

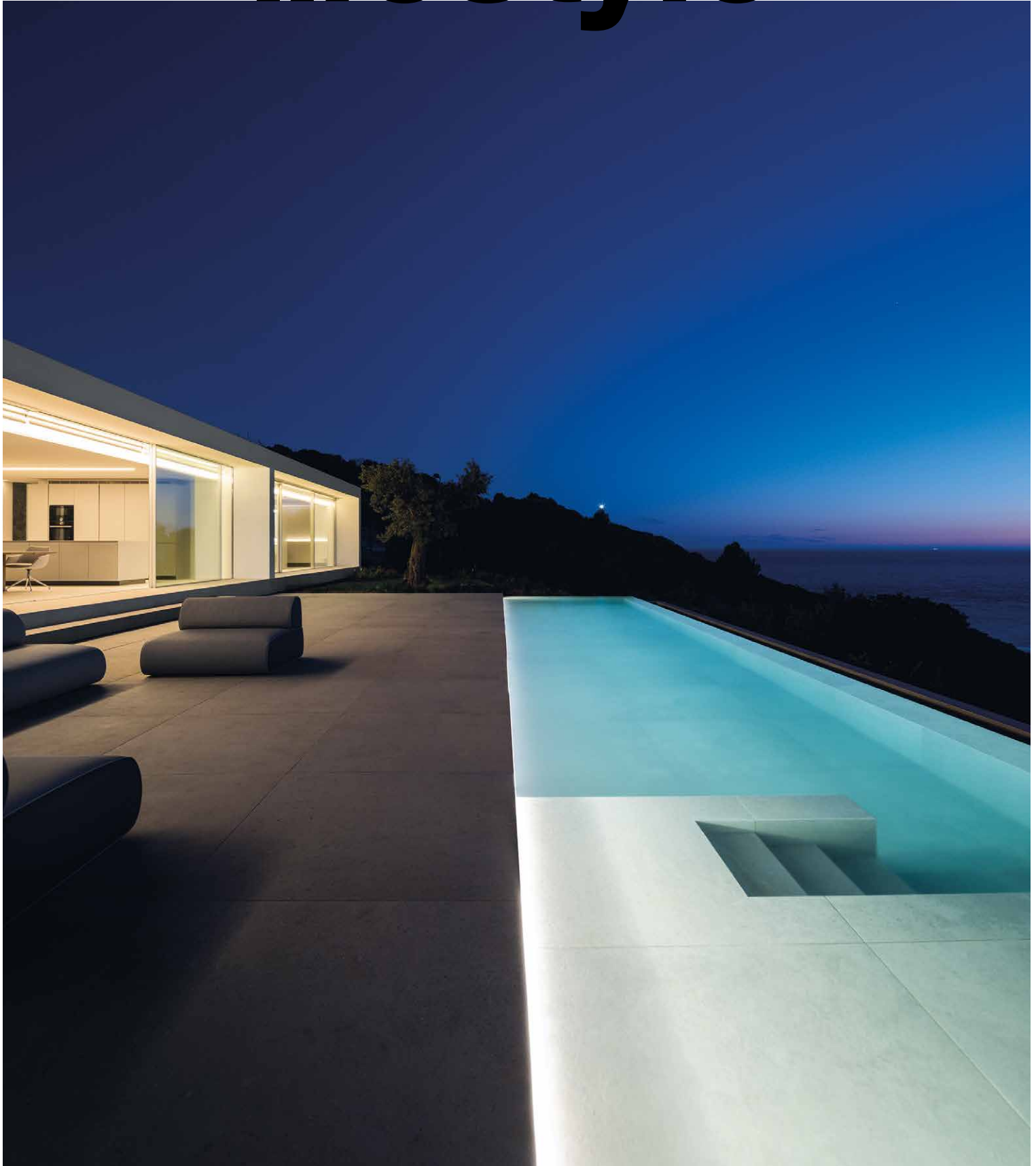


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LAFINCA GRAND CAFÉ Icon of leisure and cuisine in Madrid / The companies of the **PORCELANOSA Group** meet up at **CERSAIE HOUSES WITH STYLE** in Madrid, Valencia and Andalusia / **GONZALO MARDONES** The architectural perspective **XLIGHT, CUTTING-EDGE INTERIOR DESIGN** in Mexico, Italy and Spain / **SAÏD HEJAL** The challenge of building the cities of the future **THE KITCHEN** Emotional heart of the home / **NEW YORK** Prime locations from which to enjoy the Big Apple

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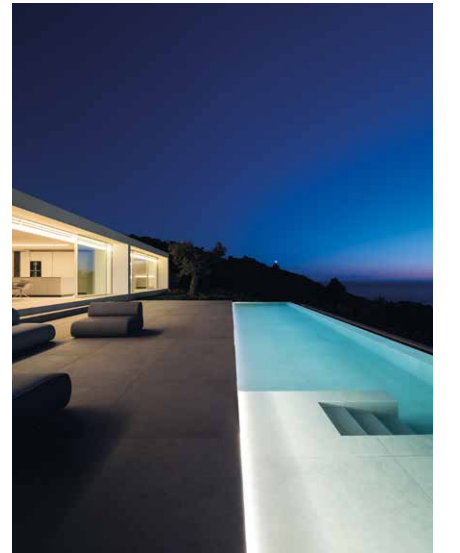
editorial

Everything that defines us

The creative force and sensitivity of interior designers; the new perspectives of architects looking to create buildings that combine beauty, safety and environmental sustainability; the solid honesty of property developers who seek, and find, ways to build the future.

The PORCELANOSA Group has the honour and privilege of working with outstanding professionals, all those who trust our companies and know that we will be their allies to face the challenges that are part of the day-to-day life of this fascinating sector, always influenced by the constant evolution of our environments. The future brings ideas and requirements; and we are working in it, developing materials and technological solutions. We are talking about new, large porcelain tiles of great beauty, bathrooms that achieve aesthetic perfection together with water savings, smart kitchens that also bring personality and comfort to the environment, interior and exterior floor and wall finishes which feature the durability, safety and design that define us.

Our work is nourished by our team's passion and talent. Our success is based on our clients' trust. Our future is the sum of these two.



On the cover: an architecture of cubic forms rises in a natural environment overlooking the Atlantic across an external terrace with an infinity pool. Large-format porcelain tiles by Porcelanosa uniformly dress interiors and exteriors with the grey essence of cement.

Photo: Fernando Guerra.

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At the forefront of industrialised construction

In collaboration with the studio AIC EQUIP, directed by architect Gabriel Doménech, and FJ Jiménez Arquitectura, **Butech** has played a key role in the development of a modular façade system for the new Hospital Clínic Universitari in Valencia. This system not only improves the construction process but considerably accelerates it. A key feature of the building is the large modular façade of more than 10,000 m², coated with **XLIGHT** ceramic. The modules are produced on the Modfacades production line in **Porcelanosa Offsite**, one of the most advanced facilities, in terms of automation, for the manufacture of modular façade systems. This plant not only marks a significant advance in industrialised construction, but also meets the most demanding standards of quality, technology and sustainability.



Photo: Solid Fabrications.

Sculpture between levels

In these Belfast offices, the company Solid Fabrications has designed sculptural stairs on four levels. The external and internal balustrade has been covered with **Krion® Solid Surface**, in an elegant polished finish **6901 Black Metal**. Its curvilinear shapes and black colour, in contrast to the dominant white, give it great visual strength and a leading role at the heart of the central atrium.



3D model of the Hospital Clínic Universitari in Valencia.

W Macau, art deco style with a contemporary twist

The Zaha Hadid Architects studio has presented the new W Macau, one of the two hotels that will open its doors in 2024 in the Studio City complex in Macau. The new hotel, with 557 rooms and suites spread over 40 floors, boasts a contemporary aesthetic. With pronounced angles and geometric details inspired by art deco, the façade features three different shades of glass and perforated bronze details which together give the building's towers an elegant dynamism. Furthermore, the orientation and configuration of these elliptical towers have been calculated to facilitate natural ventilation in and around the complex.

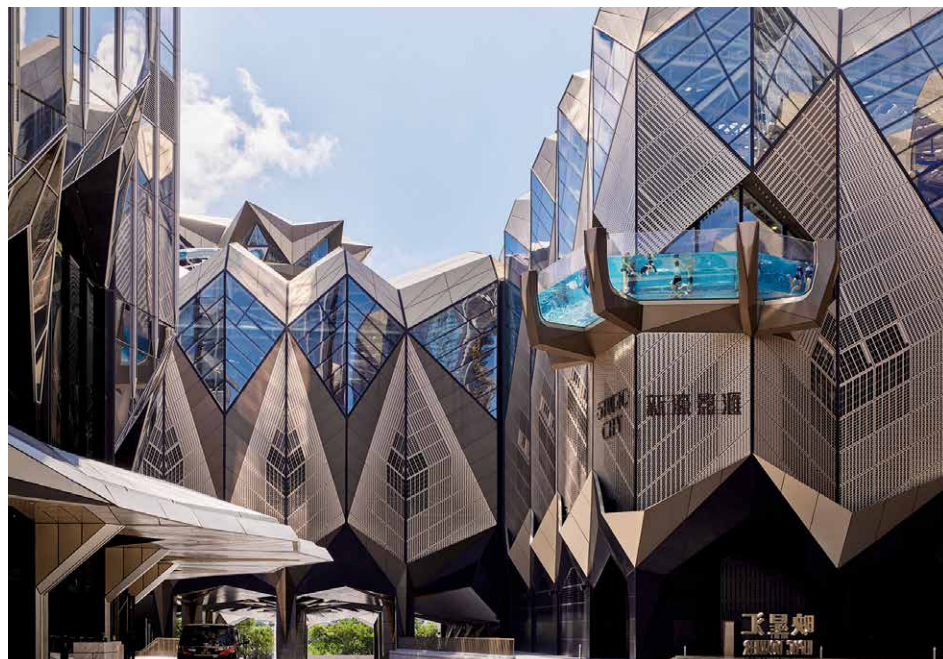


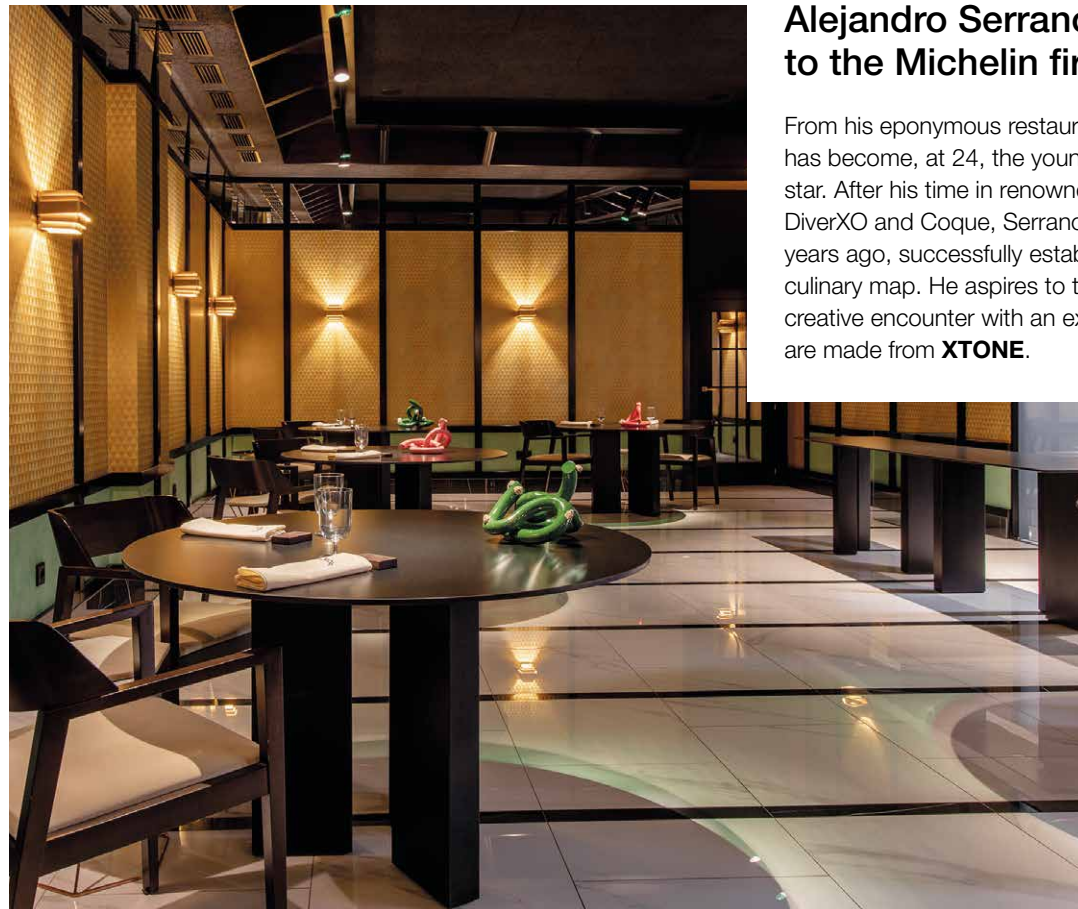
Photo: Virgile Simon Bertrand.



Joséphine

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PARIS

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147 New Bond Street, London
Calle de José Ortega y Gasset 13, Madrid



Alejandro Serrano, from Miranda de Ebro to the Michelin firmament

From his eponymous restaurant in Miranda de Ebro, Alejandro Serrano has become, at 24, the youngest Spanish chef to obtain a Michelin star. After his time in renowned three-star kitchens such as Azurmendi, DiverXO and Coque, Serrano embarked on his own adventure three years ago, successfully establishing his premises in Burgos on the culinary map. He aspires to turn it into a point of both culinary and creative encounter with an exclusive interior design in which the tables are made from **XTONE**.

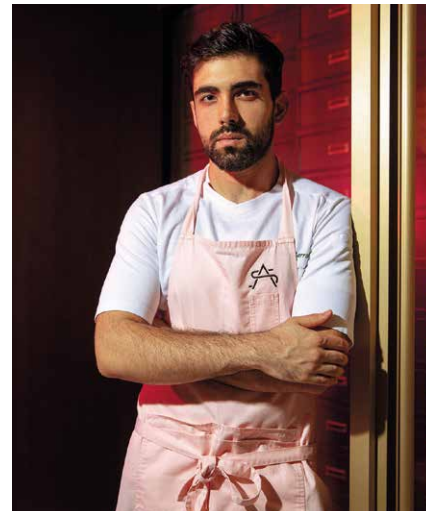


Photo: Felipe Ribon.

Mathieu Lehanneur, designer of the Paris 2024 torch

The designer Mathieu Lehanneur was the creator of the torch which will be carried by 11,000 people (10,000 associated with the Olympic Games and 1,000 with the Paralympic Games) during the two relays that carry the flame which lights the Olympic cauldron at the opening ceremony of Paris 2024. Along with its original champagne colour and its effect of lightness, the shapes of the piece are inspired by the three symbols of the next Games: equality, water and conciliation.



A Gothic tower for an avant-garde triplex

The architect Christophe Benichou has designed this refurbishment in a privileged location in the historic centre of Toulouse. The conversion of the top floors of Pierre Séguy's Gothic tower into triplex rental homes was carried out following a restrained and contemporary design, which included **Krion**® Solid Surface to increase originality and add warmth to the space. Here, the exposed brick and the panoramic views of the city combine with functional, versatile and high-quality fixtures and fittings.



Photo: Tanguy Chausson.

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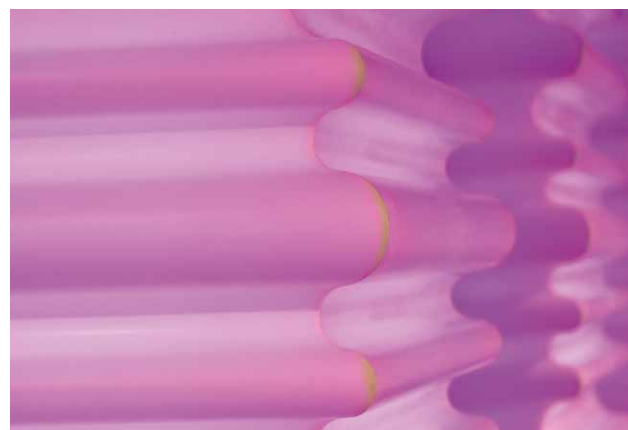


A fusion of light, colour and volumes at the Van der Valk Hotel Schiphol

Located about 10 minutes by car from Schiphol, Amsterdam's international airport, the striking Van der Valk Schiphol hotel features a spectacular entrance with full-length glass windows framed by an undulating backlit structure of **Krion**®. Its high mineral composition means it is resistant, easy to maintain, has thermoforming capacity and is translucent - allowing this play with lights. The studio P.A.M. Teunissen Architectenburo, responsible for the hotel refurbishment project, has ensured that colour and the perception of volumes play starring roles at the entrance to this modern establishment.



The changing lights on the façade are made possible by backlit plates of **Krion**® 4102 Extreme Light Solid Surface.



Photos: Marjon Friehart.



The E-Bike 1: MINI goes out on two wheels

MINI, in collaboration with the French brand Angell Mobility, has launched its first range of urban electric bicycles. With a limited edition of 1,959 units, the new E-Bike 1, powered by a 250 W motor, features an aluminium frame and wheels, steel spokes, an injected thermoplastic chain guard and interchangeable batteries, among other elements. There are also options which can be personalised to suit each customer's individual preferences.

Design a fragrance that evokes a kiss

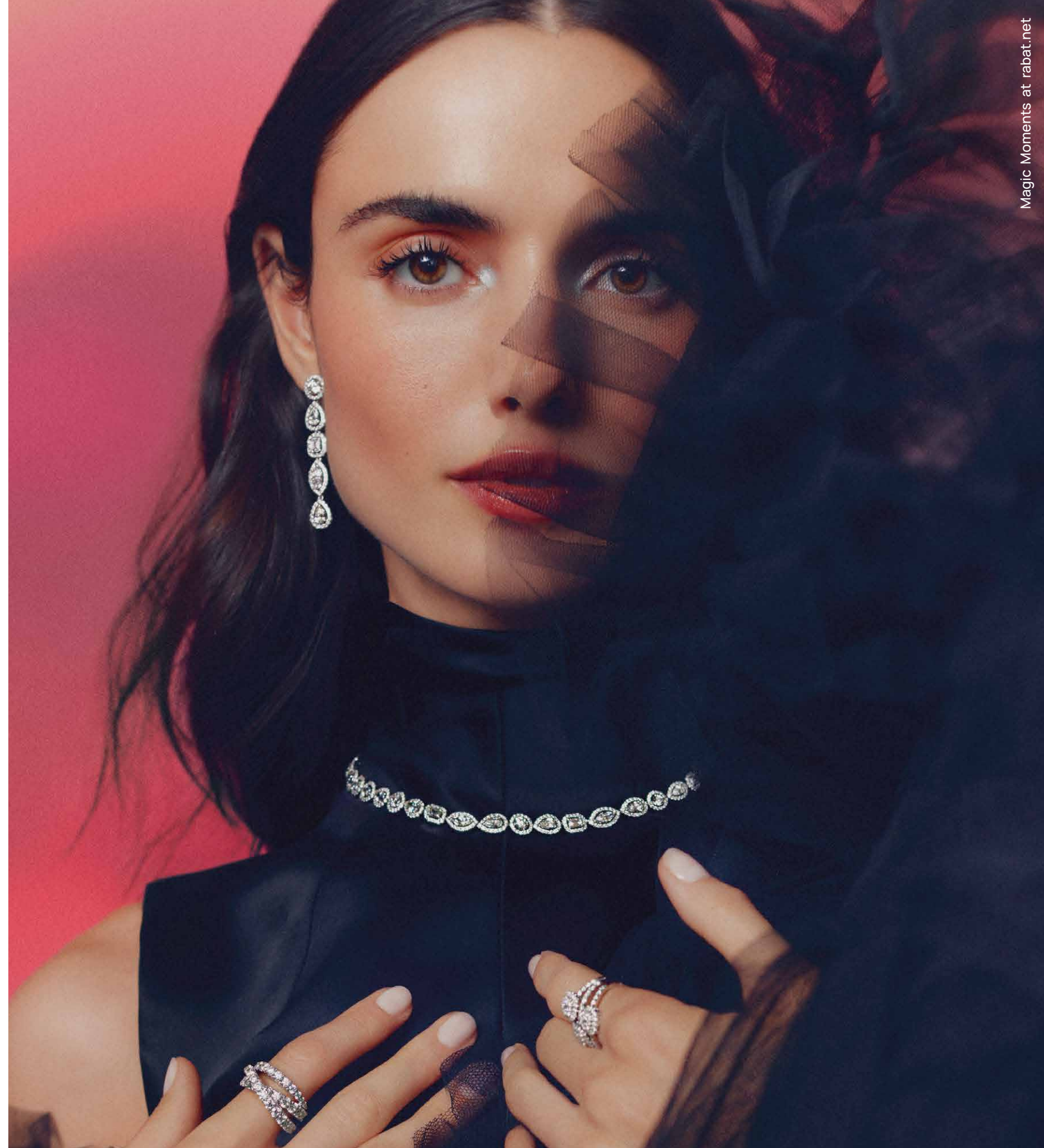
Beso Beach Ibiza and Beso Beach Formentera are not satisfied with being the most *in* destinations of the summer; they're also putting their stamp on the vibrant perfume industry with some *must haves* including Beso Dorado, Beso Negro and Beso Pasi3n. All created by leading international perfumers. Their latest fragrance is Beso de Luna, a tribute to the most sensual celestial body in our universe. In the words of its creator, Carlos Benaim, "I wished



to create a contrasted perfume blending the fresh sparkling signature of magnolia with the warm tones of cashmeran and amber woods. A fragrance as radiant and enveloping as the moonlight."



Carlos Benaim is the greatest living perfumer in the United States. He is the creator of the legendary Polo Ralph Lauren perfume as well as many other acclaimed classics.



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High Jewellery

Felipe VI visits the Porcelanosa facilities

To mark the company's 50th anniversary, the king unveiled a commemorative plaque alongside the company's founders

Héctor Colonques Moreno, founder and current president of the **PORCELANOSA Group**, was responsible for welcoming His Majesty. Members of the board of directors were present during the visit, including the vice president, Silvestre Segarra, and CEO, María José Soriano. In an intimate and informal event, Héctor Colonques said, "Although innovation and quality are two values which are very important to us, the principles on which the company is based are trust in our team, made up of more than 5,000 people, and the attention we pay to our social environment." María José Soriano also emphasised, "The most extraordinary thing about this company is the people who, with their dedicated, professional and passionate work, every day make this the great company that we all cherish."

Before beginning a tour of the factory which produces ceramic floor and wall tiles, Felipe VI shared a brief conversation with the members of the works committee and the equality committee. Afterwards, the king visited one of Porcelanosa's four manufacturing centres: the company's first operational centre, which has an area of 135,000 m². Together with the other three factories, and thanks to the automation of the facilities and the use of the most advanced machinery, the Spanish multinational has an average daily production capacity of 75,000 m². A representation of workers from the factory explained the five stages of the production process to Felipe VI: the preparation of pastes, the shaping (pressing and drying of the ceramic pieces), the decoration (glazing and digital design), firing and, finally, the post-production, with its range of grinding, polishing, sorting, packaging and palletising processes.

