

september 2008

mix  
INTERIORS





58

120

## 40 scouse and home

George Bailey visits the European Capital of Culture – Liverpool, of course – to view the new home of law firm Hill Dickinson.

## 46 withnell and i

We stay in the north of England to meet up with the dynamic first lady of Nethercoats, Jacqui Withnell.

## 52 medicine show

Across the water and into Ireland we go to visit the incredible new technologically advanced home of pharmaceutical company Wyeth.

## 58 bitte sweet symphony

We bring you a full 12-page preview of Cologne's forthcoming Orgatec fair; complete with new products, quotes and an exclusive or two.

## 80 king of the castle

Continuing our tour of the UK and Ireland, we head to Cardiff to see the amazing new facilities of leading care home D&B firm Castleoak.

## 92 earls aloud

September means showtime, and we bring you a comprehensive preview of leading contemporary show 100% Design.

## 102 when saturday comes

Now here's a genuine exclusive for you. We sit and discuss the forthcoming Designers Saturday with, wait for it, all 11 collaborators at once.

## 114 reading festival

Heading into Birmingham we hear the remarkable story behind the remarkable facility that is Handsworth Community Library.

## 120 coming of age

Completing our event preview special, we take a look at what Kortrijk's Interieur might well conjure up for its 21st birthday.

Did you get into the Beijing Olympics? I didn't so much get into them as I did develop a full-on Olympic addiction.

I cannot recall enjoying a major sports event more. This was sporting greatness and drama, coupled with amazing production and organisation, all situated within a number of breathtaking arenas and venues.

Now, leaving politics aside, who can, in hindsight, begrudge the Chinese the congratulations they so richly deserve – even if the judging was more than a little suspect in a number of events (namely when Chinese athletes were involved!).

Enough of that though. This was mouth-open, can't take your eyes off the TV brilliance.

So, is anyone a little nervous about London 2012? I know I am. I genuinely fear we're going to be left with not a Bird's Nest, but Bird Muck! How can we compete with the scale of the opening and closing ceremonies in Beijing? The Chinese even turned over our two trump cards by wheeling out a London Bus and David Beckham at the closing ceremony.

Let's just hope and pray Michael Phelps and Usain Bolt are fit! ●

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**under the cover:**  
Divo from Occhio - just one of the stunning designs on show at next month's Interieur (preview p120).



# coming of age



Rolf Benz

There's a shed load of reasons for visiting an interiors exhibition. And, it's got to be pointed out, a few more valid reasons why some in our community may give a show a miss.

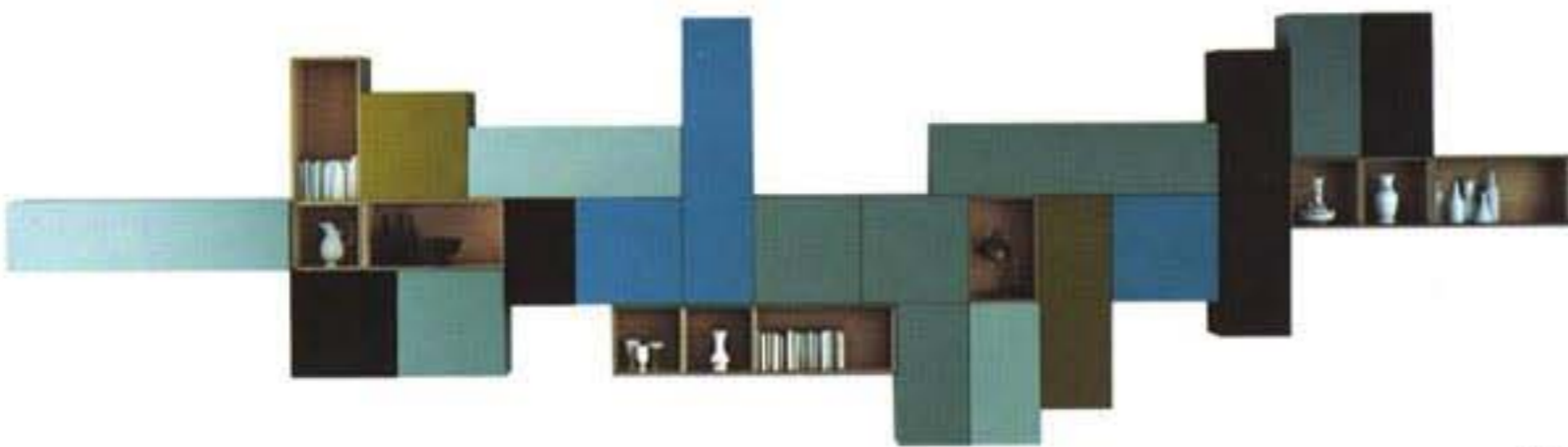
For example, you're thinking about two other exhibitions previewed elsewhere in this issue may be coloured by your very reasonable expectations about what you might encounter on your visit. Perhaps you may or may not be frothing with anticipation of Orgatec's cavernous Messe stuffed with office desks and chairs. Or you may or may not be gagging for the trek to Earls Court for 100%'s annual design love fest.

