain resistant, heat retentive and easy to maintain.

Honorable Mention – Bathroom Fixture

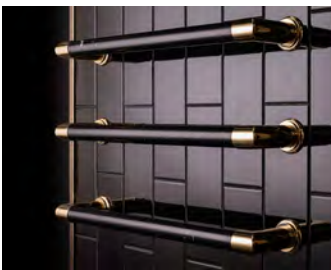
The unique pleated design of the Bowie pedestal sink by MTI Baths received special notice at the show. The intricate detailing was developed in collaboration with Source, a leading design firm based in Atlanta. It's a great way to add texture and a bit of unexpected style to the bathroom. The sink is crafted from MTI's SculptureStone material, a mostly organic mixture of ground natural minerals and high-performance resins that give the look and feel of real stone. The sink is available in a soft matte finish or a hand-polished deep gloss with eight different exterior color



The Bowie Pedestal Sink from MTI Baths



HamatUSA's Fireclay sink



Sterlingham Company Ltd.'s Cascade Marble towel warmers

options. MTI also offers a coordinating Bowie tub to create a beautifully cohesive finished space.

It was great to see many of our favorite kitchen and bath brands at the DPHA conference. HamatUSA was there with their fabulous fireclay sinks. Each sink is made by hand at their Israeli facility using a proprietary blend of fireclay and advanced injection molding. The sinks are fired in a kiln for more than 20 hours at 2200° to form a glossy finish that is remarkably durable. In addition to their fireclay collection, HamatUSA manufactures sinks from stainless steel, porcelain enameled steel, granite composite and hand-hammered copper, as well as complimentary lines of traditional and contemporary faucets.

We also spotted The Sterlingham Company Ltd with their beautiful display of brass towel warmers. Made in Britain using time-honored techniques, these warmers are a luxurious yet practical addition to the bathroom. They gently warm towels using floor- or wall-mounted warmers in both classic and contemporary designs. We

particularly love their cascade collection which stacks horizontal rails along the wall in custom configurations. They also offer robe warmers and washstands, all made by hand with the greatest care and attention to detail.

The 2022 DPHA trade show was a great venue to discover new products and trends. To find out more about the hardware and fixture products mentioned here, visit their websites:

- www.gessi.com • www.claybrookinteriors.com
- www.mtibaths.com • www.hamatusa.com
- www.sterlingham.co.uk



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