His Majesty also learned about some of the environmental policies which **Porcelanosa** has implemented since its founding in 1973: the reuse of 100% of the industrial water and raw materials, the installation of solar panels to harness energy and the improvement in decarbonisation processes.

Together with Héctor and Manuel Colonques, and José Soriano's widow, Asunción Manzanet, the king unveiled a plaque commemorating his first visit to **Porcelanosa** on the occasion of the company's 50th anniversary. Members of the executive board of the **PORCELANOSA Group** presented the king with a personalised bicycle and a ceramic piece stamped with the coat of arms of the Royal House.



The vice president of the **PORCELANOSA Group**, Silvestre Segarra, accompanied His Majesty on the visit to the various facilities. A representation of workers from the factory explained the five stages of the production process to Felipe VI. Felipe VI visited the headquarters of the **PORCELANOSA Group** accompanied by Xiana Méndez, Secretary of State for Commerce. Many political figures from the regional, provincial and local levels also attended, including Carlos Mazón, president of the Generalitat Valenciana, Pilar Bernabé, delegate of the Government in the Valencian Community, Llanos Massó, president of the Valencian Parliament, Marta Barrachina, president of the Provincial Council of Castellón, and José Benlloch, mayor of Vila-real. The king also had his photograph taken with a representation of 70 workers from different areas of the company.



His Majesty Felipe VI, together with the founder and president of the **PORCELANOSA Group**, Héctor Colonques, has unveiled a plaque commemorating his first visit, marking the company's 50th anniversary. In 2020, Felipe VI presented the **PORCELANOSA Group** with the National Innovation Award in the 'Large Company' category, awarded by the Ministry of Science and Innovation in 2019.



new collection

cersaie2023



A space of more than 600 m² distributed across three unified stands has created a backdrop to display the latest products and solutions from the PORCELANOSA Group in flooring, wall coverings, fixtures and fittings for bathrooms and kitchens, and innovations in construction systems.



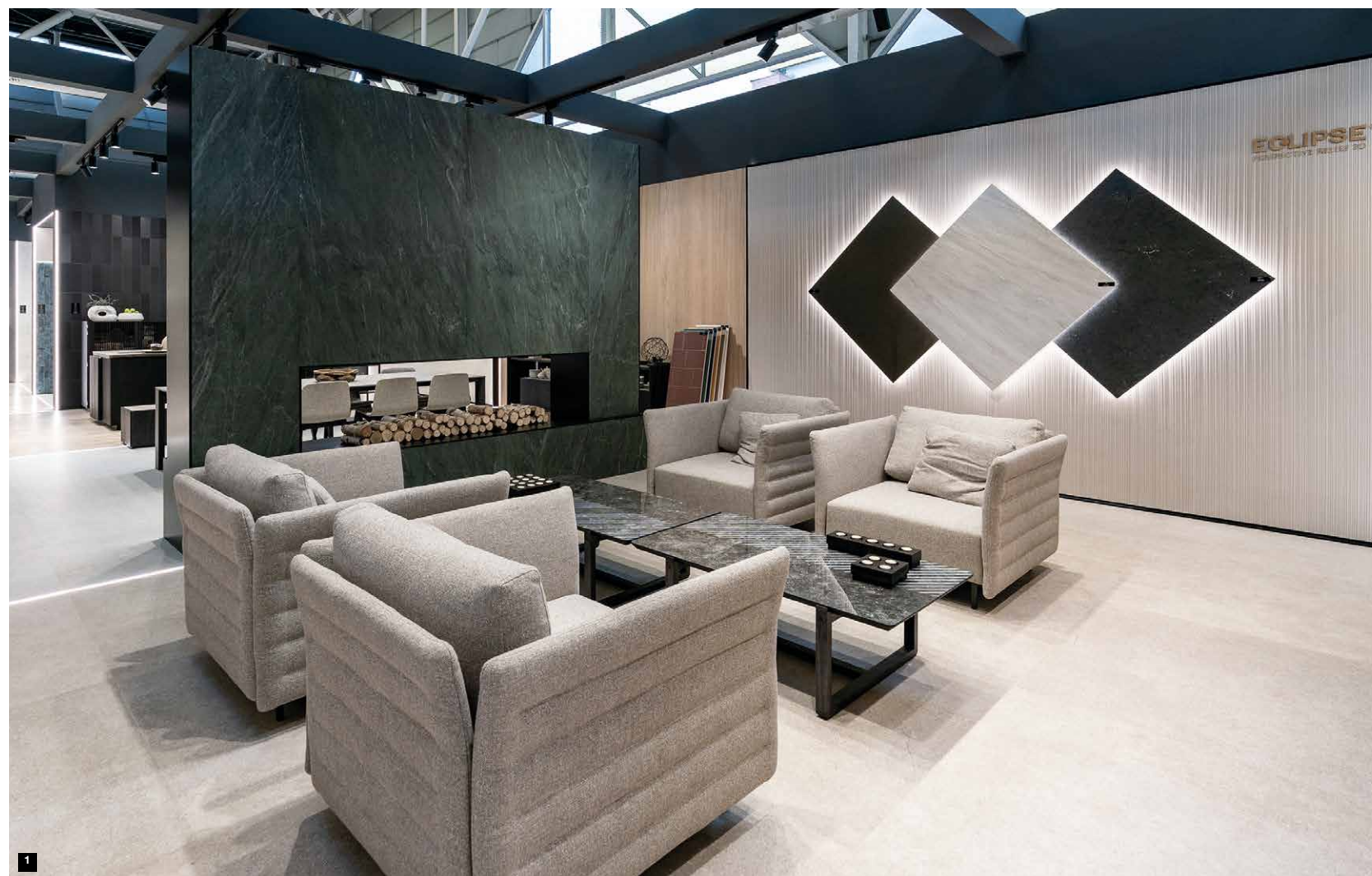
Revolutionary designs featuring great versatility and sustainability that imbue products with character, together with solutions that make a difference. With three large stands, sharing a unique design, the brands of the **PORCELANOSA Group** have once again played leading roles in the great international trade show Cersaie, the main international showcase for presenting the latest innovations and cutting-edge developments in the ceramics sector.



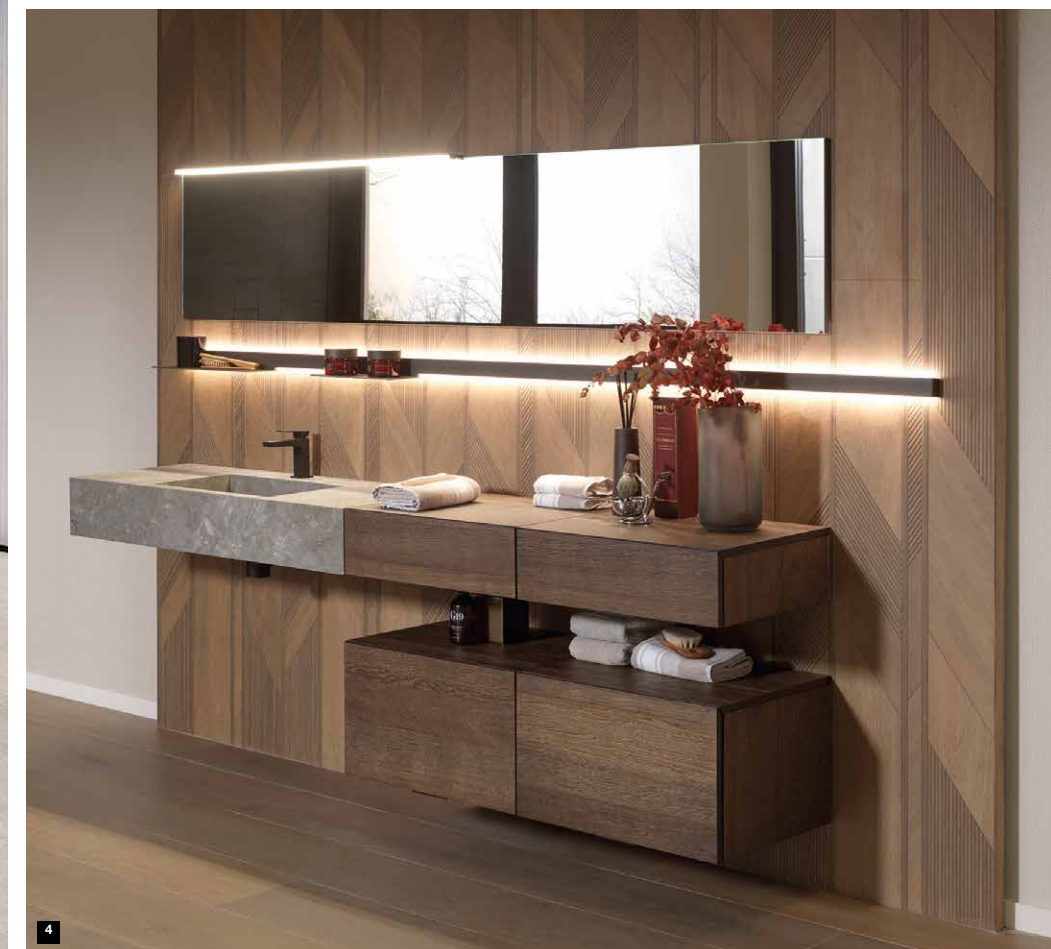
new collection
cersaie2023

In September, Bologna hosted the 40th edition of its International Ceramics Exhibition. An event at which the **PORCELANOSA Group** celebrated its half-century of history with an eye to the future. It did so through a range of innovative ideas on display in a large, unique and welcoming exhibition space. The latest products and solutions from **Porcelanosa, Gamadecor, L'Antic Colonial, Krión, Butech, Noken** and **XTONE** took the aesthetics of natural stone as a reference to create contemporary, customisable and highly functional designs.

Inspired by cement, marble and limestone, the brand new floor and wall tile offerings from **Porcelanosa** opt for a natural style, with a line focused on **XLIGHT** large-format porcelain which uses cutting-edge technology to enable beautiful effects to be created in decorative finishes for walls and floors. The Terra and Dorcia collections combine the best technical performance of ceramics with a refined aesthetic, rich in textures, and a matt finish. All this together with new collections of its large-format porcelain tiles, **XLIGHT**.



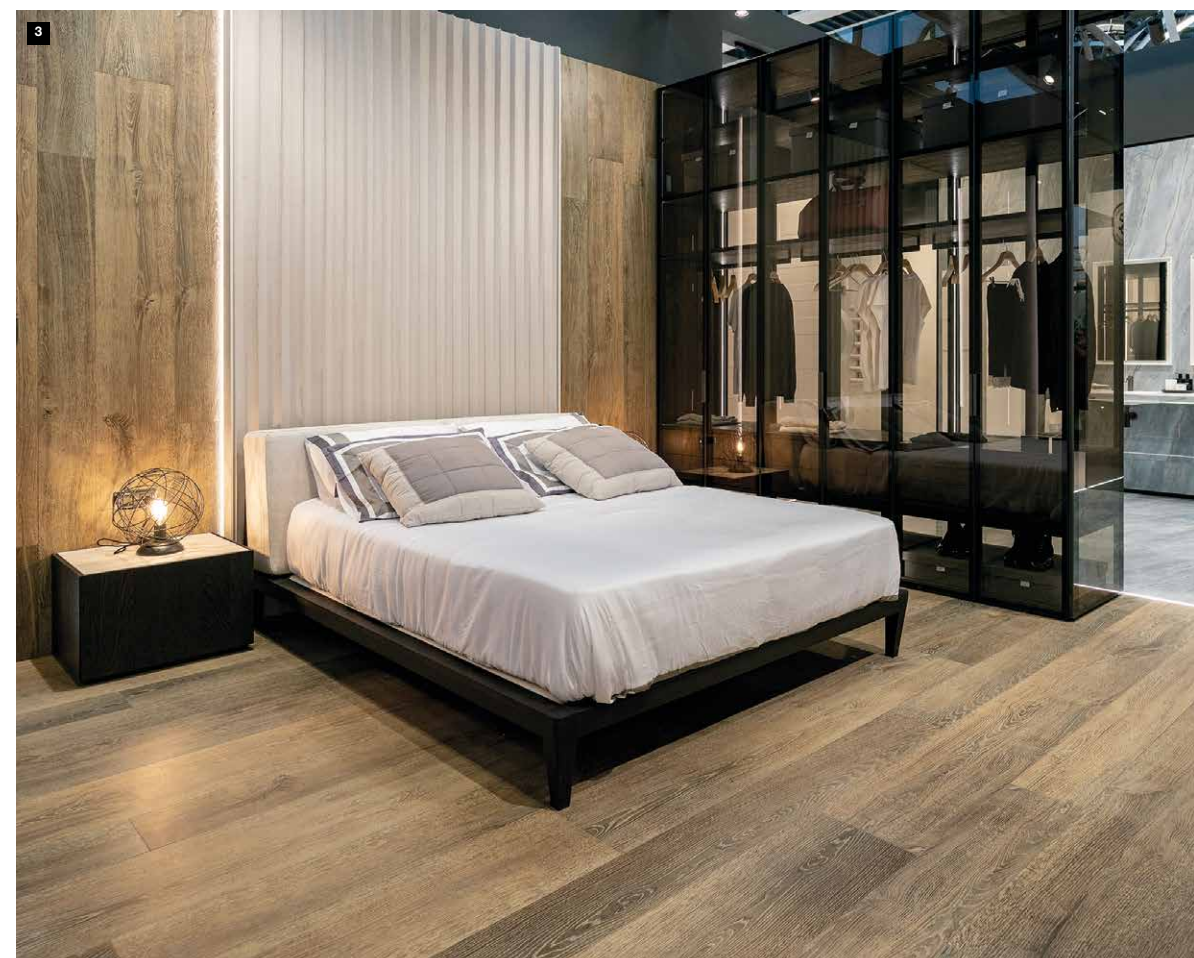
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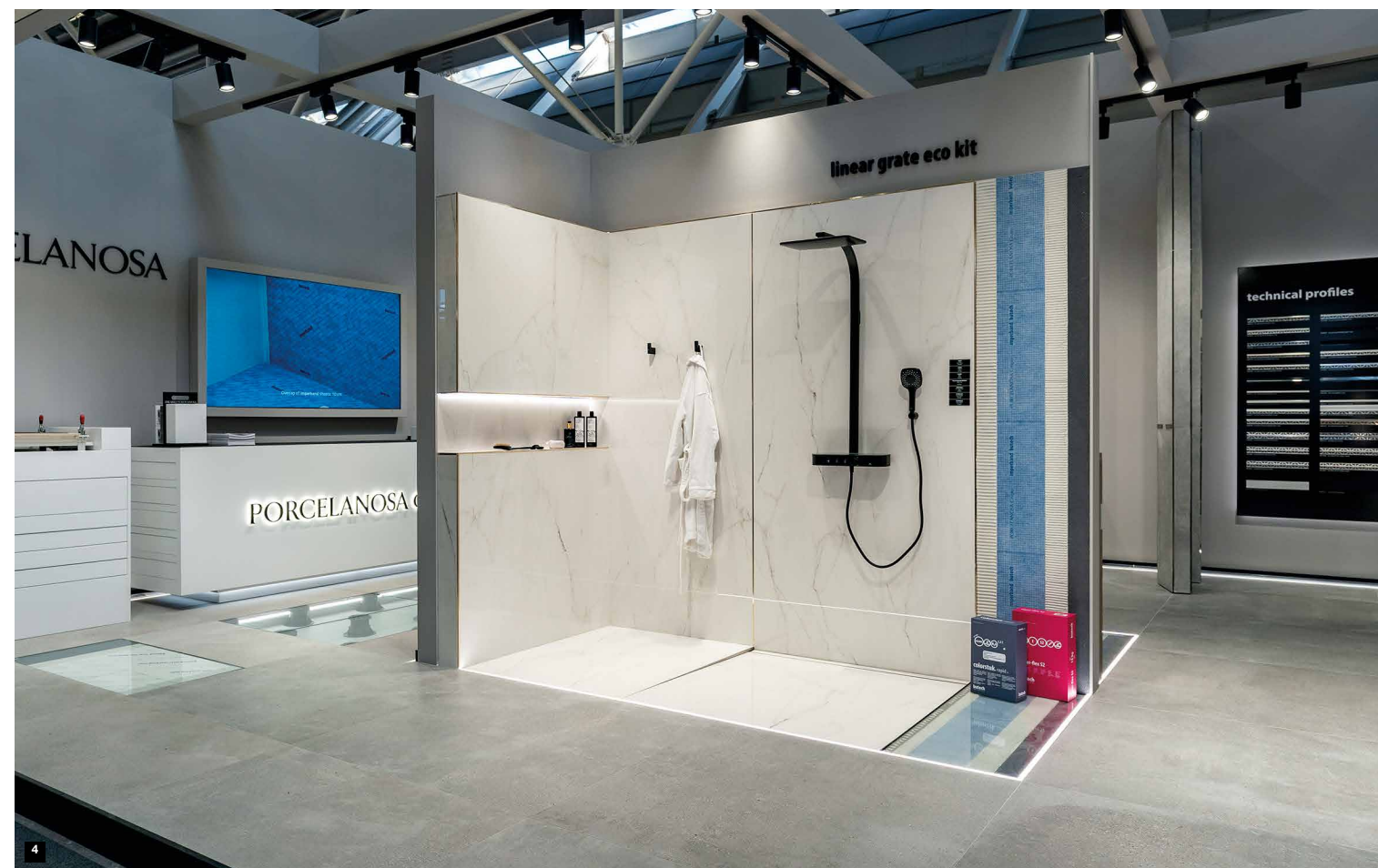


3

1. GAMADecOR is gaining ground in the home with the Stripes armchair, in Turia 11 finish, and the Roble Noche Soft and XTONE Argos Black Pulido table, which help create a cosy atmosphere.
2. PORCELANOSA and its Terra collection represent the current trend for neutral colours; textures and pronounced grains become its main characteristics. In the photo, the Smart Kitchen from the collection emotions® E7.90 Roble Noche Soft and Roble Puro.
3. GAMADecOR is also moving into the night-time areas with this design for the bedroom featuring the Roble Noche Soft finish which is used to construct the bed, bedside tables, wardrobe and chest of drawers.
4. GAMADecOR conveys elegance and modernity with the new Vertice bathroom furniture collection, which is presented in this Roble Cobre Soft finish paired with textured XTONE Pietra Silicia. The wall tiles are Arrow 3D Roble and the floor is finished in Gent Roble, both by Porcelanosa.

new collection
cersaie2023

1. L'ANTIC COLONIAL presents Mysore, the new finish for the Airslate collection, characterised by its green tones and white veins.
2. L'ANTIC COLONIAL also includes the Bruma decorative mosaic among its new products. Made of glass, it alternates concave and flat pieces to generate a 3D volume.
3. KRION presents the four new finishes for the S+Line shower screen, with profiles in copper, gold, white and titanium, made of high-quality and durable aluminium.
4. BUTECH, through its Shower Deck System, integrates the shower area by creating a continuous floor throughout the bathroom with a flat plate which drains water through the joints of the shower floor.



Gamadecor presented a design concept based on uniqueness, through kitchen and bathroom furniture which is very easy to configure and adapt to any room. Among its new products, the Vertice bathroom collection, with a minimalist style, and the Smart Kitchen from the collection emotions® E7.90 Roble Noche Soft and Roble Puro, elegant and functional. Special mention for the Stripes armchair, which enhances the warmth of the environment. **L'Antic Colonial**, for its part, showcased a cast of distinguished elements which enable spaces to be dressed with delicacy and sophistication. Notable among them are the new Mysore natural finish, which has great personality; the Bruma decorative mosaic, with a 3D effect; and the daring and innovative Nebula collection, with a rusty and worn effect.

Krion unveiled the new panel formats of the Luxury range of its Krion® Lux mineral compound, as well as a new fast-curing adhesive. The Krion® Bath line highlights functionality and aesthetics in the shower with new finishes for the S+Line shower screen and the Atrium shower tray, and the NER bathroom furniture, designed by architect Fran Silvestre together with the **Krion** product development team.

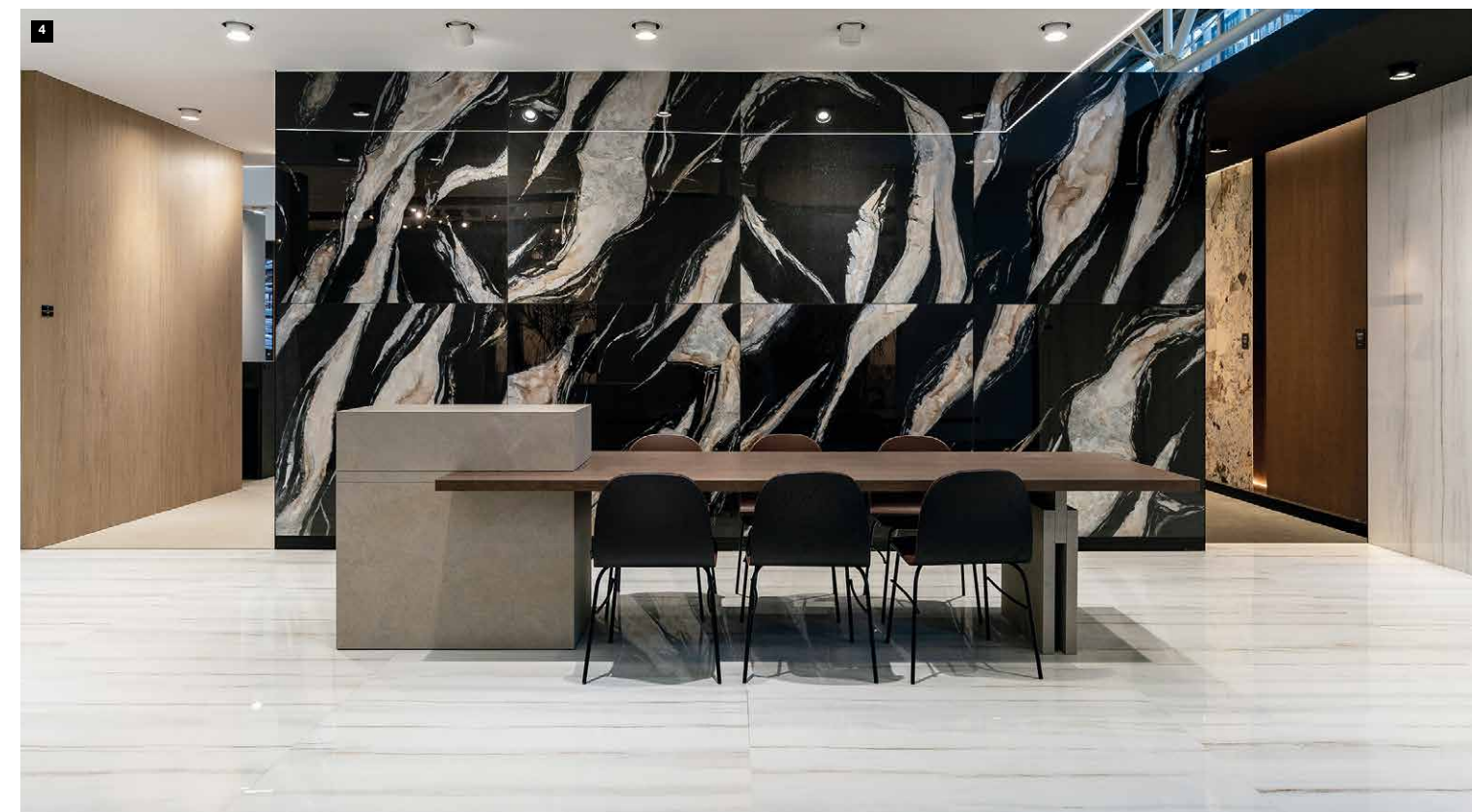


To talk about **Butech** is to talk about the cutting edge of construction: the Modfacades industrialised ceramic façade systems; its innovations in decorative profiles, with Pro-part Gold Line; and the Shower Deck System integrated technical solutions for showers, which offer limitless exclusivity.