It could be, on the other hand, that you're looking for a smidge more variety, an eclectic mix, a show where the avante garde sits cheek by jowl with real world products. If we're describing you, you gorgeous young thing, >>>>>>





3Form



Porro



Safretti



Porcelainwood

▶▶▶ there are some stand-out pieces too: Feek's Diamond Pouf is bound to cause a ripple, though their Split chair designed by up and coming young tyro Karim Rashid is particularly interesting for its colour customisation concept. The ever reliable German manufacturers Walter Knoll and Rolf Benz are both offering stylish lounge pieces, with the latter's 546 sofa especially notable. While in Kortrijk you'll pinch yourself a bit too hard on the upper arm and think you're in Milano. Why? You can also wallow in stuff by glorious people like spHaus, Montis and Arper, that's why.

Anyway, enough furniture. Interieur's pretty splendid when it comes to lighting too. Particularly virtuous in our eyes is Axelveislicht's slick Occhio modular lighting system with its interesting range, while Davide Groppi of Piacenza will be bringing their arresting portfolio to Kortrijk. TossB, the interestingly named collection from Belgian specialists Hilite, incorporates some fluid detailing; and we also like the vaguely retro Sous la Lampe from pianist and designer Franck Heymans▶▶▶▶▶



Land Porcelanico



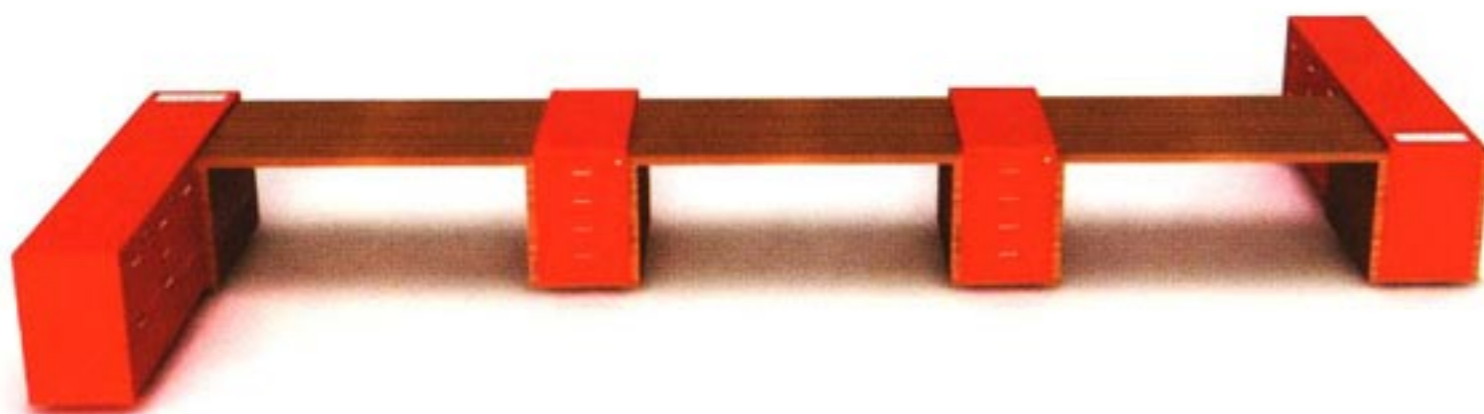
Occhio

Changing tack completely, it's interesting to note the number of heating and fireplace designs that Interieur has to offer this year. Tulp's eclectic choice of interior and exterior solutions includes the very wonderful Barrel, while Safretti's selection oozes minimalist cool. That's if it's alright to say that fireplaces may be cool. Or ooze for that matter. Vasco's stand will highlight their stylish Bryce radiators, named after the unique rock formations of Utah's Bryce Canyon. Bryce's vertical aluminium profiles are allied to closed volume to conceal connection points resulting in a visually appealing light aesthetic. Look out too for Vasco's Zen, a similarly sleek design to warm your cockles. Bringing up the green rear in our heating round-up is EcoSmart Fire – an environmentally friendly open fireplace. An Australian innovation, the flueless products are fuelled by Methylated spirit and require no connection to gas or electricity.

Any design show worth its salt has to offer interesting ideas in materials and



Porro



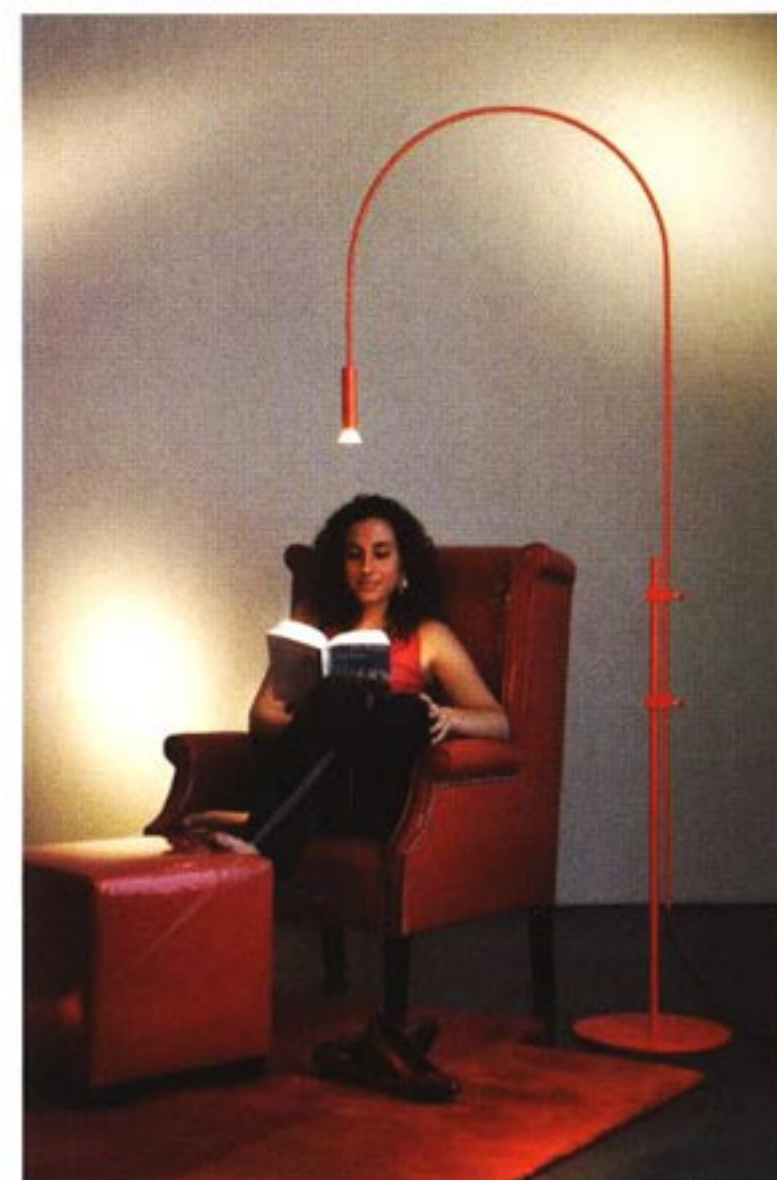
Juventa



Walter Knoll



NCS Colour Scan



Heymans

surfaces. 3Form (also on show at 100% Design, incidentally) design and manufacture translucent decorative products for you A&D types. Countless applications from ceilings to bar tops and the ability to mould complex shapes will whet the appetite. Land Porcelanico, with Pietra Serena, and Iris Ceramica, showing Porcelainwood, are just two of the hard surfaces firms with loads to shout about, while leading floorcoverings specialists Bolon and Forbo are also to be found strutting their stuff.

With about 300 exhibitors from all over the globe, Interieur blends a degree of critical mass with breadth of variety to cook up something of real interest to the specifier. Neither a boutique specialist show nor a mega-fair but with the benefits of both, Interieur is a visitor friendly expo. Now in its 21st edition, the show has enough clout to parade Jaime Hayon as this year's star turn, together with some interesting seminars and themes. Go! ●