In the case of **Noken**, the company of the **PORCELANOSA Group** which specialises in bathroom equipment, new developments are characterised by advanced technologies focused on health and well-being, such as the Care system and Noken Energy; signature taps that are clearly designed for energy efficiency and water savings, such as Oxo, Lounge and Swan; and increasingly individualised bathroom fixtures and fittings.

XTONE made its mark at Cersaie with its most conceptual and architectural designs and textures, implemented using revolutionary techniques and cutting-edge technology. Fossil surfaces, marble, gold and glossy finishes adapt to all types of installations, providing a striking visual presence with a strong personality.

- 1.** NOKEN introduces its new Lounge collection, with its taps featuring straight lines and a matt black finish, its innovative towel rail and the original Lounge Espiga furniture. Matika Topo floor and wall tiles by Porcelanosa.
- 2.** The Oxo taps in brushed copper and the new Oxo furniture, which adds the warm touch of natural oak and the durability of its vanity surface with Project Tech technology. The floor is Hannover Bone and the XLIGHT Alpi Verde wall tiles are paired with XLIGHT Edwood Camel by Porcelanosa.
- 3.** XTONE dresses spaces with a combination of unique surfaces with finishes that range from marble to gold, not forgetting the sparkling effects of the Bianco Lasa collection.
- 4.** XTONE invites you to interact with surfaces through groundbreaking designs and inspiring finishes.



interview GONZALO MARDONES VIVIANI



Building with a new perspective

An architect who originally studied his profession at the Catholic University of Chile and is now guest professor at a number of universities, both in Chile and abroad. His works have been published by the world's leading architecture magazines. In 2016 he was named an honorary member of the American Institute of Architects, in the United States.

Text: SANDRA DEL RÍO

To make architecture a new way of understanding and building a world in constant evolution. That is the challenge which defines the work of this Chilean architect. For him, "the development of the architectural design project as a creative process goes far beyond a question of mechanics". The words of Gonzalo Mardones underpin the responsibility, passion and transcendence of his works around the world.

I read what the poet Raúl Zurita says about your work: "Gonzalo Mardones seeks the construction of a new perspective more than the construction of an architecture." Can you define this interesting concept for us?

I am honoured by Zurita's words, but it is not easy for me to answer the question. Perhaps it is the feeling that each assignment provokes in us, or rather that at the beginning of each project we try to solve the issue with a new perspective; something somewhat inaugural that is born from that very diagnosis of what constitutes each new challenge.

Now we must recognise that this initial effort also comes loaded with previous ideas, which are often not so easy to shake off, since they are well or badly embedded in what is inherent in the work.



The PORCELANOSA building in Santiago de Chile.
Photo: Pablo Casals Aguirre.

In your projects there is reflection, visual art, creativity and emotional charge. How do you combine or balance these concepts in a tangible work?

We try to ensure that each work awakens the necessary emotions through its simplicity, austerity and contemporaneity, and for this it is important that compositional reason and constructive reason play a common role. This matters to us, since there is something mysterious and specific to each material, and that unique property or that constructive law is one of the main tasks that the architect must reveal.

Since your early days designing social housing you have covered a wide range of projects, recently including large office buildings, schools, institutional headquarters and private homes. What challenges arise when designing and constructing such different buildings?

Each commission, each work, requires time prior to the project to understand, feel and be able to realise that challenge and capture the ideas that will underpin the project. For this, it is very important to feed on what that place "sings", as every place is unique, and on the ideas that each commission brings with it in relation to the programme, with the dreams and desires of the client, be it an institution or a family. This is where architects spend their lives, and even more so at a time when we all have access to so much information and what is required is even more awareness and a greater

"The effect of light on architecture is probably the most complex and the most emotional. Light in architecture has always been the essential element of the work"

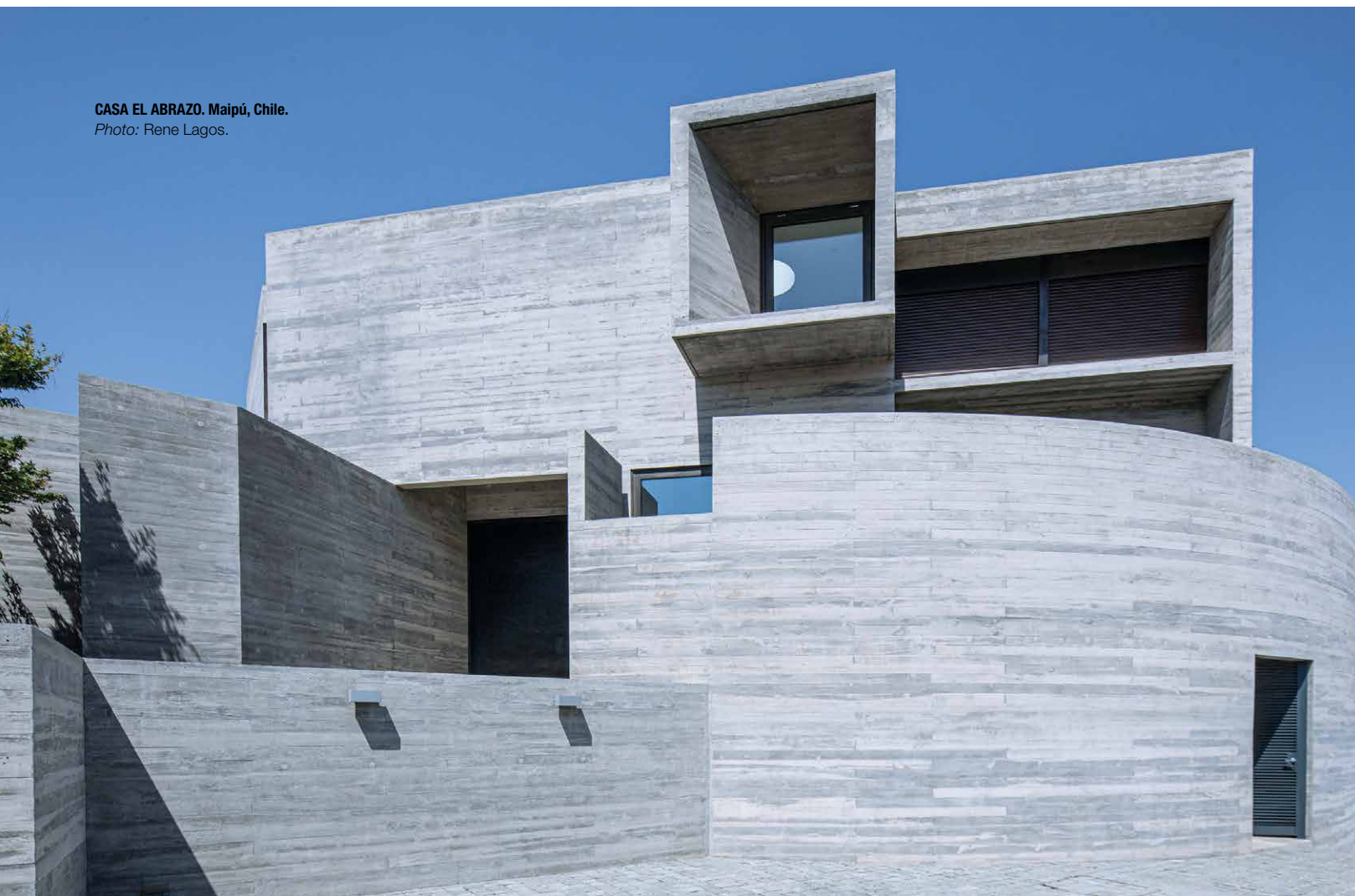
need to organise the observations and ideas that really matter and underpin the project.

What is the importance of light in your work? Architectural light has radical importance and constitutes a constant search in all works. As the project progresses, light and the way it is reflected in the space begin to become more and more relevant. The effect of light on architecture is probably the most complex and the most emotional.

Light in architecture has always been the essential element of the work. It is undoubtedly the most important material in architecture, and the task is how to control it and how to reflect that diagonal light of the Gothic, the vertical light of divinity and the horizontal light of the modern movement. Light is much more than a necessity, it is an instrument given to architecture, free of charge, that allows us to communicate the emotion that its reflection provokes in each space.

You have said that you work to make the people who live in the spaces happy. How is that achieved? The architect's task is to be very generous, to try to discover "what's missing" to allow one to feel good, to have a good time in a very broad sense; feeling good

CASA EL ABRAZO. Maipú, Chile.
Photo: Rene Lagos.



CASALEMA. Santiago de Chile.
A project which was a finalist in the 2023 PIPA
Porcelanosa International Projects Awards.
Photo: Magdalena León.



in the architectural space, in joy and in pain. To awaken the senses of the child, the young person, the adult and the elderly. That's what I mean when I say that our highest aspiration is to make people happy. The task is to "reveal" that "something else" that allows it.

You have also stated that it is essential that "the work lasts over time". Can you define your way of approaching constructive durability?

If there is one characteristic shared by works of architecture, it is that they last over time and remain for many years; something very different to what happens with design, which is more ephemeral. So, of course, concern about durability is very important. This condition of continuity for at least decades makes our concern for the correct use of materials an important premise in the act of designing. Each material has its own natural, physical and mechanical properties, and that fact must be respected and valued. This durability always depends on the project and it is the responsibility of the architect to take charge of it.

"The architectural process is very much an activity of group creativity and involves many people from the discipline itself and others, such as engineers, that the architect must manage"

What is the dream city like for you?

The city, or rather the essence of the city, is being together. It's the meeting place, the place where we are in community, that is why I do not believe in the extensive city as most cities are today. The dream city is the one we walk through, the compact city, the cultured and cultivated city. Today, the city has "de-generated" due to bad policies and the lack of good architecture. The ideal city is the city of trees with gardens and proportions, the sustainable city with appropriate density, the green city with quality public open spaces, fewer cars and better pavements. A vital city where the historic and the new coexist. Cities with mobility, clean and safe. We must urgently begin the recovery of our cities through beauty in the face of bad taste, an underclass and crime.

Does architecture currently have freedom of ideas and creative autonomy?

I think so. The development of the architectural design project as a creative process goes far beyond a question of mechanics attempting to provide a solution to a problem. It is a process in which ideas, thinking and creation are related. As in any creative activity, freedom is required to be able to do it. Although we must remember that this creation is a dance where there are two or more - and sometimes many more - who are dancing. The architectural process is very much an

Reception of the Hornitos Hotel
in Antofagasta, Chile.
Photo: Nico Saieh.



activity of group creativity and involves many people from the discipline itself and others, such as engineers, that the architect must manage.

In your lectures and writings you have stressed the importance of the details and materials in your work. Speaking of the materials by PORCELANOSA Group, which are very present in your projects, what advantages and values do you find in them?

Well, the truth is that we often opt for products by **Porcelanosa**, a company that we know very well because, in addition, we were the architects who designed their offices and store in Chile. They are notable for the quality, not only of the designs made by the leading professionals, but also for their impeccable manufacturing, their sustainability in production and the materials they use. Now that we are also carrying out projects outside Chile, we have favoured the use of their elements and finishes.

LAFINCA GRAND CAFÉ

A beautiful sculpture in the landscape

Since mid-September 2023, LaFinca Grand Café has been one of the LaFinca Group's star projects in the city of Madrid.

Text: PAOLA ROCCA Photos: ÁLEX DEL RÍO and D. R.



The magnificent façade was created using Krion® K-Life 1100 absolute white, stable over time and thermoformable to meet the requirements of the design. The C-Bolt façade system, developed by the façades department at Butech, allows for all types of shape, even double curvatures.



This shopping centre is becoming one of the capital's latest hubs for meeting, shopping and leisure. It boasts 40,000 m² spread over three floors, plus a wonderful rooftop and two floors dedicated to sustainable and technologically advanced car parks.

This is far from being a typical shopping centre, starting with the imposing façade, a design by the LaFinca A+D studio, directed by Raquel Castellanos. The exterior structure, in **Krion**[®], the glass (which allows you to see the outside from the inside) and the union between the building and the surrounding natural landscape and water mean LaFinca Grand Café is beginning a new chapter in avant-garde construction and sustainability.

The building opens to the nearby golf course and the homes that surround it, where materials from the **PORCELANOSA Group** have been used in a very successful integration concept: "Nature and water are two fundamental elements in LaFinca's philosophy", says Raquel Castellanos when talking about this great project.

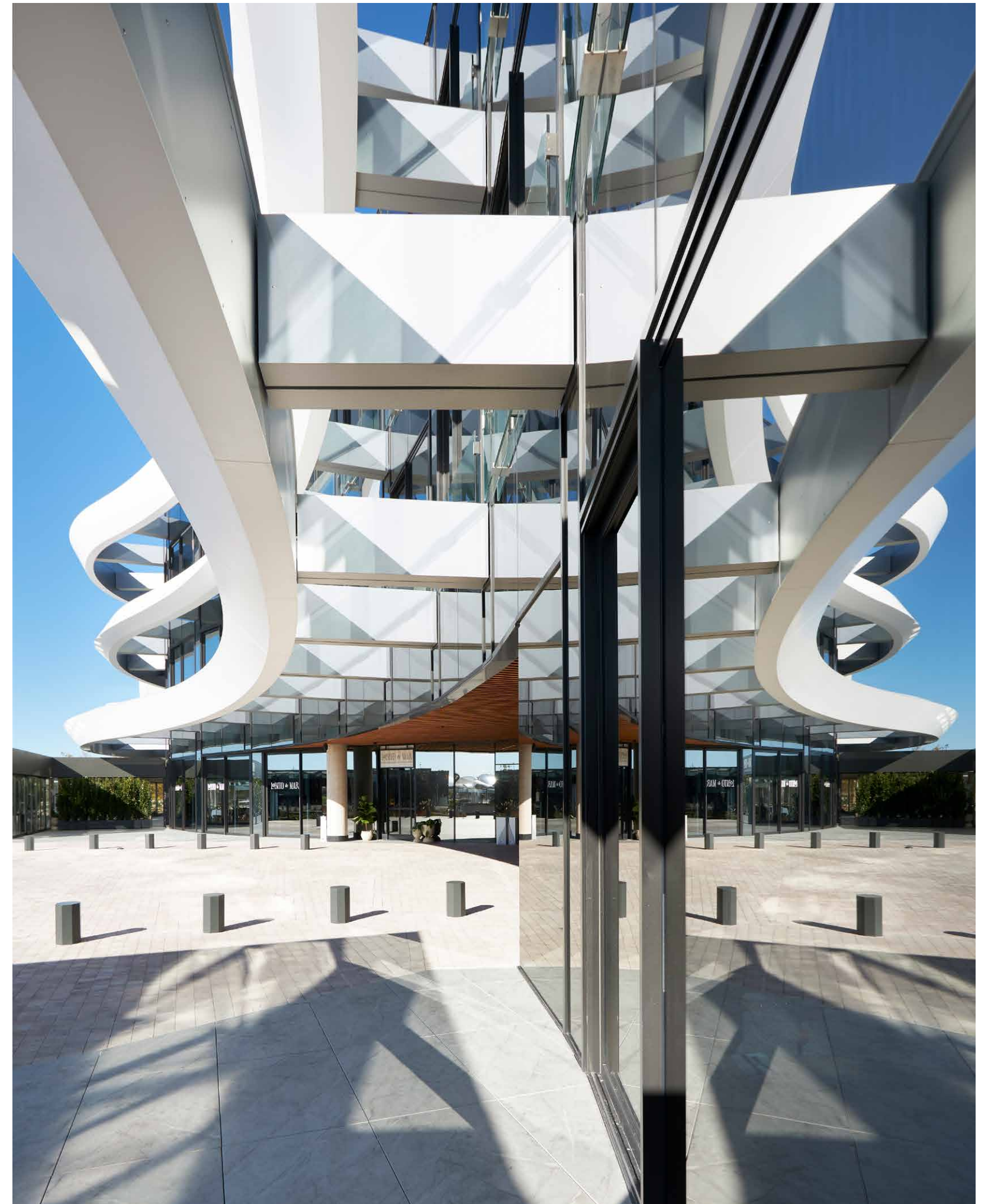
Inside we find spaces for leisure, health, beauty and food, distributed over its three floors. And a commitment to gastronomy, with 11 restaurants that will set a benchmark and become a culinary destination of international reach.

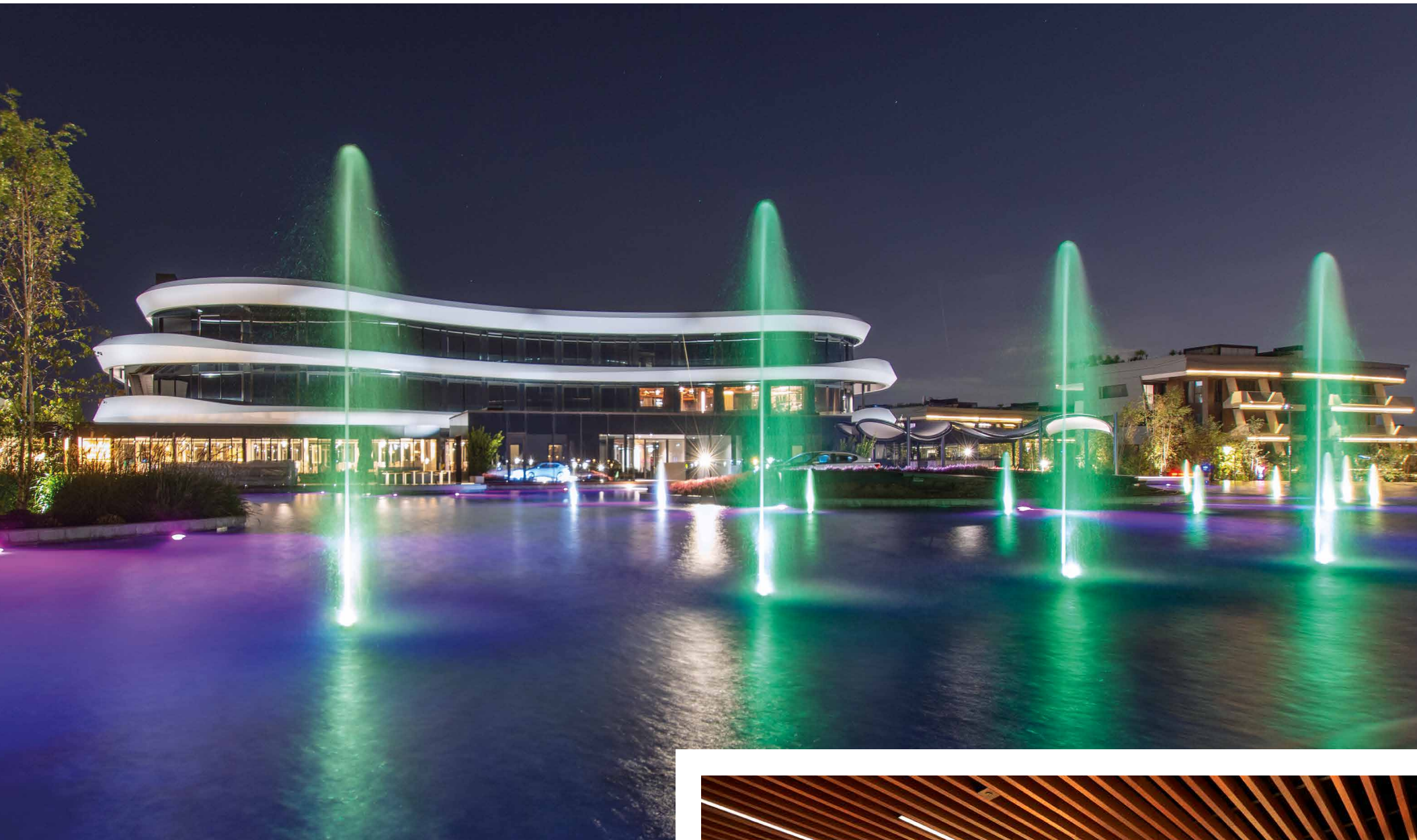
The restaurants, which surround the square, can be accessed directly from the street. There will be other culinary outlets next to the golf courses and the pontoons. The pontoons are set over the water and are designed as spaces where you can enjoy a drink or a meal in the sun.

Design meets technology to create a space in line with the new needs and expectations of users. A 40-metre, low-consumption LED screen welcomes you to the interior of the shopping centre with a striking visual effect, which is expanded in the interiors of each floor, using high-quality materials from the **PORCELANOSA Group**, successfully playing with colours and light.



*Above these lines: the washbasin and vanity surface are in L506 Coffee Cream from the Luxury range by Krion[®].
On the left and facing page: to achieve this spectacular design where curves predominate, the technical team at Butech built a three-dimensional model of the building to ensure that the façade fits to the millimetre. The Krion[®] panels are supplied with metal staples fixed to the back using expanding screws that fit into a system of clips fixed to the façade structure. No subsequent sanding of the Krion[®] panels is necessary. This is the most advanced façade designed by the Butech façade department.*





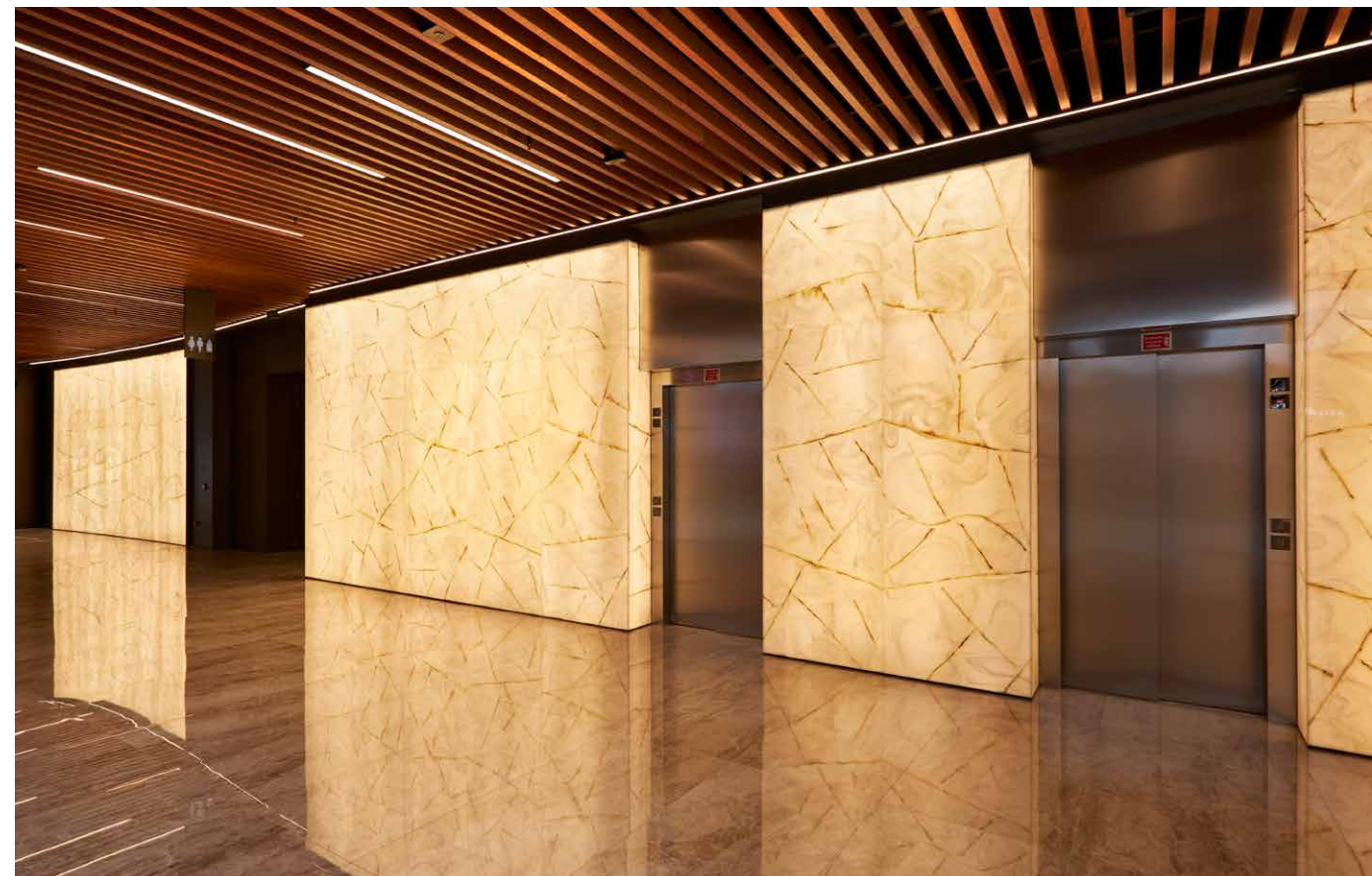
On the left: view of LaFinca Grand Café at night.
 Below these lines: on the pontoons, which are outdoor leisure areas, the material Krion® has been used, featuring rounded shapes. A range of different materials by the PORCELANOSA Group have been used in the centre's interiors. Detail of the rear façade finished in Krion® K-Life 1100 absolute white.



There are invisible elements that help to better manage the building, such as consumption control, fault detection, management of light intensity in different environments and state-of-the-art home automation.

This space has obtained the BREEAM seal, a certification of responsible construction and efficient design that integrates processes such as waste management and the choice of sustainable, efficient materials that reduce the carbon footprint. Glass, marble, stone and, of course, the choice of **Krion®** to finish the entire exterior façade and the pontoons, give the building its iconic character. Care has also been taken to optimise water consumption, both in the interior cloakrooms on all floors, which feature high-quality materials from the **PORCELANOSA Group**, and in the exterior areas, where careful gardening work has ensured that native species and plants that require little water predominate.

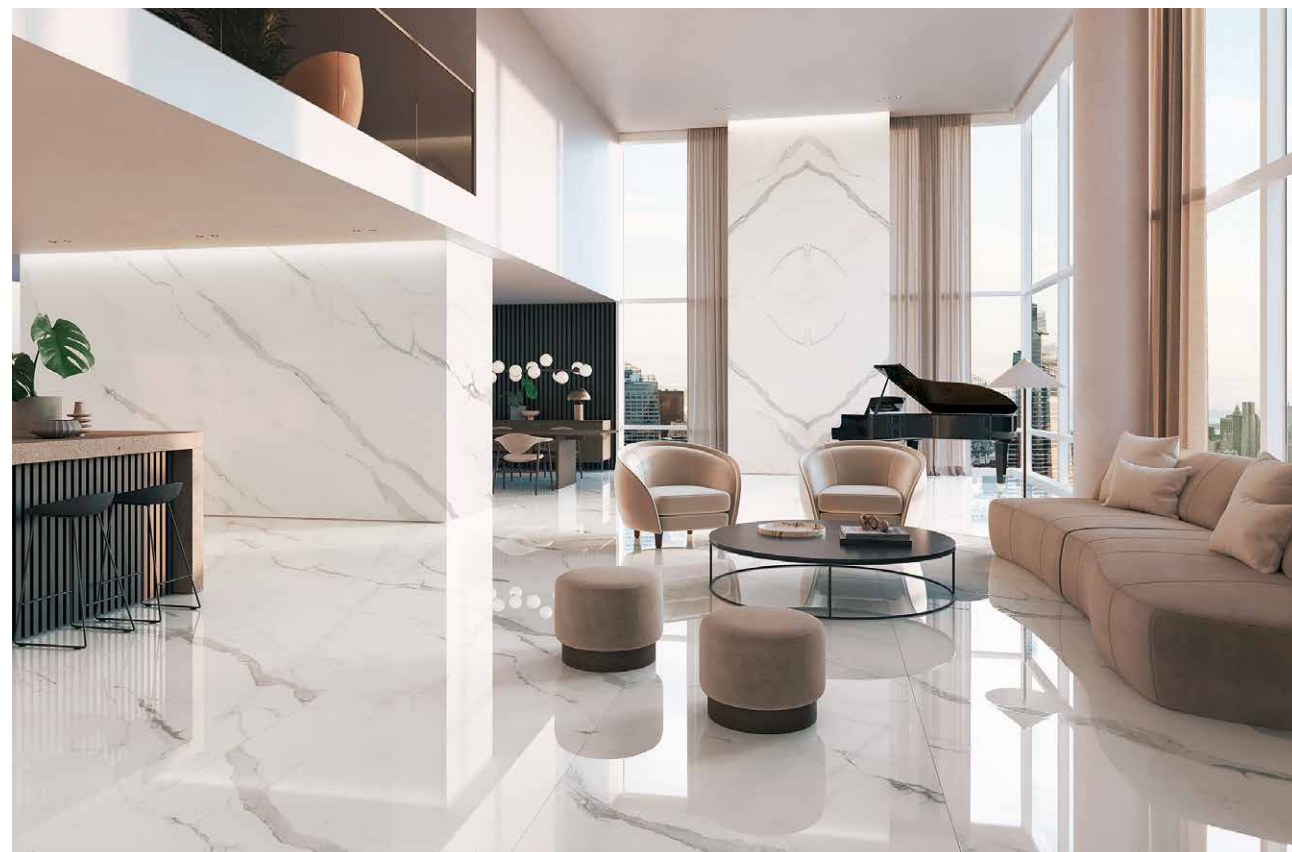
Furthermore, LaFinca Grand Café is a pet-friendly space with a veterinary clinic and spaces where pets are welcome.



cutting-edge interior design

Refined contemporary spaces

Maximum versatility, resistance and design characterise the **XLIGHT** collection by **Porcelanosa**, a large-format, compact, immutable and resistant porcelain tile which has become a powerful resource for fostering great creativity in cutting-edge interior designs around the world. As a base material for architects, interior designers and designers, it offers infinite possibilities through innovative pieces that realistically reproduce cement, marble, stone, wood or metal. Its unique features adjust to and enhance a room's visual aesthetics through solutions offering graphic continuity, random patterns and bookmatching (designs with a mirror effect), conceived to attract attention and create a greater feeling of spaciousness. In short, a great ally for high-quality, cutting-edge projects with strong personality.



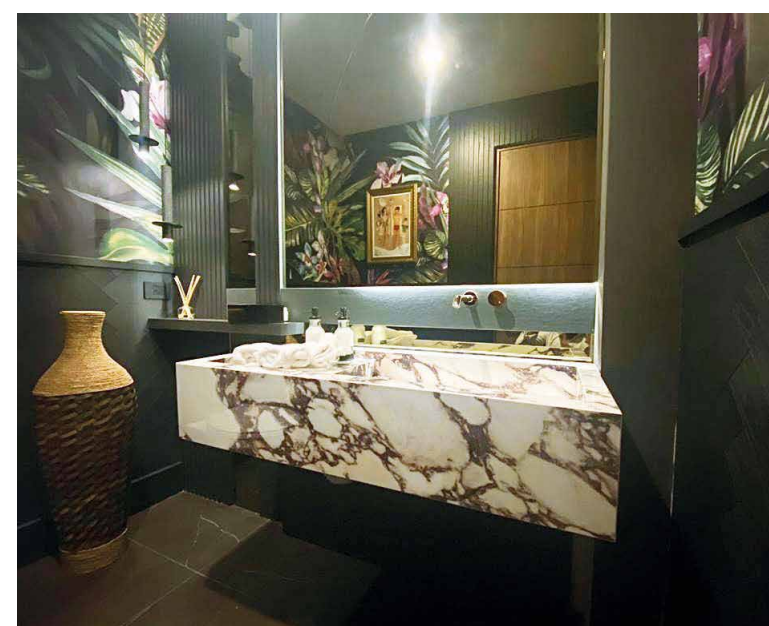
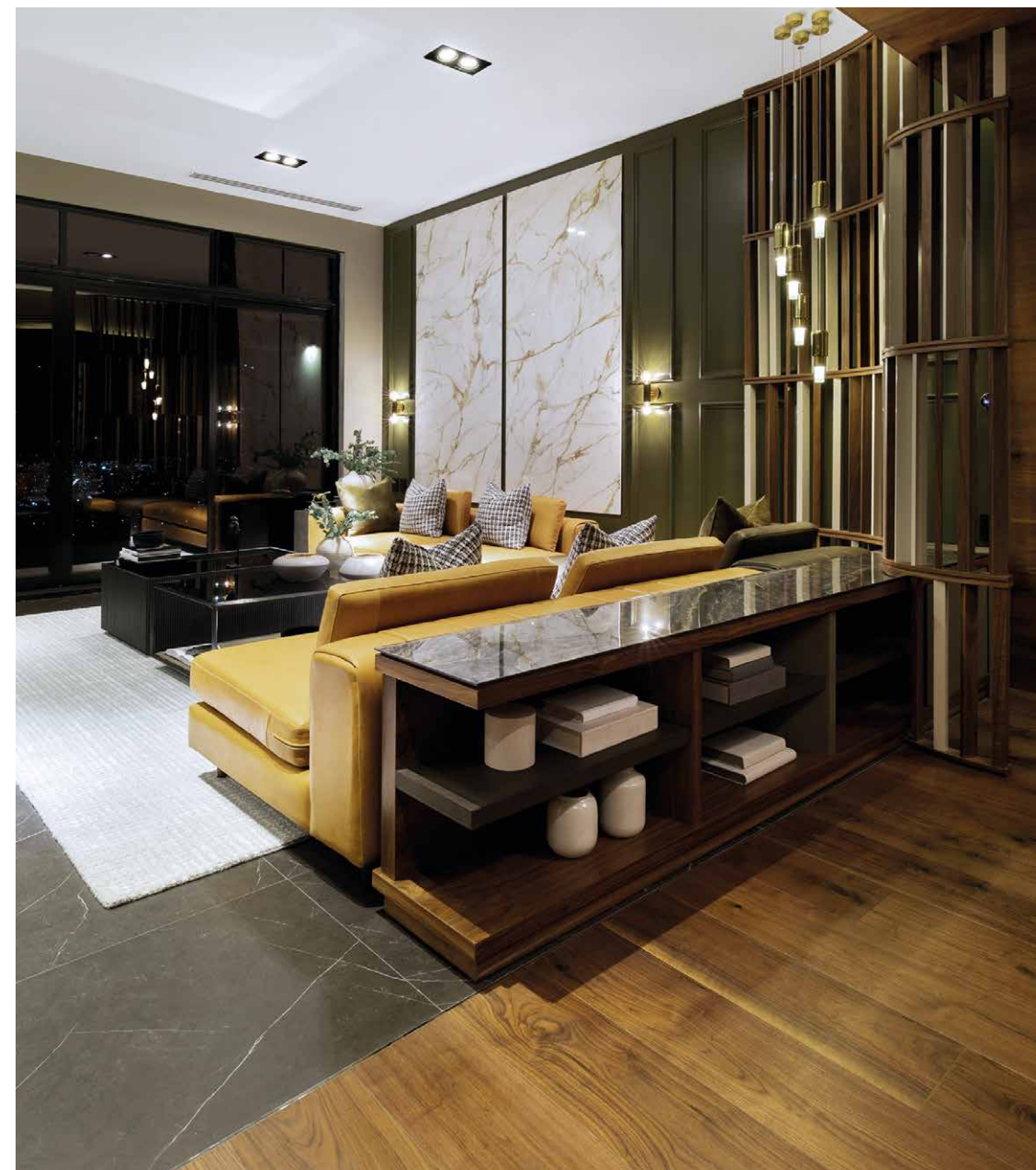
Above: the arrival of XLIGHT Aria White makes it possible to create unique spaces with the beauty of the timeless Statuario Venato. A luminous canvas available as a random pattern on the floor, to provide graphic continuity, or with the opportunity to draw all eyes through bookmatching.
Facing page: XLIGHT Invisible White is paired with PAR-KER® Gent Roble flooring by Porcelanosa, accentuating the elegance and warmth of the space. The design is completed by the Picat Lines washbasin set on a tailor-made piece of furniture in Persian White Classico natural stone by L'Antic Colonial, Lignage taps by Noken and Parppadelle decorative lighting by Gamadecor.



Quality and design in every detail

A combination of eclectic elements, rich textures and a sober colour palette make up the essence of this project designed by the Factor Neutral studio, founded by architect Alejandra Bustillos. The house, located in the Mexican city of Chihuahua, has 350 m² of surface area that have been reformulated to meet the needs of the family who own it. A neutral scheme has been used throughout the project, for both furniture and decoration, to give a feeling of order and serenity, with the use of pieces of impeccable design and finish, also true of the materials chosen for the wall finishes and the various decorative elements.

For the day area, it was decided to completely open the space and integrate the living room, kitchen and dining room, applying a composition of vibrant colours to furniture, wall panelling and architectural elements. The result is a cosy space where colour achieves a high degree of prominence, as it does throughout the home, giving a modern and elegant touch.



Above these lines: the low wooden shelving unit behind the sofa in the living room has been finished with a piece of Orobico Dark by XTONE.

On the left: in the bathroom, the large-format suspended washbasin is made from Viola Rossé by XTONE. The built-in mixer tap, in a copper finish, is the model Tono by Noken. The floor is Liem Dark Nature by Porcelanosa.

Centre: the living room floor is finished in Liem Dark Nature XLIGHT porcelain by Porcelanosa.

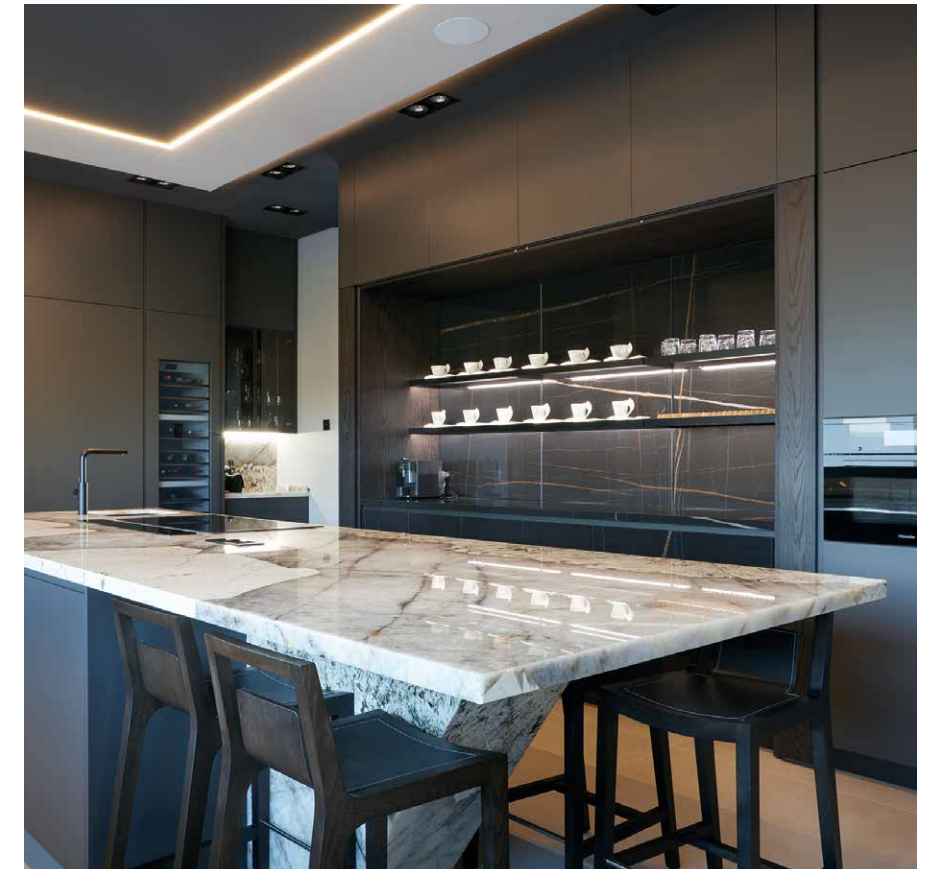
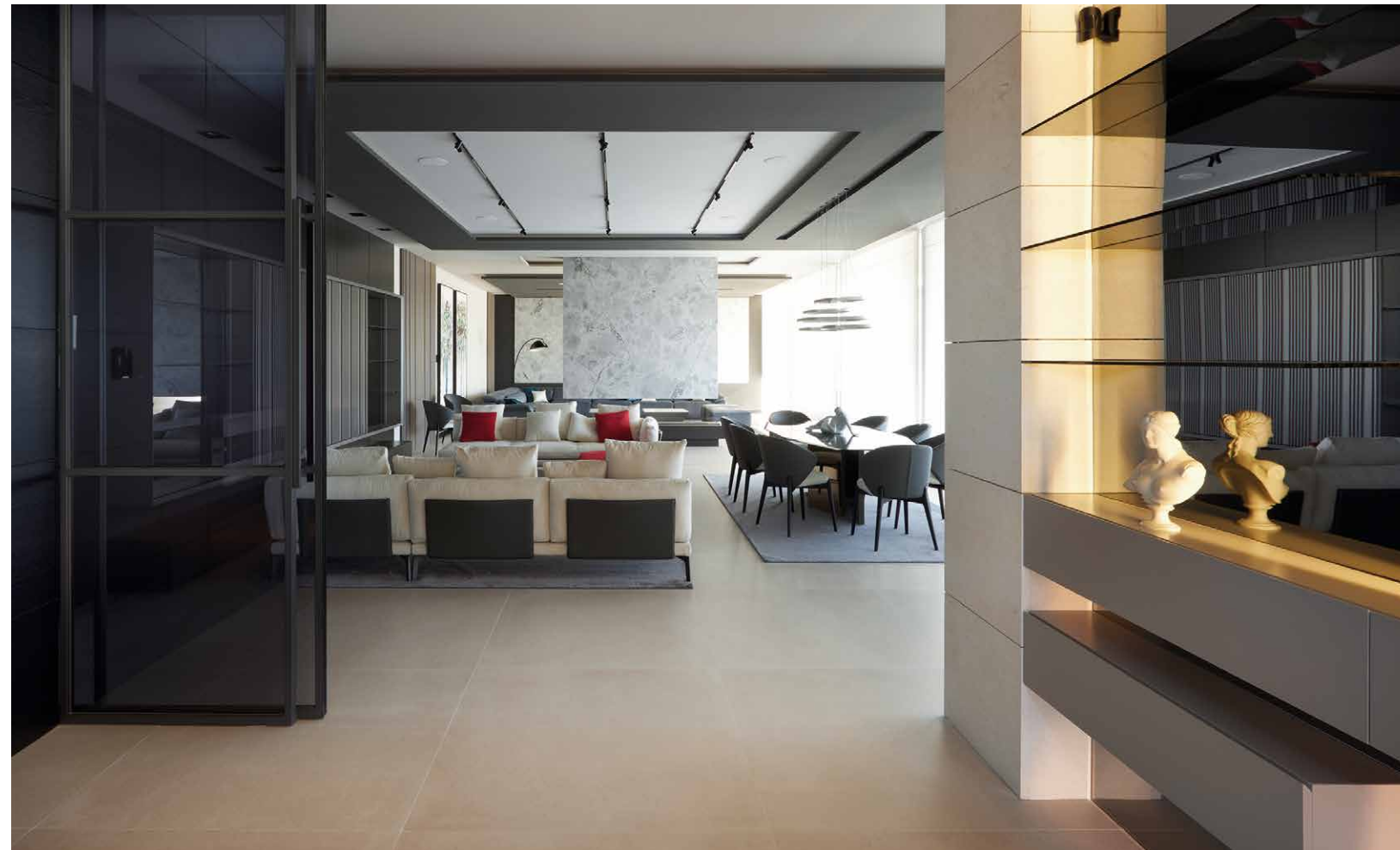
On the wall, decorated with mouldings, two large-format panels of Calacatta Gold Polished by Porcelanosa, reflecting the nobility of classic white marble.

Photos: Aldo C. García.

MARTOS MADRID / SPAIN

A welcoming and architectural essence

The designer Cynthia Román has created a modern and elegant interior for this family home in Arroyomolinos (Madrid). The living room, featuring a large U-shaped sofa and a central fireplace, is finished using high quality materials that harmonise with the furniture based on neutral tones. The light and airy atmosphere of the layout provides a great feeling of spaciousness. Avant-garde design pieces dress the dining area, while touches of red break up the grey hues. Marble-effect wall coverings characterise bathrooms that play with brilliance, and shine with functionality.



Above these lines: the floor in the day area is finished in Bottega Caliza porcelain tiles by Porcelanosa.

On the right, above: the kitchen is furnished from the emotions® E6.70 range by Gamadecor, paired with the wall finish in Nylo Noir and the worktop in Pangea Polished, both by XTONE.

The brushed titanium mixer tap is by Noken, and the stools in the office area are the model Forma by Gamadecor.

On the right, next to these lines: the bathroom of the master bedroom is dressed from the collection Nylo Noir by XTONE. The freestanding bathtub is the model Stone Freestanding, in the finish Habana Dark, by L'Antic Colonial. It is accompanied by the Lounge mixer tap, in copper finish, by Noken. Another of the bathrooms features the Faces washbasin by L'Antic Colonial.

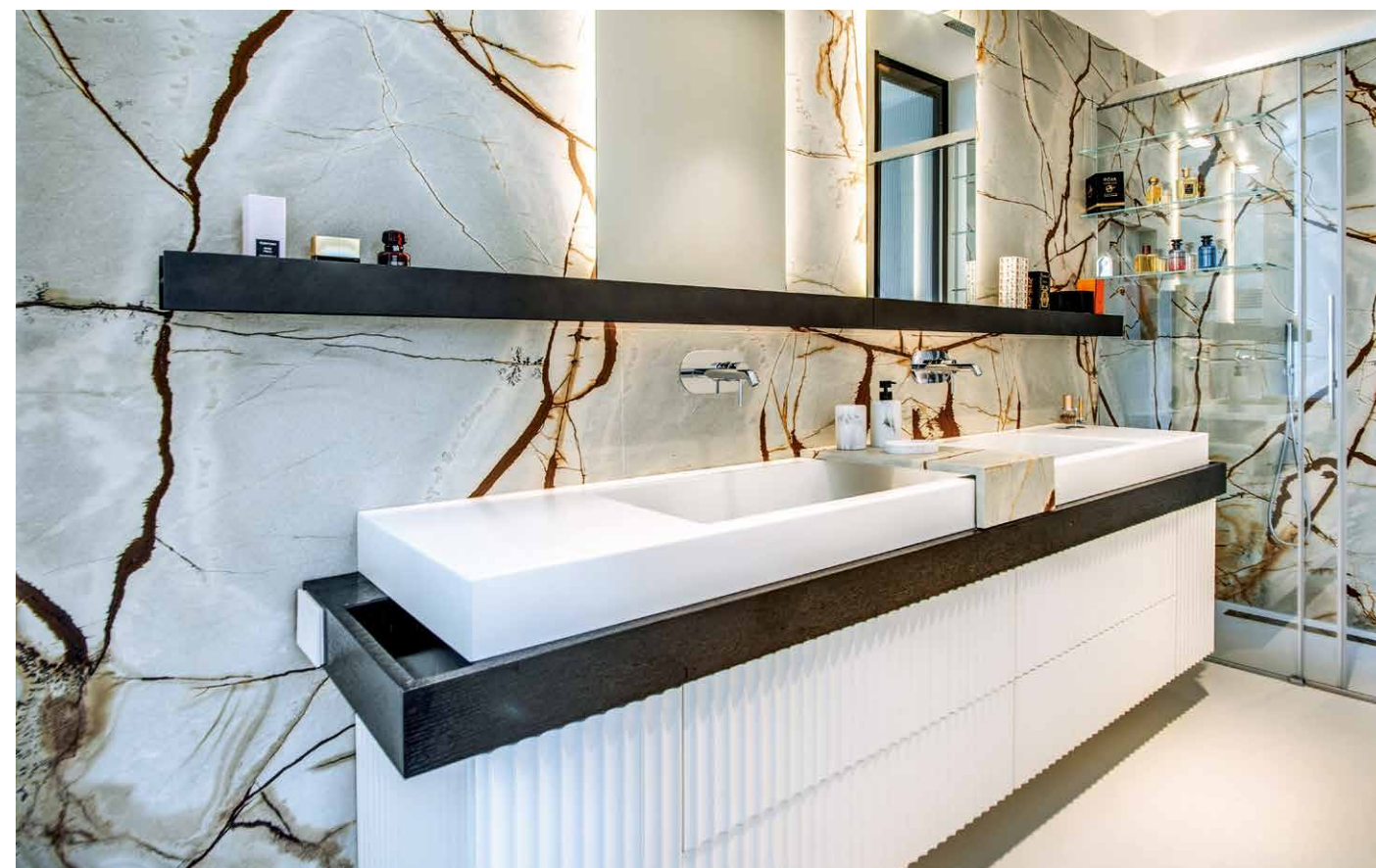
On the left: bathroom walls dressed from the collection Aria White by XTONE. The single-lever mixer tap at the washbasin, the thermostatic mixer tap and the shower head are from the Lounge range by Noken.

Photos: Alex del Río.



Beauty with cutting-edge materials

The MOB Architects studio, owned by architect and designer Mattia Oliviero Bianchi, has designed the refurbishment of this home that occupies the fourth floor of a historic building in the heart of Rome. Following the owner's guidelines, the beauty of the surrounding landscape was taken as a source of inspiration for the interior design, with clear references to the Renaissance, and then reformulated with a modern and avant-garde touch. The result is an apartment that draws on the classic style, but with an updated perspective based on furniture with pure lines that is combined with marble-effect wall tiles in **XLIGHT** by **Porcelanosa** with glossy, luminous finishes. The floor plan unfolds fluidly, with rooms which are open and yet provided with privacy when necessary, allowing new corners of the house to be gradually discovered. The kitchen becomes the key link in the home, and opens to the large living room, thus enhancing the concept of sociable living.



Above: the kitchen is equipped with furniture by **Gamadecor** and the worktop is **Negra Marquina** by **XLIGHT**, in a polished finish. The mixer tap at the sink is **Round Inox** by **Noken**.
On the right: the bathroom walls are tiled from the collection **Orobico** by **XLIGHT**, in **Dark polished** finish. The washbasin is **Column Persian White**, by **L'Antic Colonial**, which is accompanied by **Round built-in taps** by **Noken**. The mosaic on the wall is **Gravity Aluminium 3D Hexagon Gold** by **L'Antic Colonial**, while the suspended toilet and bidet are from the range **Arquitect** by **Noken**.
On the left: the **Round chrome** tap by **Noken** is built into the **Blue Roma** wall tiles by **XLIGHT**. The washbasin on the vanity surface is made of **Krion® Lux 1100 East**.
Photos: Vincenzo Tambasco.

ZAHARA DE LOS ATUNES CÁDIZ

A house in the air

Characterised by formal purity and open spaces, this home designed by architect Fran Silvestre seems to levitate above the ground and opens to the ocean in a constant dialogue between interior and exterior.

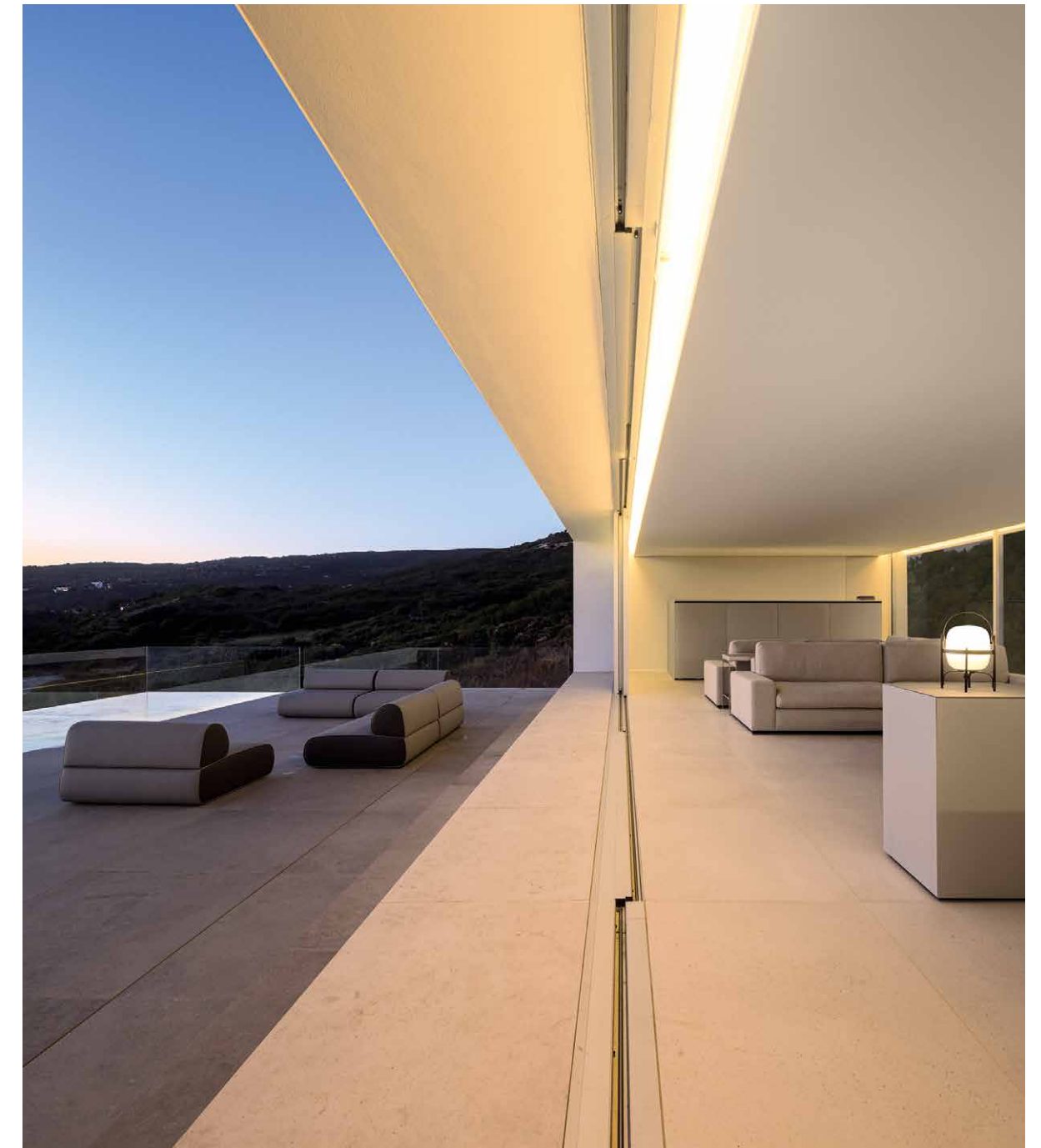
Text: TXELL MORENO Photos: FERNANDO GUERRA



This minimalist home, whose refined forms bear the stamp of architect Fran Silvestre, stands in Zahara de los Atunes in the province of Cádiz. With a dominant colour scheme based on white and neutral tones, the open space gives prominence to the natural environment, in a return to basics where the everyday becomes exceptional. Each day, the experience of sunrise and sunset is made special by the glass walls that provide extraordinary panoramic views from any room on the main floor. Taking this as a starting point, the architecture is arranged to provide protection, while acting as a framework to capture the spectacle offered by the location.



An architecture of cubic forms rises in a natural environment overlooking the Atlantic across an external terrace with an infinity pool. Large-format porcelain tiles by Porcelanosa uniformly dress interiors and exteriors with the grey essence of cement.



Above these lines: the open-plan kitchen, distributed around an island, is fitted with the range emotions® by Gamadecor. The wet zone has a chrome-plated single-lever mixer tap, Osmosis by Noken, for use with an osmosis system, with swivel spout. The large-format floor tiles in neutral tones which are used throughout on this level are by Porcelanosa. Above, on the right: the minimalist aluminium carpentry opens to unite the interior and exterior of the home, an extension accentuated by the use of the same flooring by Porcelanosa.

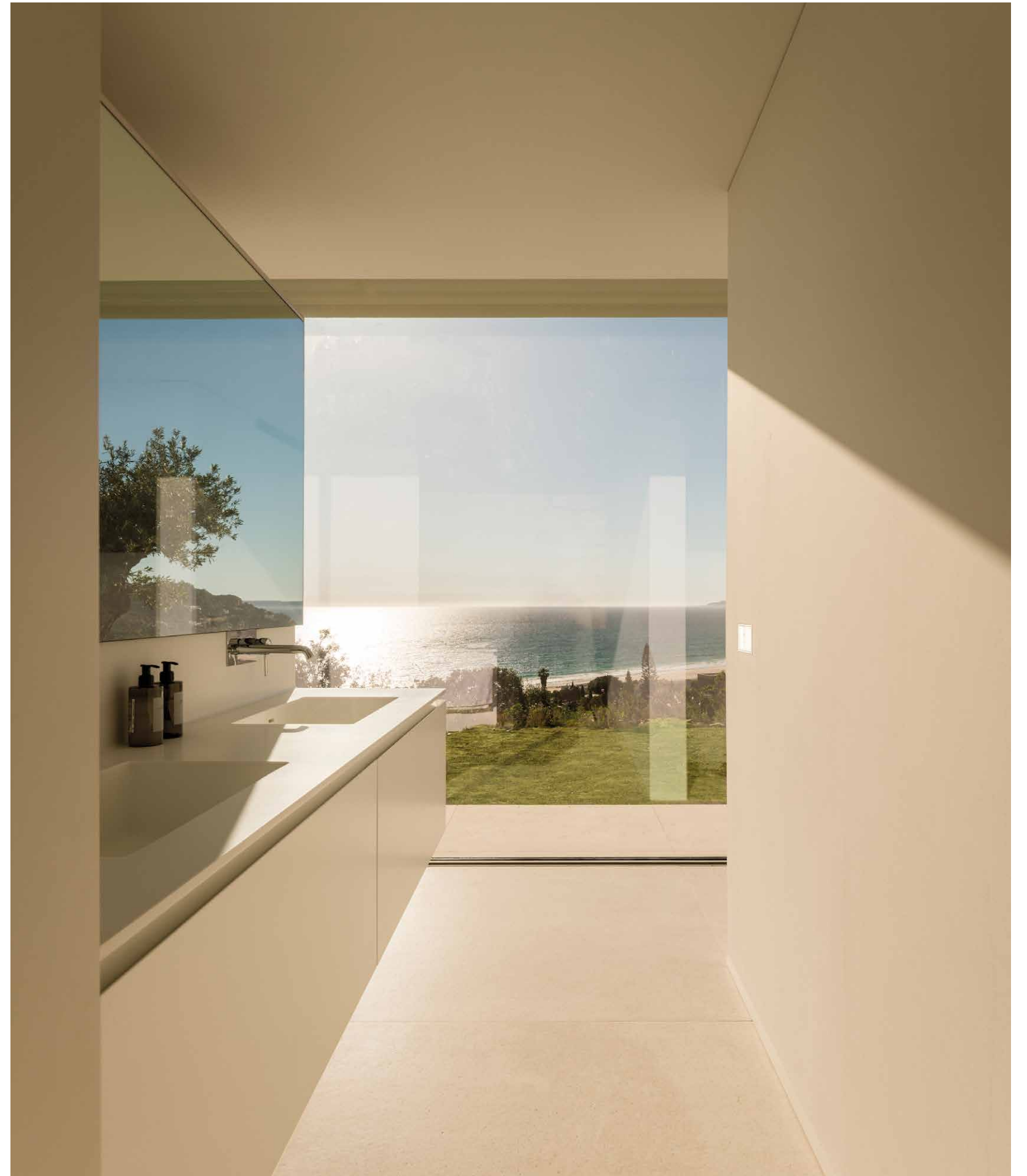


To overcome the slope of the land, the house appears as an architectural piece where the straight and clean lines contrast with the surrounding natural environment. The house sits on a grey plinth that harmonises with the surrounding ground. The landscape is in harmony with the place name of Zahara, which comes from the Arabic *Sahara* and translates as "rocky place". From here, the house is positioned in the perfect location to guarantee unbeatable views and sunsets over the Atlantic coastline. The house has two floors, with the upper floor being the main living area. In turn, this is divided into three spaces, where the central space is the daytime area. Kitchen, dining room and living room share the same large, open space, coming together in harmony thanks to being furnished with minimalist lines and a uniform colour palette. The absence of any structural element



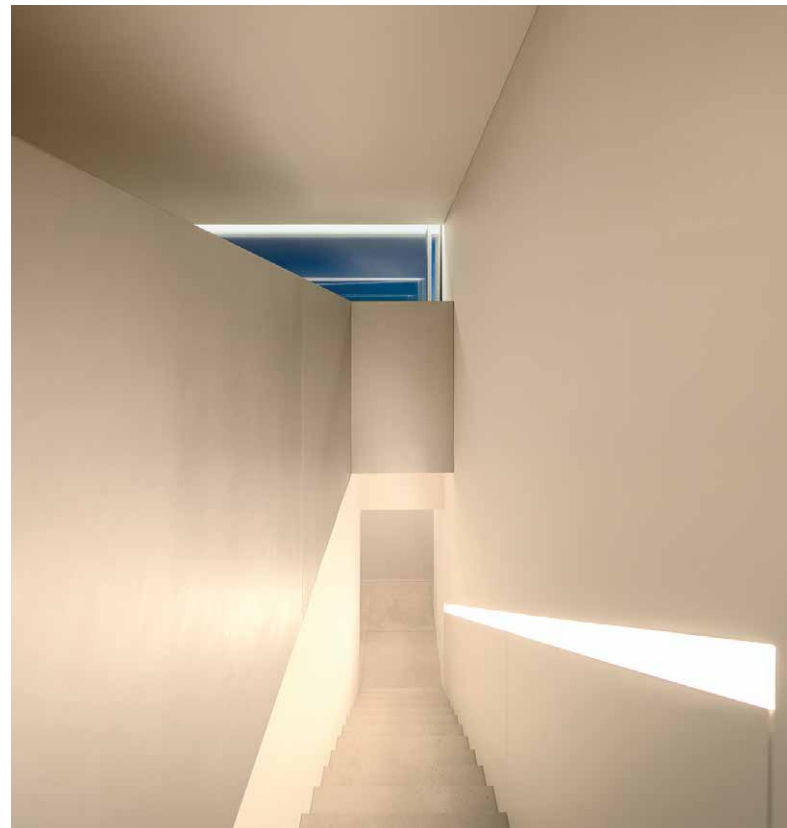
On the left: pure, clean shapes and straight lines characterise this home, located on a sloping plot of land, that opens to the sea through its large glass walls and various terraces. The main floor projects outwards, enabling large living areas.

On the right: the washbasin area of the bathroom is fitted with a large suspended cabinet with integrated handle from the series emotions® by Porcelanosa. This is teamed with a white vanity surface in Krion® Lux 1100 East Solid Surface. The built-in taps are from the collection Round by Noken.



that might interfere between this space and the landscape helps to emphasise the feeling of spaciousness and luminosity. Likewise, the use of the same large-format porcelain flooring from **Porcelanosa**, both inside and on the terrace and infinity pool, contributes to blurring the boundaries. The bedrooms lie at each end of the daytime area. They present the same refined aesthetic with custom-made lacquered wood furniture.

On the ground floor, at the back of the building, a quiet patio has been designed to provide shelter when the east wind blows strongly. In this patio are the rooms with complementary uses to the main house.



“When we choose and organise our kitchen, we must design a comfortable space that helps us improve our habits”

kitchens

Temples of health and well-being

Elisa Blázquez, integrative clinical nutritionist and director of the Nutrition Department at the iQtra Advanced Medicine Clinic, talks to us about the kitchen as a healthy space and the emotional heart of the home.

The kitchen is, of course, the heart of the home. It's the place where our most deep-rooted family traditions are developed, an essential space where we take care of our loved ones, and the meeting point for the different generations of the family. It is the most important place in the house when we consider health and conscious nutrition.

When we choose and organise our kitchen, we must design a comfortable space that helps us improve our habits. The spaciousness, order, lighting and materials of the working areas are essential elements to achieve this.

One of the keys to making everything work is the choice of worktop. It's a good idea to choose materials which are durable, antibacterial, easy-to-clean and non-porous, as this even allows us to prepare food directly on the surface itself. Personally, I recommend **XTONE** worktops, which are also very beautiful, or worktops in **Krion®**, a material that has revolutionised standards of sustainability, health and durability.

Creating spaces which generate health

A large and intelligently organised store cupboard is essential to be able to plan everyday meals easily.

Visible shelves should keep healthy foods on hand (fresh seasonal fruit and natural nuts) and cookbooks that serve as inspiration.

Good lighting helps you to prepare and cut food correctly and to appreciate the fresh colours of vegetables, meat or fish.



XTONE PAONAZZO BIONDO
Elisa Blázquez in a kitchen created using emotions® E6.90 Roble Torrefacto by Gamadecor, with worktop in XTONE Paonazzo Biondo. The tap is Round Inox in brushed copper, by Noken.
Photo: Álex del Río

“As a nutritionist, I look for inspiring spaces that combine functionality and beauty. I like my kitchen to be a relaxing, comfortable, harmonious and stylish space”



Above these lines: the worktop is XTONE Liem Grey, prepared for efficient processing and handling of all types of foodstuffs. On the right: Architect kitchen tap in chrome. The kitchen is emotions® E4.40 and the worktop XTONE Calacatta Gold Nature.



The workspace should be clean and uncluttered, as it can be the best canvas for creating good dishes. It's a good idea to have a waste container on hand, because hygiene is key to avoiding food poisoning.

Having spices, herbs and a good cold-pressed extra-virgin olive oil close to the hob helps to “feel” the healing power of cooking.

Fresh products and good seasonings make the difference in creating healthy recipes. We have to leave behind the idea that healthy eating is bland and unsophisticated; high-quality ingredients are full of flavour, and fresh herbs and seasonings are sources of antioxidants, minerals and fibre. In addition, they help us reduce our dependence on fried foods, excess sauces, sugars and even salt.

One good idea is to use turmeric in the preparation of meats and rice dishes, as it's a powerful anti-inflammatory, and parsley as a source of iron and calcium. Grating fresh ginger into soups is a good immunomodulator, adds an Asian touch to miso preparations, and contributes to the balance of the microbiota. I recommend dressing salads with apple cider vinegar to aid digestion, and don't forget to drizzle good olive oil over your food to provide heart-healthy fats every day.

As a nutritionist, I look for inspiring spaces that combine functionality and beauty. I like my kitchen to be a relaxing, comfortable, harmonious and stylish space. It's not just about cooking, it's about finding well-being within a space. Without a doubt, the **Gamadecor** kitchens by **Porcelanosa** are my favourites. They are at the forefront of aesthetics and functionality, combining storage, ergonomics, technology and design.

Healthy eating is not just about eating high-quality foods; healthy eating should revolve around orderly routines, established schedules and good habits. One of the factors that has led us to acquire bad habits today is the relocation of meals in the home and the lack of coordination between members of the household. Families no longer manage to sit at the table together to enjoy lunch or dinner; each person eats at a different time and place in the house. It is common to see young people taking their plate to their bedroom or to the living room sofa. Something that, without a doubt, is counterproductive to establishing and maintaining good eating habits.

The four keys to creating a family environment that supports nutritional routines:

- 1. EAT AS A FAMILY.** Establishing a meal of the day to eat together is fundamental because it generates behavioural patterns and sets an example for the youngest members of the household. Cooking with your children is also important for their cognitive development.
- 2. START THE DAY WELL.** Let the kitchen wake up full of healthy and appetising alternatives so that the whole family has access to healthy food when they wake up. Accessibility motivates us to look after ourselves: a platter full of seasonal fruit, a board of quality cold cuts and cheeses, a pan with scrambled eggs, a basket of sourdough bread, and ready-to-eat homemade granola are great options.
- 3. EAT DINNER EARLY.** Eat dinner early and extend your overnight fast. This favours cell regeneration, detoxification of the body and the balance of the microbiota during the night.

“There are always many memories and emotions around a kitchen. Sitting at a table and eating as a family is one of the healthiest acts that exist”

Next to these lines: little chefs in a kitchen featuring emotions® E4.70 Blanco Snow mate, Noyal Seda and Krion® K-Life 1100. On the facing page, above: Smart Kitchen E9.30 XTONE Carrara White Nature and Roble Árido with a grooved finish. The kitchen tap is Round Inox in brushed titanium finish by Noken.



4. CONSCIOUS EATING AND RELAXED MEALS. Eat slowly, without rushing, without the television on in the kitchen and with good conversation. The meal should be a moment of peace and enjoyment: stress impairs our digestive functions and puts our immune system on guard.

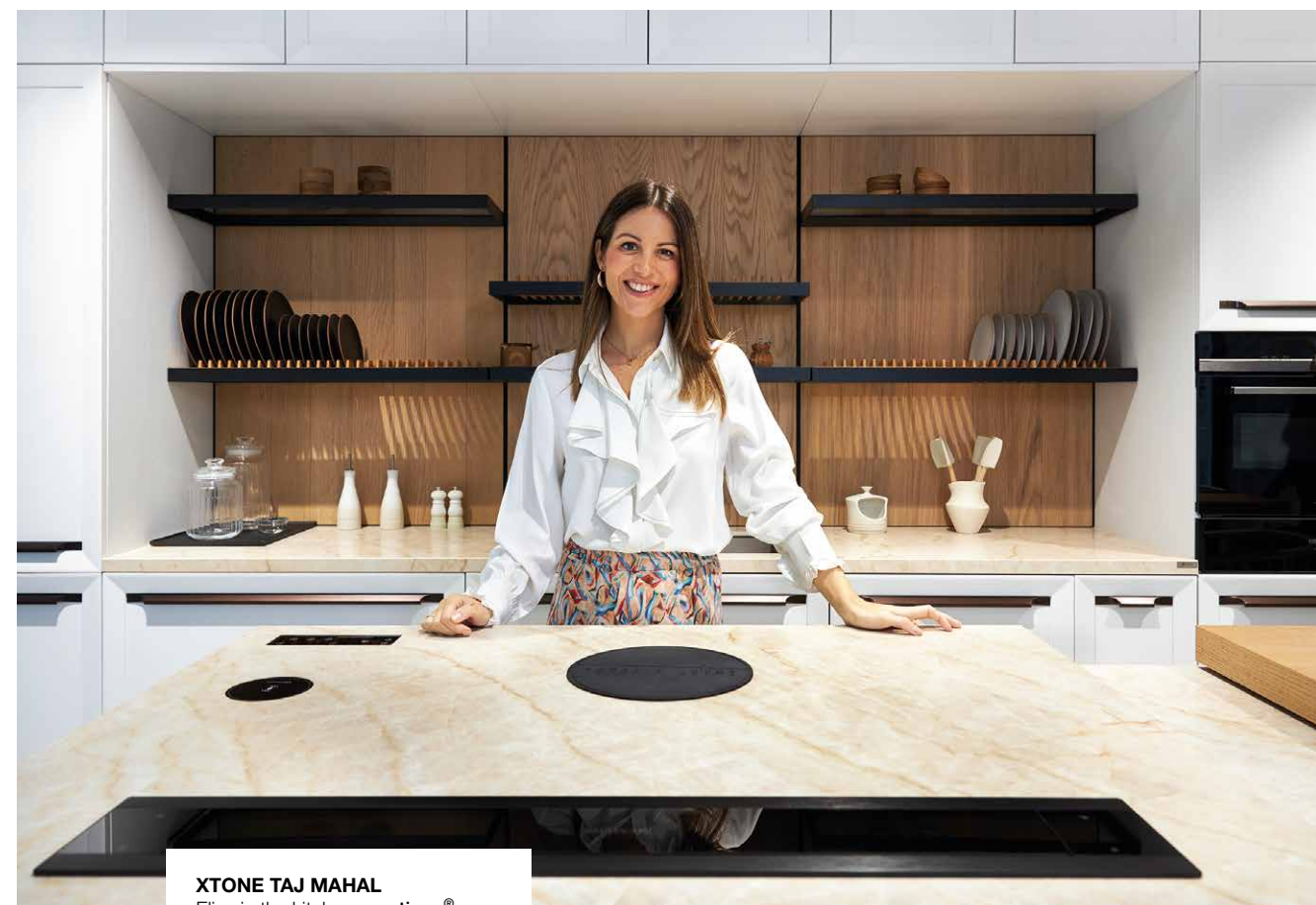
As an integrative nutritionist, I look for the connection between food and the environment, emotions, customs, the work and family environment, and human biology itself. This integrative vision allows me to design completely personalised eating plans to achieve greater awareness of the relationship between lifestyle and physical and emotional well-being.

Food generates links and emotion at the same time. Just three seconds after eating something, brain activity changes and the brain becomes excited about the food. The act of eating activates the appetite regulatory centre, the senses, taste memory, the reward system and the feeling of well-being. All of this is orchestrated by hormones and neurotransmitters. Therefore, food is an emotional act, and sometimes we look for food just to attain this neural sensation. We must take advantage of these connections to generate a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere in the home kitchen. In addition, this favours the correct digestion of the food. The vagus nerve controls the digestive process and is activated when we are relaxed and happy.

It is scientifically proven that a meal eaten in a good atmosphere feels much better.

Integrative nutrition works in depth on the digestive and intestinal microbiota balances to strengthen immunity, in addition to ensuring correct absorption of nutrients. The intestine represents 70% of our defences and is considered by many to be our “second brain” due to the extensive connection between these two organs. Although we are talking about a complex and fascinating clinical issue, the reality is that the keys to maintaining a healthy microbiota are in good cooking, good relationships and toxic-free environments.

And the space where we sit to eat is so important! As a mother, one of my goals in life is for my children to sit every day at a table that smells and tastes like home. It’s funny how the same recipe can taste so different in two different homes. Food prepared with love always has the touch of the person who prepares it and is something unique and non-transferable. There are always many memories and emotions around a kitchen. Sitting at a table and eating as a family is one of the healthiest acts that exist. My experience allows me to assure you that we need to return to ancestral customs, synchronise family schedules, establish the tradition of laying the table, share and discuss together the nuances of each recipe and enjoy those essential moments.



XTONE TAJ MAHAL
Elisa in the kitchen emotions® E4.40 Porcelana mate and Roble Puro, by Gamadecor. The worktop is by XTONE, model Taj Mahal.
Photo: Álex del Río

Elisa Blázquez
Although her profession and vocation are clinical nutrition, Elisa comes from the world of construction. She grew up watching living spaces being built and, without a doubt, kitchens have always been her favourite room in the home. She has been working in nutrition from an integrative approach for fourteen years, attending to the physical, psychological, sociocultural and environmental needs of each patient to create health strategies. She directs her own team of nutritionists in “Tu nutricionista integrativa” and combines her healthcare activity with communication and dissemination.

Architectural identity

In the 21st century, architectural diversity is characterised by designs of great stylistic richness which use high-quality finishes and materials. Façades are part of this environment; here, form and function merge to captivate the eye.

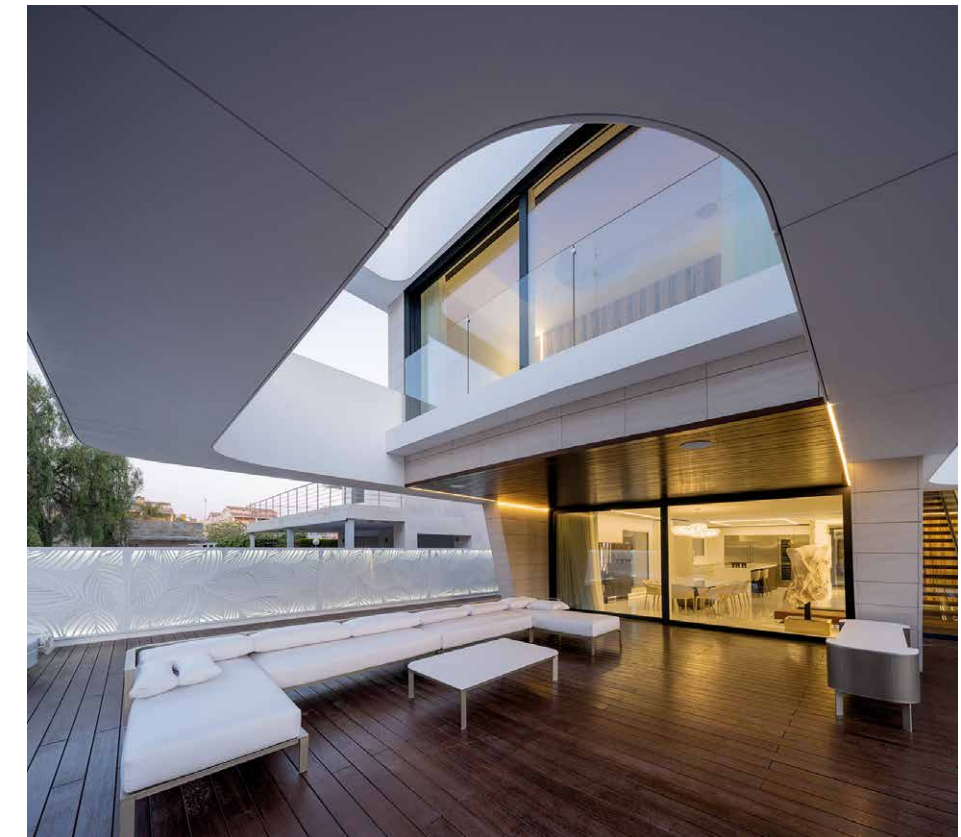


façades

CASA GOLF EUROPA

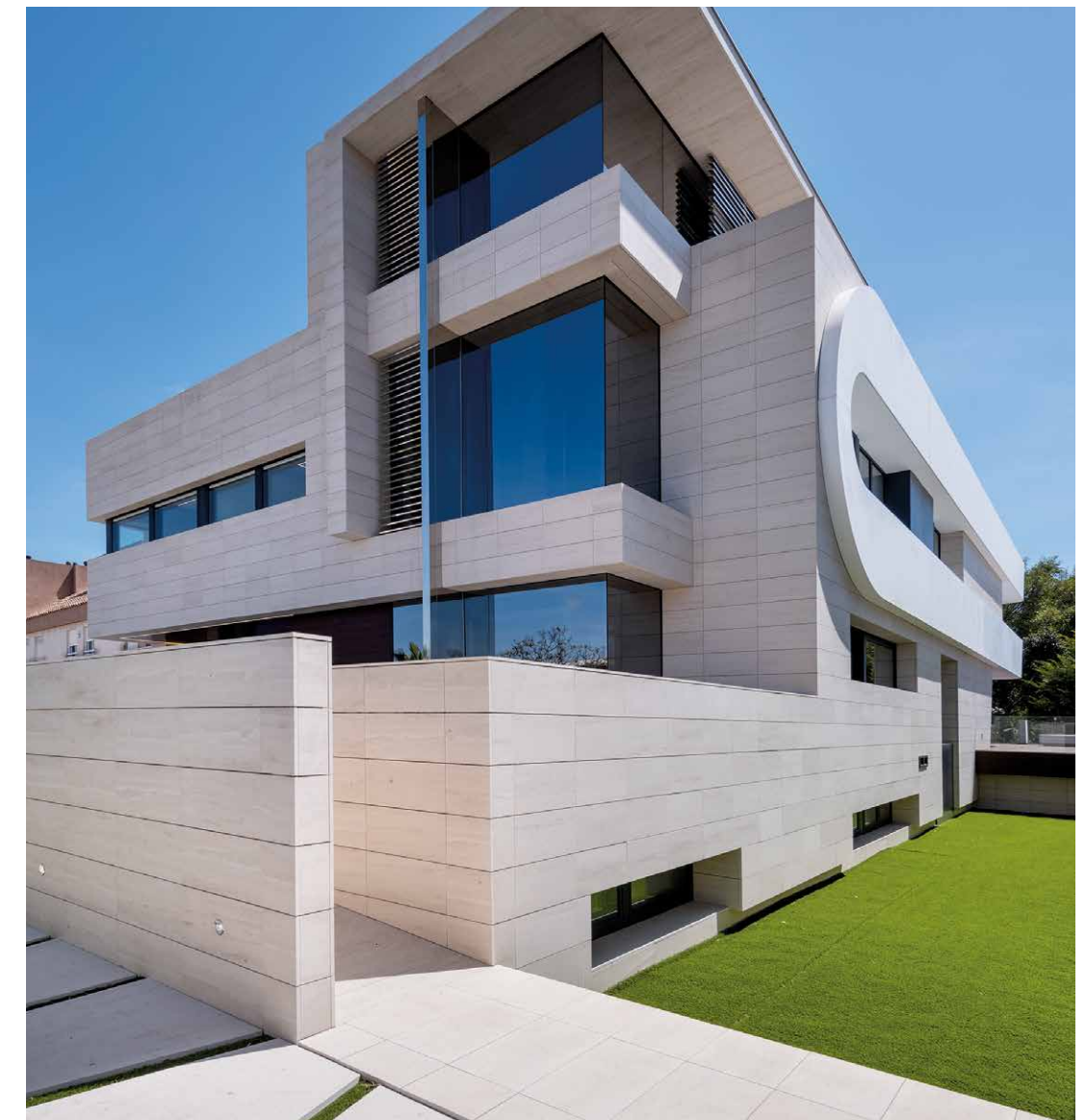
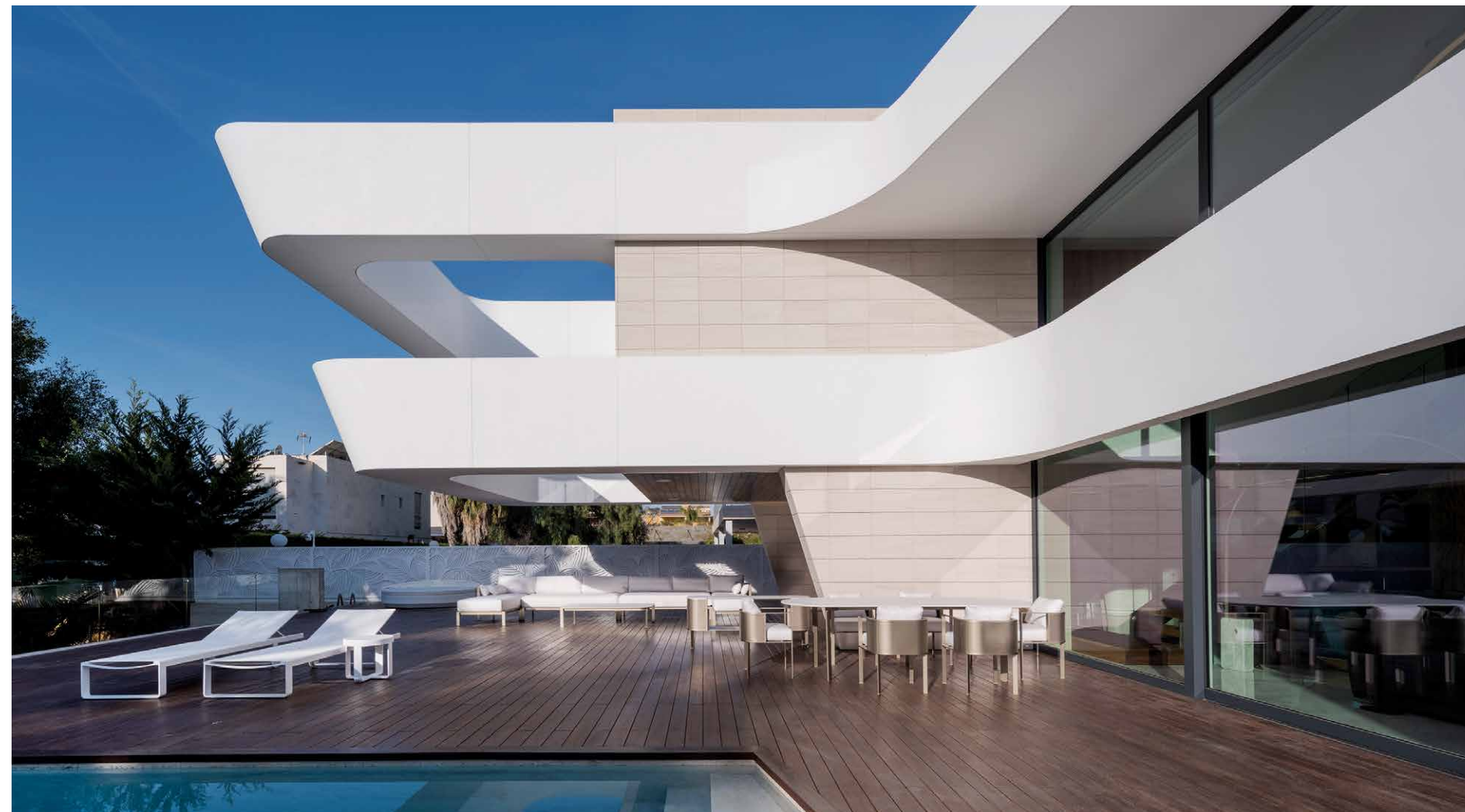
Alicante (Spain)

The Cano García - Alicante Arquitectura studio has been responsible for designing this family home using BIM (Building Information Modelling) technology. Developed as a 3D virtual reality model, the house opens to the outside through floor-to-ceiling glass windows combined with a cladding based on solid and pure materials, anchored through a ventilated façade system by **Porcelanosa**. In contrast to the pure and straight lines that define the front façade, an exterior cantilever with curved edges and concentric lines takes centre stage on the rear façade, acting as a pergola for the outdoor terrace. This formal interplay by architect Pedro José Cano García is accompanied by an elegant combination of colours, where the ochre tones of natural stone by **L'Antic Colonial** merge with the classic white of **K-Life 1100** Solid Surface by **Krion**. And all this in an elegant finish that emphasises the materials and the richness of the location.



Previous double page and next to these lines: the sculptural cantilevered façade is clad with panels of Krion® K-Life 1100 Snow White, which are installed using the K-FIX system by Butech.

Below: the front of the house features FV-Stone by Butech, a ventilated façade system with hidden anchoring and a final cladding of natural stone by L'Antic Colonial in an ochre tone, which combines with the glass windows of the house. Photos: David Frutos.



TOUR D'ORGUE Paris (France)

The auditorium of the National Higher Conservatory of Music and Dance of Paris, located in La Villette, has changed its skin: its old stone cladding, which was much deteriorated, has been replaced by hard-wearing and durable panels of **Krion® Lux 6502** Solid Surface. A change that has taken place under the direction of Émilie Delorme, awarded the Order of Arts and Letters of France in 2020, who has brought this institution to the highest levels of academic excellence at national and international levels. The building, designed by architect Christian de Portzamparc, maintains its exact original appearance thanks to three-dimensional modelling and scanning carried out by drone. The renovation has required a total of 1,268 panels of **Krion®** to cover the 656 m² of concrete cladding surface with the **C-Bolt** ventilated façade system by **Butech**. The three windows on the façade have also been rebuilt. In the case of the two double-glazed side windows, each 6 metres high, emphasis has been placed on making the inclined frames watertight and ensuring their connection with the layout. The third window, an oval roof oculus measuring 2.50 metres x 3 metres, has been custom made.



A total of 1,268 panels of Krion® Lux 6502 make up the unique façade of this hall in the shape of an inclined truncated cone at the National Higher Conservatory of Music and Dance in Paris.
Photos: Ferrante Ferranti / CNSMDP.



façades

MERRYHILL FARM

Hampshire (United Kingdom)

Located in the picturesque Hampshire countryside, Merryhill Farm features a trio of houses with contemporary design, each carefully integrated into the slope of the landscape. The project, carried out by the OB Architecture studio, is a harmonious mix of privacy and openness, with large windows that invite you to enjoy the environment from the enclosure provided by the building. The sober façade is completed by wooden cladding in a natural finish and **XLIGHT** porcelain panels by **Porcelanosa**, finished in a grey tone which contrasts with the surrounding vegetation. Each of the properties has an additional third floor to the rear which forms the ground floor and leads directly onto a stone terrace and landscaped lawn. The design of the front of each house is deliberately more discreet and private, with smaller openings, giving prominence to the stone and, especially, to the porcelain cladding. The interiors are completed with finishes by the **PORCELANOSA Group**.



The façades of the three homes combine floor-to-ceiling glass windows with wooden walls in a natural finish and large panels of **XLIGHT** porcelain by **Porcelanosa**, installed using a hidden anchoring system developed by **Butech** to highlight the effect of the ceramics. This architectural design, along with a solid landscaping plan, provides a refreshing and contemporary aesthetic that enhances the rural charm of the environment.

Photos: Martin Gardner.



interview SAÏD HEJAL

“The great goal of Kronos is to create cities with soul”

We talk to Saïd Hejal, CEO of Kronos Homes, the company that constructs unique buildings integrated into the environment, based on a new type of urban planning that creates community, art, culture and quality of life.

Text: PAOLA ROCCA

Almost ten years ago, Kronos arrived in the Spanish property market, determined to develop an innovative concept and break the mould. How has Kronos influenced the market, what values has it been able to impose and what are the new challenges?

Rather than imposing, we want to convince. The great goal of Kronos is to create cities with soul. We know that urban planning is an agent of fundamental social change and that architecture is the tool to make it a reality. Therefore, for us, design is an added value, not an expense. The only way for our work to become our legacy is for it to be inspiring, for those who enjoy it to feel it to be their own. Something they can identify with.

This in itself is a challenge, but as we move forward other issues emerge that also pose challenges. For example, for some time now we have been reclaiming the role of the “work of art” in urban planning and architecture. In urban planning, through the donation of sculptures, such as the Luna Paiva totem pole in Valencia. And, in architecture, by including pieces by great artists in our residential buildings, as was done in the great projects of the 50s, 60s and 70s. In the end, they are elements of identity that unite neighbourhoods and generate community through the popularisation of culture.

How do you see the health of the property market in times burdened by political and economic uncertainties?

At Kronos we are optimistic about the situation in the sector, and we have appreciated the success of our high-quality, sustainable homes and our philosophy of committing to architecture, design and art. The important thing about this is that we see a healthy and stable sector. That matters a lot to us, enabling us to fulfil our purpose of providing differential value in the long term.

There is a lot of talk about the market for renting versus the market for buying. You launched the Stay by Kronos home brand. What is the brand's journey and its future course?

What we have sought with both brands, Kronos Homes and Stay by Kronos, is for them to complement each other, thus creating, from shared brand values, an offer for those who want to buy and for those who prefer to rent.



Specifically, at Stay by Kronos we are helping to meet a demand that is increasing in the market due to demographic changes in Spanish society: family units are formed later, have fewer members than before, and economic and employment uncertainty does not allow many people to take on a mortgage. That is why we offer BTR residential buildings with affordable homes, but always with our differentiating elements: they are high-quality new-build homes that reflect our concern for design, art, sustainability and technology. The special thing about Stay is that everything is

centred on the tenant. The homes have been designed to encourage the creation of community through their premium amenities that focus on well-being, so you have the comforts of a hotel in your own home.

From the outset, Kronos decided to work with great architects and designers, such as Ricardo Bofill, Rafael de La-Hoz, Joaquín Torres and Eduardo Souto de Moura, among others. Have you managed to create a built environment in which beauty and a passion for improving the architecture of cities have their own voice and are profitable?

At Kronos we are contributing our grain of sand to improving the skylines of the cities of Spain and Portugal through our projects, but architecture needs passion and time. That is why sometimes we work with great recognised architects and at other times we support local talent with architects and studios who, in addition to having an interesting architectural vision that we like, know the local habitat of each project.

**“Porcelanosa shares with us the value of elegance.
From the beginning, the company was our travel companion”**

It is clear that the process is not always easy, but that is what drives us, because far from mass or “assembly line” production we seek a legacy for cities. Architecture is an art, and that is why we are convinced that it is worth taking risks.

Let’s review your life history: born in Paris to Lebanese parents, you’ve lived in Montreal, New York, Paris, London, speak five languages, are an art collector, philanthropist, traveller and lover of outdoor sports. All this makes me think that you are a renaissance man of the 21st century. What do you do when you’re not working?

If I’m honest, I haven’t watched television for ten years; instead I read for an hour a day. I meditate several times a day, because it makes me feel good and organises my ideas. I also do sports every day, to free my mind and body, and above all I like to walk with my dog Lola. Also, I go to the museum every week.

What made you decide to live in Madrid?

Madrid is a mine of talent. When you want to develop a groundbreaking project, when you try to do something different, you need people capable of thinking differently. That is what I have found and what I continue to discover every day. People often talk about the artistic avant-garde, the professional quality and the economic opportunities that Madrid offers, but always in very general terms. It’s when you take it down to day-to-day life that you realise that the city is much more than a tourist cliché of art, cuisine and quality of life. Madrid is exciting because it is moved by exciting people. And that’s where I like to be, learning from them, working with them and contributing my vision so we can all grow together.

What is a working day like at the Kronos offices?

Every day is different from the one before. In the same day I can attend the presentation of one of our projects to the market, visit an important development site, review the business plan, meet with the creative communication and marketing team, do an interview with the media and meet with our investors. For all of this to be carried out, it is essential to have a multidisciplinary team that is very committed and really likes what they do, and I am really happy in that sense.

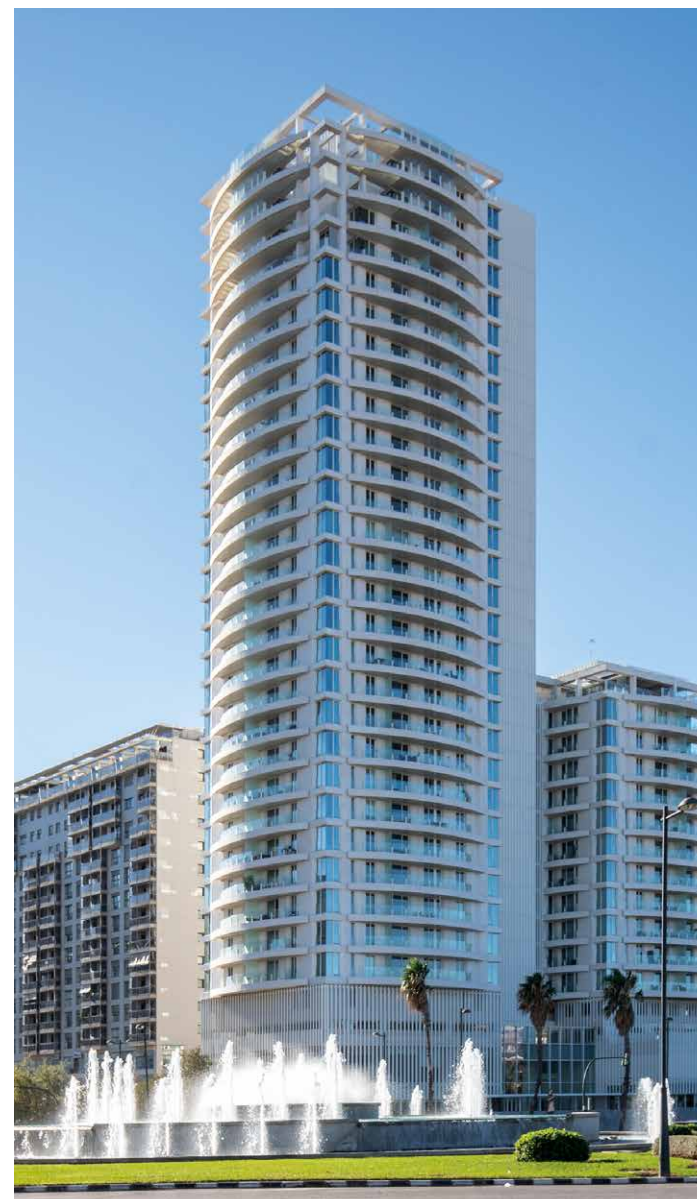
What place does elegance occupy in your decisions?

I would say that decisions are 80% rational, 10% passion and 10% elegance. Elegance is a value that is difficult to define and very subjective. For me it implies art, uniqueness and excellence. And that is what I try to convey to the philosophy of Kronos with our values focused on architecture, design and art in the broadest sense.

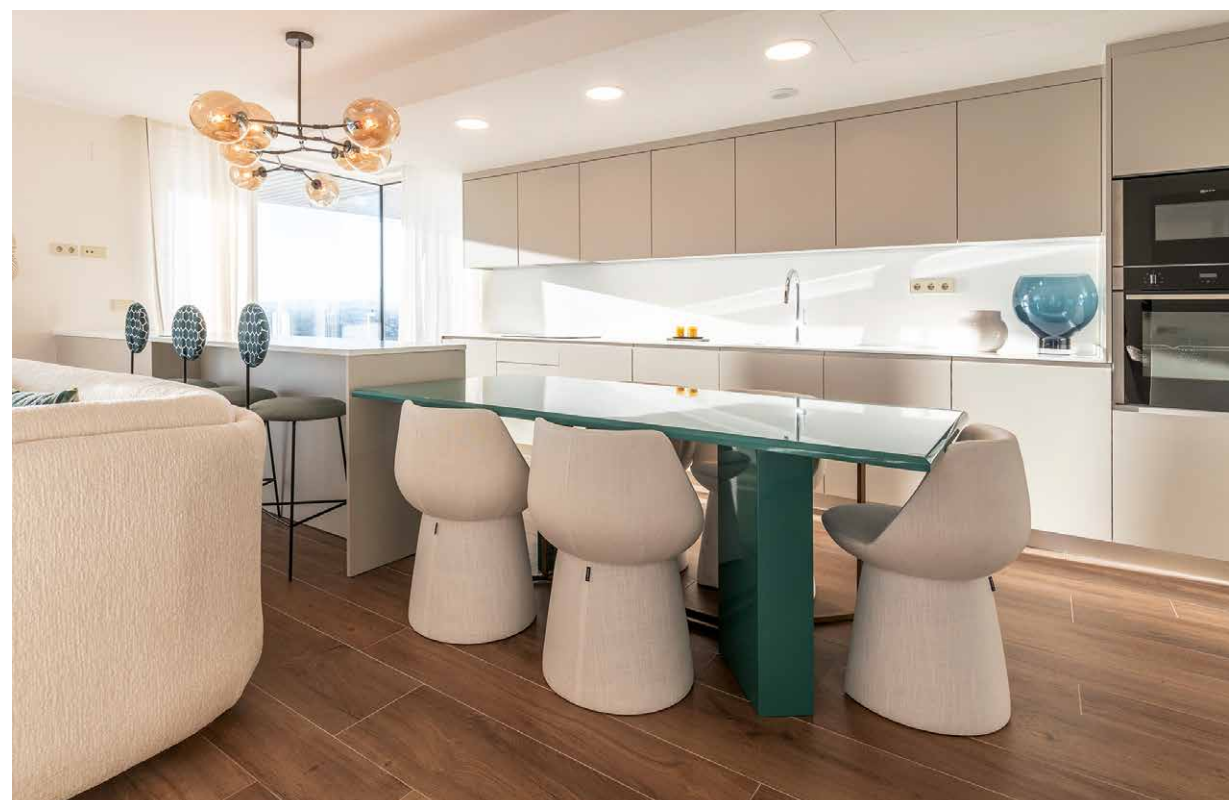
Good design transcends the aesthetic, allowing the creation of homes based mainly on the quality of life of its inhabitants, designed to adapt to each user, each city and the needs of the planet.

Words such as sustainability, resilience and responsible construction have become common, but what is behind the words? How does a company like Kronos influence the construction of a healthier and more liveable world?

As neighbourhood developers, we focus on ensuring that local districts provide quality of life and new services to their inhabitants, using sustainability and architectural design that integrates into the environment. And our way of building influences the way of life of those who live there. Our buildings are unique and integrated into their environment.



On the left: the façade of the IKON building, in the city of Valencia.
Below these lines: the bathrooms have been finished in PAR-KER® flooring and Rivoli wall tiles, both by Porcelanosa. The bathroom features fixtures and fittings by Noken.
In the project, featuring products by the PORCELANOSA Group, highlights include the living room which is open to the kitchen by Gamadecor with Krion® worktop and taps by Noken.
The PAR-KER® porcelain floor by Porcelanosa provides continuity, durability, warmth and elegance to the entire home. Its installation and grouting have been carried out using materials by Butech.



Furthermore, our homes are designed to be enjoyed according to the lifestyle we envisage, so that they adapt 100% to our customers. We make homes with excellent common areas where art prevails, with gardens, swimming pools or children’s areas, but we wanted to go further, with very high quality gyms (and for this we’ve created our own brand) urban vegetable gardens, a wellness area and padel tennis courts. In short, a layer of services that adapt to the lifestyle of our clients.

Your collaboration with the PORCELANOSA Group has resulted in iconic projects, such as IKON. What values have you found in the different brands of our group?

Porcelanosa shares the value of elegance with us. From the beginning, the company was our travel companion. It has been an almost inevitable alliance because we share a common philosophy: commitment to innovation and design, and a focus on sustainability.



Good vibrations

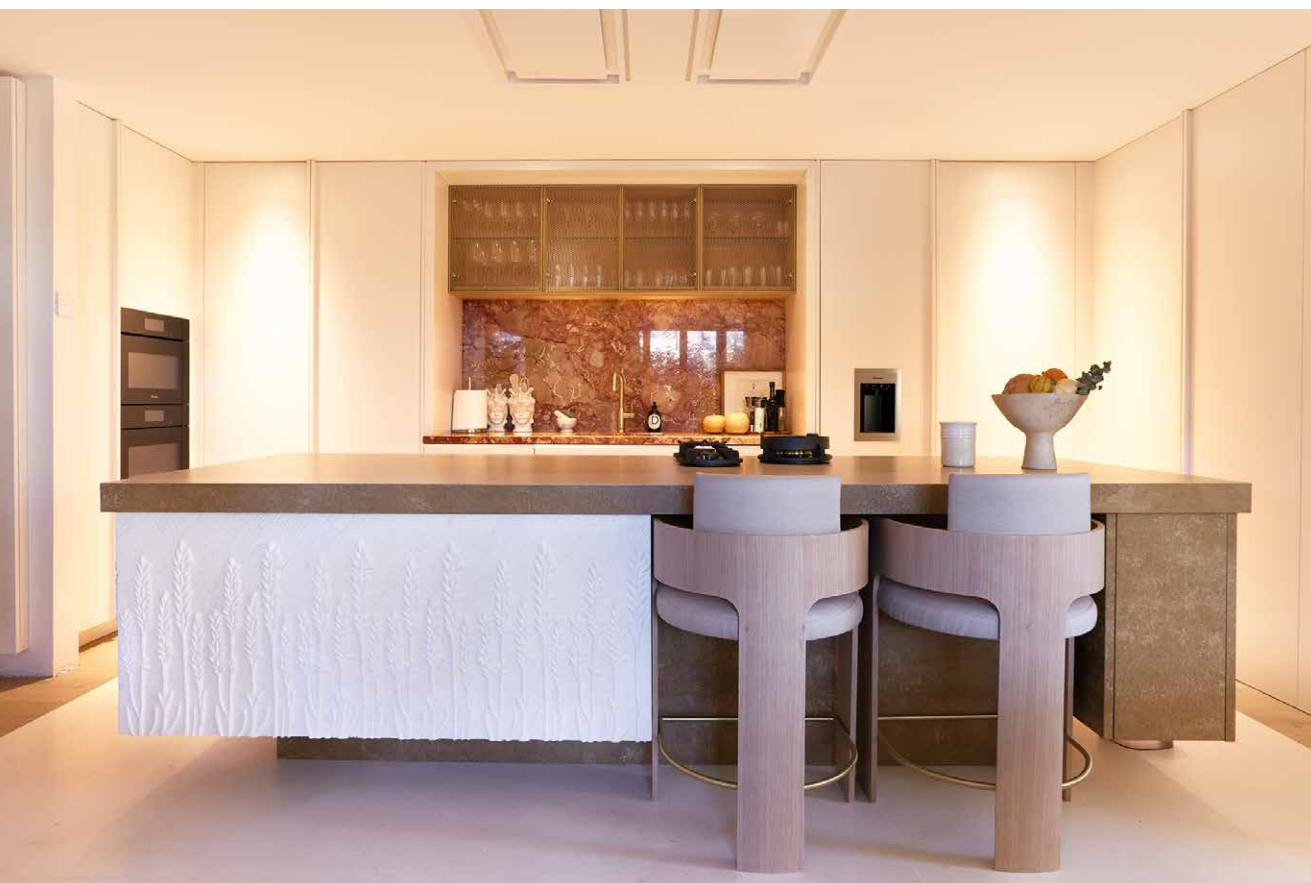
A penthouse that reflects the positive, dynamic and cosmopolitan personality of its owner, Tamara Falcó. The project was carried out by Kronos Homes, with interior design by Beatriz Silveira and materials by the **PORCELANOSA Group**.

The kitchen, open to the living room, is the heart of the home. It was Tamara's decision to select the model emotions® and design the front face of the island in Altissima Piedra Paloma Honed by XTONE with reliefs of ears of wheat.

Above, on the right: Tamara in the main bathroom of her new home accompanied by Jacinta, one of the family. The vanity surface has been made from Altissima Lumix Polished quartzite by XTONE. The floor is Altissima Piedra Paloma Honed limestone by XTONE with carving by a marble worker.

Few things dim the contagious smile of Tamara Falcó, whose personal motto is surely to look at life with enthusiasm and without fear. This is the first home she has owned, and also her first home as a newly-wed, which makes it doubly important. This penthouse of almost 200 m², with terrace and swimming pool, is an apartment by The Collection Kronos Homes; which is synonymous with high-quality construction and premium locations. For her first house, Tamara wanted comfort, light and some very personal touches. For the interior design work she chose Beatriz Silveira, who has achieved an exceptional result in record time, creating a space which combines elegance and maximum liveability.

Tamara was clear that the kitchen should be the heart of the home. The place to get together and, of course, the emotional centre where she can apply her



On the left: the model emotions® with the finishes E4 Cuarcita Mate – E6 Roble Alba. The worktop is XTONE Tivoli Beige sintered stone. The front of the island is Altissima Piedra Paloma Honed, carved by a marble worker following a pattern of ears of wheat. The worktop around the sink and the splashback have been made using Breccia Pernice marble from the Altissima range by XTONE. The kitchen has a hidden inductive hob, model Smart Kitchen dual by Gamadecor. On the right: the columns with carved spheres around the doorway and the skirting board have been made using Altissima Piedra Paloma Honed limestone by XTONE. The floors feature Wald 1L Custom natural wood floorboards by L'Antic Colonial. Below these lines: detail of the guest bathroom. Washbasin model Aro on Top made using Krypton®. Marble vanity surface Altissima Negro Marquina Leather by XTONE. Taps Lignage Luxe in brushed gold finish, by Noken.

experience as a qualified *Cordon Bleu* chef and her love for family and gatherings with friends. She decided that her “most important room in the house” would be made with materials by the **PORCELANOSA Group**. The result is a smart kitchen, open to the living room, based around the model **emotions®** by Gamadecor. The outstanding Smart Kitchen system integrates the most advanced technology into the XTONE surface, resulting in an invisible dual inductive hob and three gas burners. The lower mural surrounding the island is made of Altissima Piedra Paloma Honed by XTONE with a prominent relief in the form of ears of wheat; a very personal decision by Tamara inspired by its powerful Christian symbology, present in the gospel of Jesus.

The dining room is welcoming, and is surrounded by windows that open onto a large terrace with plants, which magnify the feeling of being in a sunny garden with views of the Madrid parks that surround the area in which Tamara’s home is located. The entrance to the dining room features arches with hemispheres carved by a marble worker. This idea came from Beatriz Silveira and the material used is Altissima Piedra Paloma Honed by XTONE. The high skirting boards throughout the house have also been made with this XTONE limestone. The floors in the dining room and

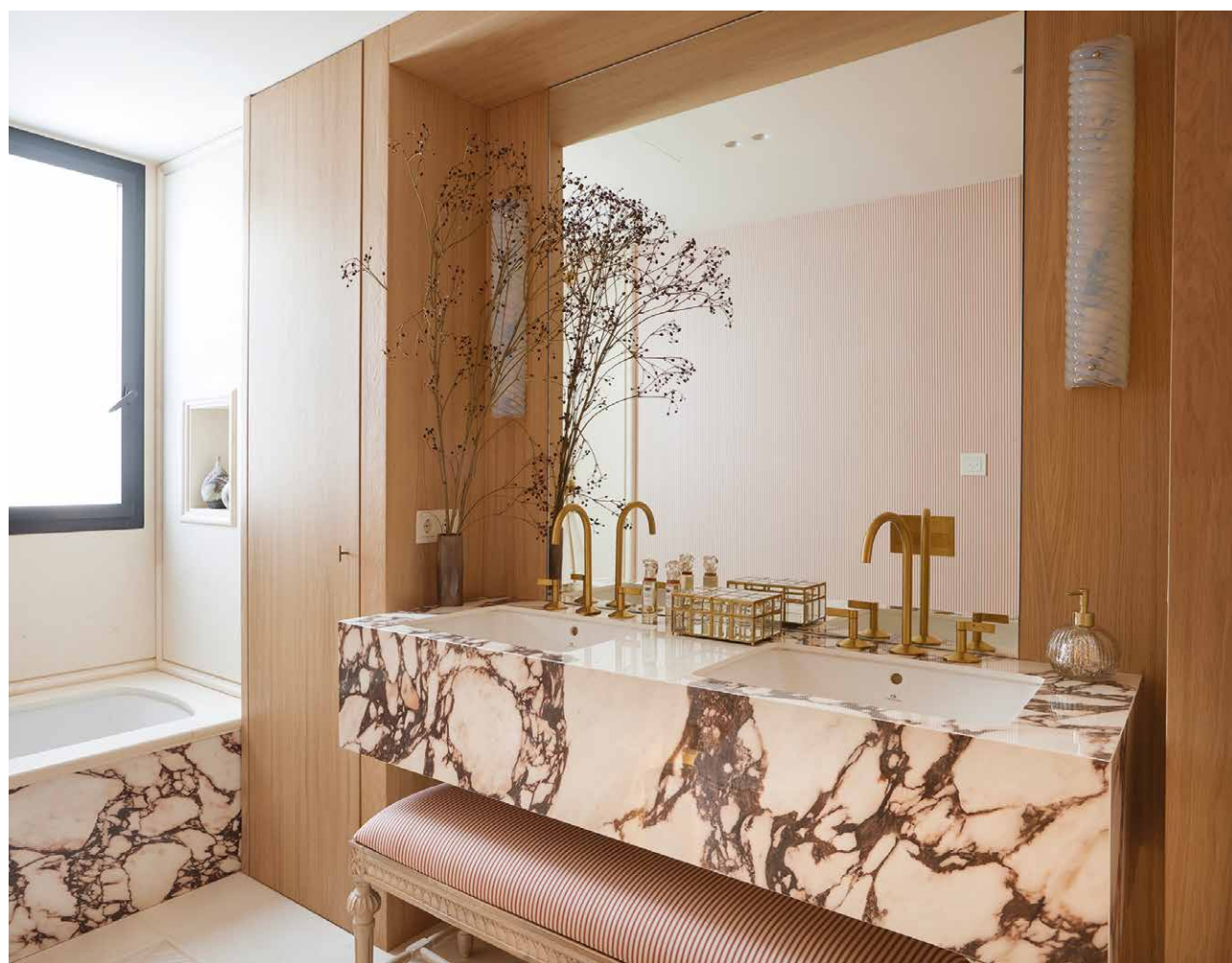




On the left and facing page: master bathroom with shower column from the Lignage Luxe collection, in brushed gold finish, by Noken. Bathtub model Arch Double made using Krion®. Floor-standing taps for the bathtub, from the Lignage Cross collection. Washbasins model Sotto by Noken. Vanity surface made using Altissima Lumix Polished quartzite by XTONE. Washbasin taps from the Lignage Bateria Cross collection. Shower floor and walls are finished in Altissima Lumix Polished quartzite natural stone by XTONE. Floor finished in Altissima Piedra Paloma Honed limestone by XTONE.

Below, second bathroom: acrylic bathtub by Noken with XTONE Viola Rossé sintered stone. Taps for bathtub and thermostatic shower from the Lignage collection. Washbasins Sotto by Noken, vanity surface XTONE Viola Rossé Polished. Taps Lignage Luxe.

Facing page, below: view of the main bedroom.



living room feature natural wood floorboards from L'Antic Colonial, reinforcing the feeling of spaciousness. The main bedroom and its bathroom are reached from a dressing room that features a mural by Carol Moreno and a dressing table with carefully designed lighting. The master bedroom and bathroom are open to the terrace, thus balancing light and space. The Lignage taps and Sotto washbasins, both by Noken, feature here, forming a harmonious composition with the Altissima vanity surface by XTONE, which is also used to finish the shower floor and walls; the shower taps are Lignage. The two remaining bathrooms are also made entirely using high-quality materials by the **PORCELANOSA Group**.

Everything in this house exudes beauty, sophistication and serenity in an environment away from the media noise. A real home.



KINEKI

Another form of sustainability

Prefabricated modules and renewable materials define a flexible design system used to build three houses in a unique space. The project, led by the Mexican company Amezcua, is committed to versatile, efficient and, above all, ecological construction.

Photos: FERNANDO MARROQUIN, JAIME NAVARRO and BETO LANZ

The Mexican studio Amezcua has designed this complex of three homes based on a system which is revolutionary in terms of both construction and sustainability: Kineki. Prefabricated modules and renewable materials characterise this flexible design system that, simultaneously, supports a freer lifestyle that connects with nature.

To develop this modular system, whose name comes from the Nahuatl *quinequi* (which means "he wants"), renewable elements and low-impact sustainable materials are used to create a design with few pieces that are assembled easily and elegantly. The Kineki method offers various options that allow you to build almost any type of space in less time than traditional construction systems and within a tighter budget. Each module measures 3.6 metres in width/length/height. With them, other interconnectable modules are created that provide multiple alternatives to build everything from a house to a commercial premises, including school classrooms or terraces.

As proposed by the studio founded by Julio Amezcua, the Kineki system represents a paradigm shift that adapts to any environment, circumventing established guidelines. It is a living and dynamic construction method that honours wood, the only ecological, sustainable, reusable and recyclable material that stores carbon in its manufacture and that allows architecture to merge with nature.

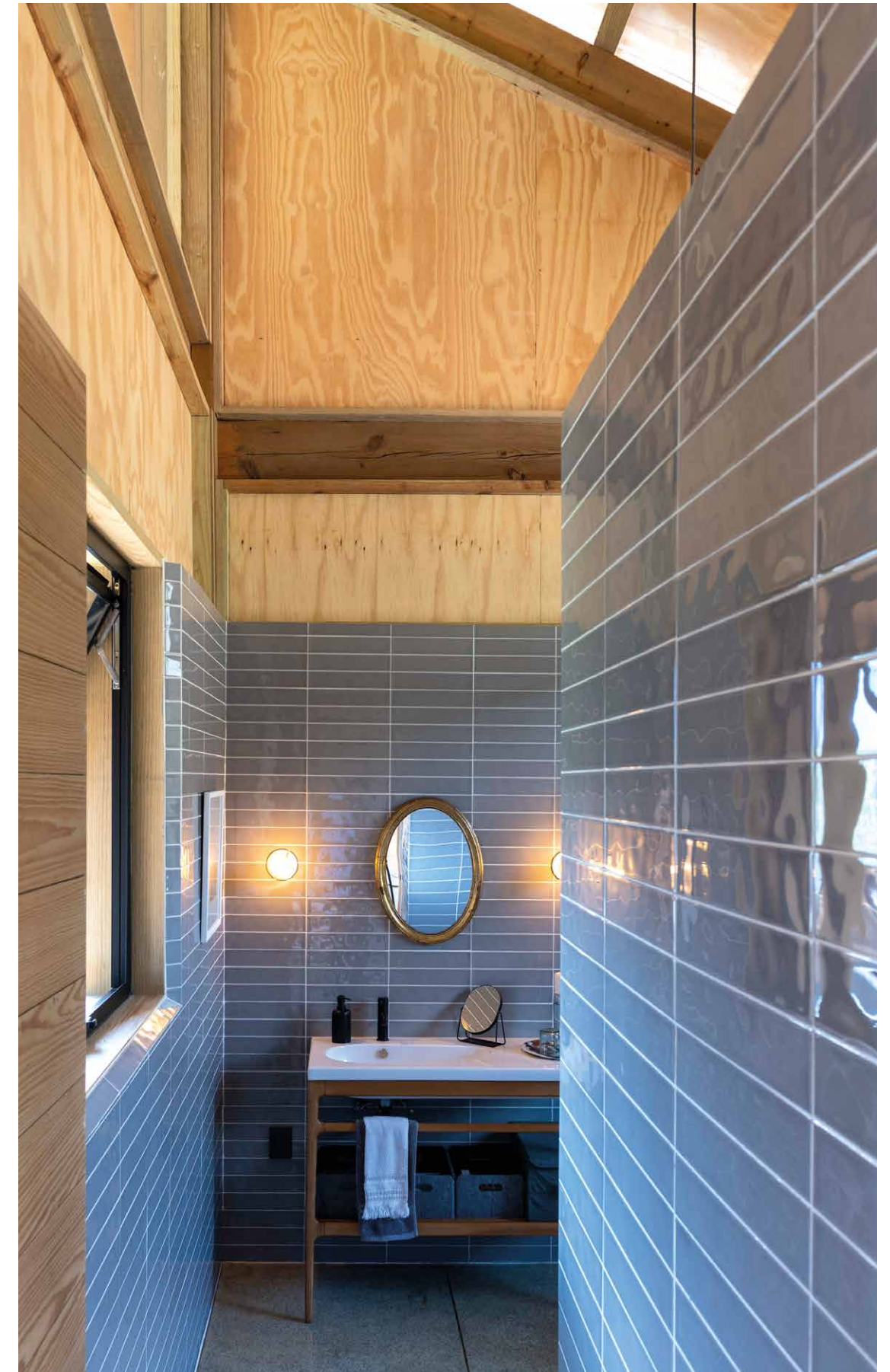
The prefabricated modules used for this project, located on a private property in Tepoztlán, have been built with pine from the Mexican state of Durango and have an original carbonised finish using the traditional Japanese technique of *shou sugi ban*.



After six years of research and development, the Amezcua team has designed three prototype houses that illustrate the variety of results that can be achieved using this system which is capable of transforming and evolving to respond to the client's needs in a simple and functional way. Casa Pablo offers 450 m² and consists of 28 modules: 10 for the covered terrace, 7 for the interior spaces, 4 for the bedrooms, 3 for the bathrooms, 2 for the kitchens and 2 more for the distribution areas. The interior finishes include plywood and wallpaper, along with floors in black volcanic stone and terrazzo. The exterior is dressed in charred wood using the traditional Japanese technique of *shou sugi ban*. Casa Julio, meanwhile, offers 150 m² distributed over two floors and a selection of 8 modules on two levels. On the ground floor there's a kitchen, a living room, a bathroom and a bedroom, while on the upper floor there are two bedrooms and a bathroom. Casa Japo consists of a single floor and distributes its 140 m² of surface area across a living room, a kitchen, a study, a bedroom and two bathrooms. All this from 6 interconnected modules. Each home has a roof made of plywood, a waterproofing material and black clay tiles.



The bathroom is finished in ceramic tiles with a glossy finish and mosaic effect, Malaga Acero by Porcelanosa. The single-lever mixer tap at the washbasin, the siphon, as well as the spout, the shower head and the hook, in a matt black finish, are from the collection Round by Noken. Also from the same company are the built-in bathtub Alma Duo and the ash furniture Hotels.



CASA ATLANTIS

Serenity on the outside,
warmth on the inside

With the murmur of the sea as
a soundtrack, this home offers
spectacular panoramic views and
a serene and elegant interior that
invites you to relax and escape.

Text: TXELL MORENO Photos: LUIS BELTRÁN



A spectacular infinity pool overlooks the Mediterranean from a balcony surrounded by nature. The terraces around the pool and throughout the exterior are finished in large-format non-slip limestone floor tiles by L'Antic Colonial.



On the left: warm tones and a varied combination of textures characterise this home whose flooring, in raw details and natural finish, is by L'Antic Colonial.

Below these lines: the kitchen, distributed around an island, combines the wooden furniture emotions® by Gamadecor, in Roble Cobre finish, with the Altissima Pangea stone worktop and front cladding by XTONE, based on the union of quartz and feldspar.



This avant-garde home lies in the beautiful bay of Portixol, in Jávea, and enjoys excellent views and an exceptional natural environment. A comprehensive renovation of the home was carried out by the Binomio Arquitectura studio, enhancing its warmth and tranquillity through the unification of spaces and the use of materials of great formal richness.

With the sound of the waves in the background, the exterior is based on a simple concept, where the white and light façade is combined with a Corten steel cladding. In contrast, a cosy interior has been created featuring limestone and natural oak. Together



Above these lines and to the right: the en-suite bathroom features a sculptural free-standing bathtub New Lounge B. Mate and the taps Lignage Luxe, in brushed gold finish, all by Noken. On the wall tiles, Altissima Port Monaco, by XTONE, feature the hooks Urban C by Noken. And in the washbasin area, the built-in brushed gold taps are the model Lignage by Noken. To the left and below on the right: on the upper floor, where we find the night-time area, the floor has been finished in large-format limestone by L'Antic Colonial. Its raw tone harmonises with the relaxed and serene environment, which combines white with tailor-made carpentry in natural tones. The straight and clean lines accentuate a sober and elegant interior design in harmony with the leather upholstery used on the seats and bed.

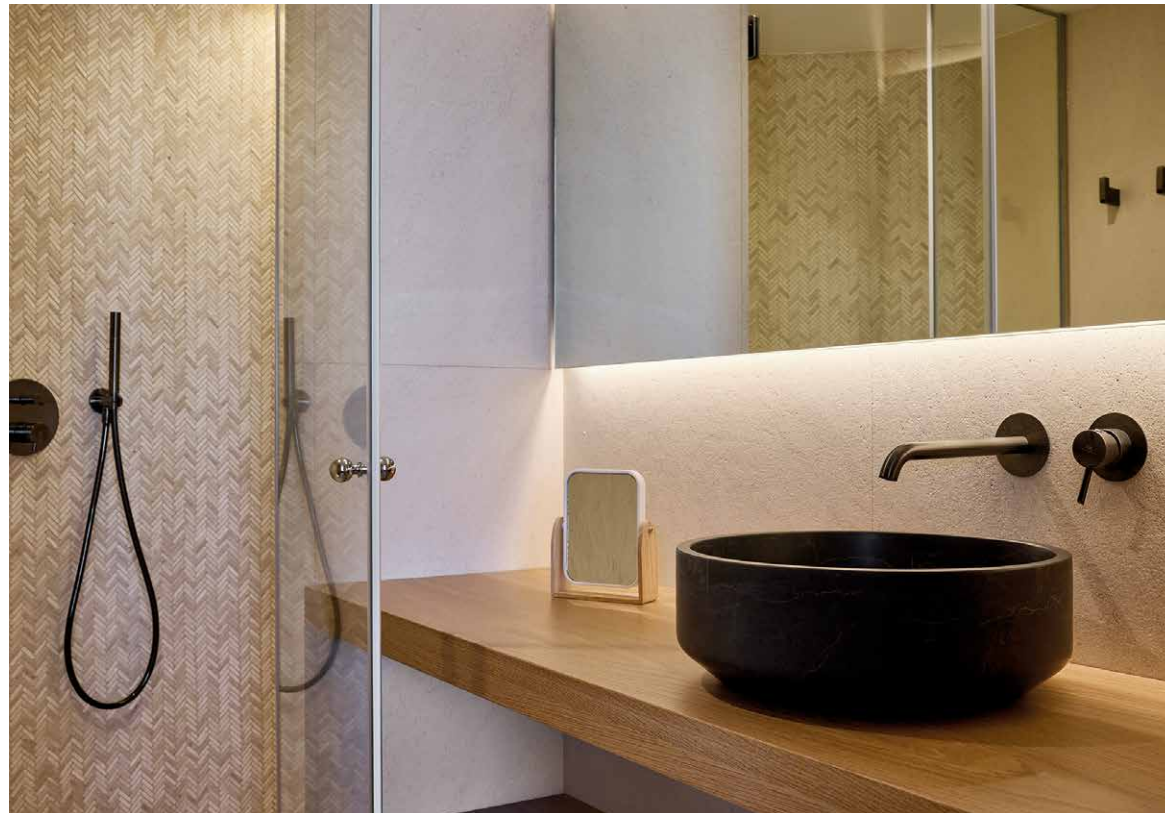


with natural stone facings, these materials generate environments full of character. This interior design, by Tribal Design Studio, follows the style criteria for a home with a warm Mediterranean atmosphere using custom-made furniture and a naturally-inspired colour palette.

The distribution of the home has created light-filled rooms on each floor. At the entrance and on the upper floor are the night-time and leisure areas: the bedrooms and the gym, with large terraces that open to the sea. The daytime area is found on the lower floor, with a large living-dining-kitchen linked to a porch, where you



On the left: both inside and outside the house, floors are finished in limestone tiles by L'Antic Colonial.
On the right: in the main bathroom, the Urban hooks and the Lignage mixer taps, both by Noken, feature an elegant copper finish.
Below these lines: in this bathroom, the Rondo shower mixer tap in titanium is accompanied by a shower head with minimalist design, both by Noken. The shower is tiled in the mosaic Paradise Arrow Blanco, by L'Antic Colonial. In the washbasin area, the built-in single-lever mixer tap Round by Noken, finished in black, harmonises with the washbasin Karon Circle Habana Dark Classico by L'Antic Colonial.



can enjoy a covered outdoor area. The infinity pool is positioned in the lowest area of the house, generating impressive continuity with the sea. In addition to all this, living areas have been created in the outdoor spaces, formed by embankments covered with native vegetation and linked by limestone stairways that allow you to explore the entire plot.



Gwen Hoopman embodies a new way of feeling and expressing interior design. From her agency, Gwen Hoopman Architectural Design, she successfully translates individual desires into striking designs and advises large companies and individual clients. Her style is elegant, yet serene and natural.

Natural sophistication

Your interior design reflects serenity, elegance and modernity. What are your main references when creating or recreating a space?

I use Pinterest and Instagram as a source of inspiration. They are my treasure trove of interior design ideas. It is also essential for me to travel, because there is a lot of beauty to discover in other places. When I create a space, I start with what we have: what details to keep or discard and how to make the most of the space.

Is your style a sophisticated version of the popular Nordic design that we all know and have adopted in our homes?

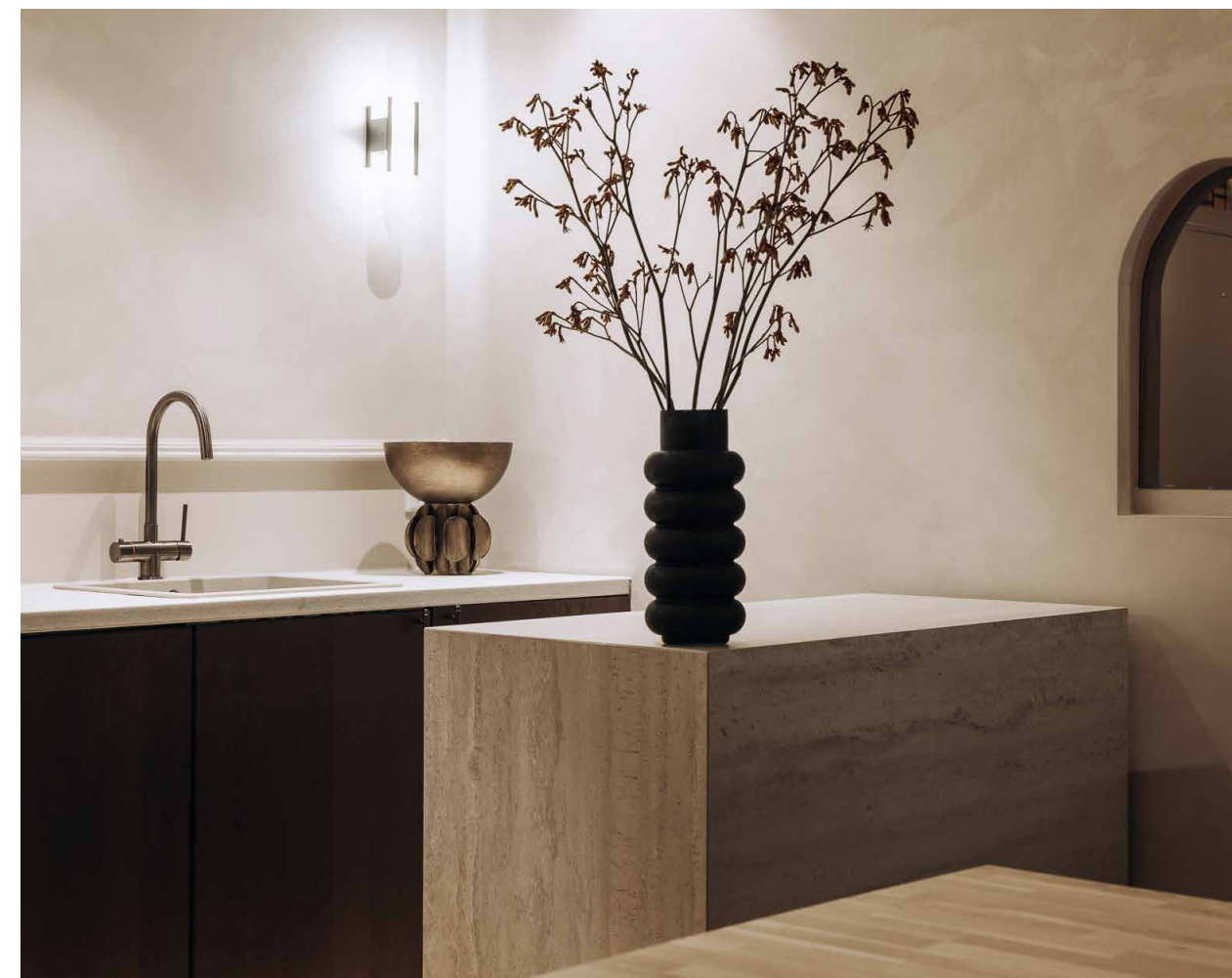
I think each person has their own version of any given style. The use of natural fibres and light furniture are typical features of Nordic design, and I love them. It also involves the use of clean lines, as well as durability and functionality. Harmony with nature has become an unmistakable hallmark of this creative style and can complement any interior design chosen for the home, because it is easily adaptable.

What role do light and colour play in your projects?

Light is one of the most important elements of any project, if not the most important. Light and lighting contribute greatly to the experience of a space. With the right lighting, all types of interior can be complemented and enhanced. It can also be used to draw attention to elements that are really important. Colours become more vivid in good light and, in turn, the design comes to life. Furthermore, colours play a prominent role in our daily lives. They influence our mood and activate our senses. Therefore, I adapt the colours to the function of the space and the way of life of the client or visitor.

Now let's talk about sustainability. How important is it to you and how do you apply sustainable criteria in your projects?

Fortunately, we are increasingly aware of the importance of sustainable design and the reasons why we want to apply it in our interiors. Every day there are more brands that, like **Porcelanosa**, make honest decisions, from design to production, that are better for people and the environment. And that's how I prefer to work. I also learn every day about innovative developments during the construction process and how to make a house or building fit for the future. Reusing materials from an old building, restoring a piece of furniture, or using vintage objects make a project unique, full of character and personal.



Facing page: XTONE Calacatta Gold Polished. The character and nobility of classic white marble are embodied in an elegant surface characterised by its luminous veins with distinguished golden details.

Above these lines: XTONE Fiori di Bosco, as a kitchen worktop, interprets the sophisticated Italian grey marble in a design that mixes stability and solidity through its pronounced greige veins. On the left: Roma Noce by Porcelanosa, the most elegant interpretation of classic travertine marble.

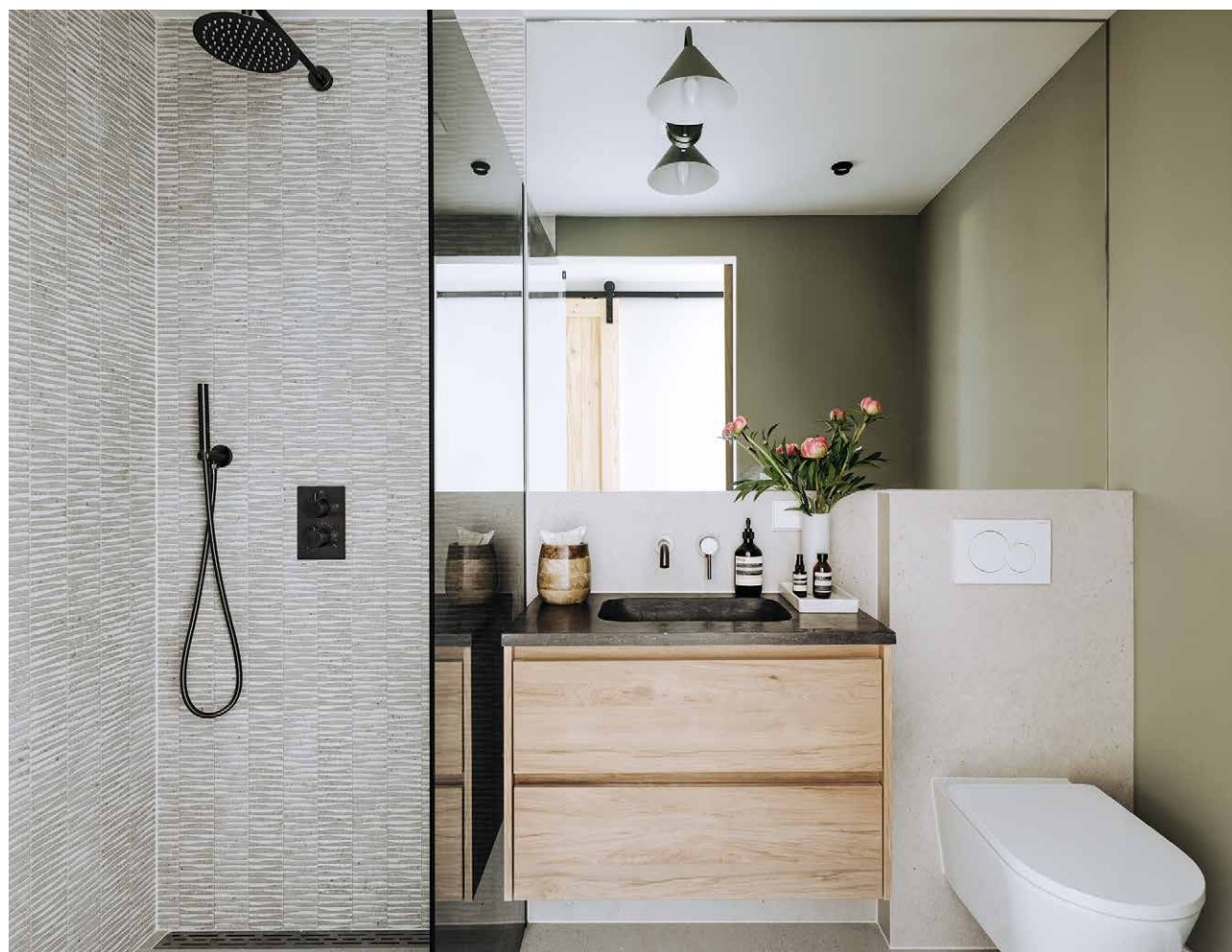
“For me, the challenge is to go one step further, to surprise the client with something that had not occurred to them or that they did not know could work for them”

Do Nordic and Mediterranean decorative tastes have common elements?

The new Mediterranean trend relies on the colours found in nature in southern Europe, with warmer hues, but it also uses natural materials, as does the Scandinavian style. For example, in materials such as wood, stone and wicker. Light fabrics, such as linen curtains, also fit perfectly with this trend. Both styles use materials that convey a feeling of serenity. The difference lies mainly in the use of colour. In the Mediterranean style, there is also more room for prints, which have become very fashionable lately. In my projects you can see very clean and serene interiors in beige, and interiors with more colour and prints. The important thing is that everything is in harmony and balance and that there is a sense of luxury.

You have spoken many times about the importance of always remaining curious and taking risks. Can you explain how these two concepts help you in your work?

My clients usually come to me with a specific request or an idea about what they like, whether it be a house, a hotel or a commercial project. That is to say, there is always a certain desire for how the final image should look. So, for me, the challenge is to go one step further, to surprise the client with something that had not occurred to them or that they did not know could work for them. It can be risky to create or build something that no one has done before, or to go a little further in the use of colour and patterns. It is these riskier decisions that make the final result unique.



Facing page: decorative wall tiles Mosaico Durango next to the Durango collection by Porcelanosa.

On the left: XTONE Fiori di Bosco. The diversity of fossil details and stone nuances provides great depth and character to this exquisite surface.

Below these lines: Newark Topo by Porcelanosa, a relief of stripes that resemble natural stone.

What are the differences between designing the interior of a hotel and that of a private home?

Fundamentally, the approach to hotel and home design is the same, but hotel design feels more creatively free, as clients tend to be more open to innovation and imagination. Generally, you can be more conceptual in a hotel than in a private home. The world of interior design is immense and exciting. There is a lot to explore, from residential to commercial to hospitality and everything in between, but today we are seeing a fusion effect in the sector. Homebuyers are looking for the “retreat” or “chic hotel” experience at home, while in a hotel what we want is for guests to feel comfortable, at home.

Whether in hotel rooms or private apartments, I like to play with the psychology of the end user and focus on studying various textures, colours and functionality to create a tailored experience.

Let's now talk about materials. How do you choose them? What are your preferences?

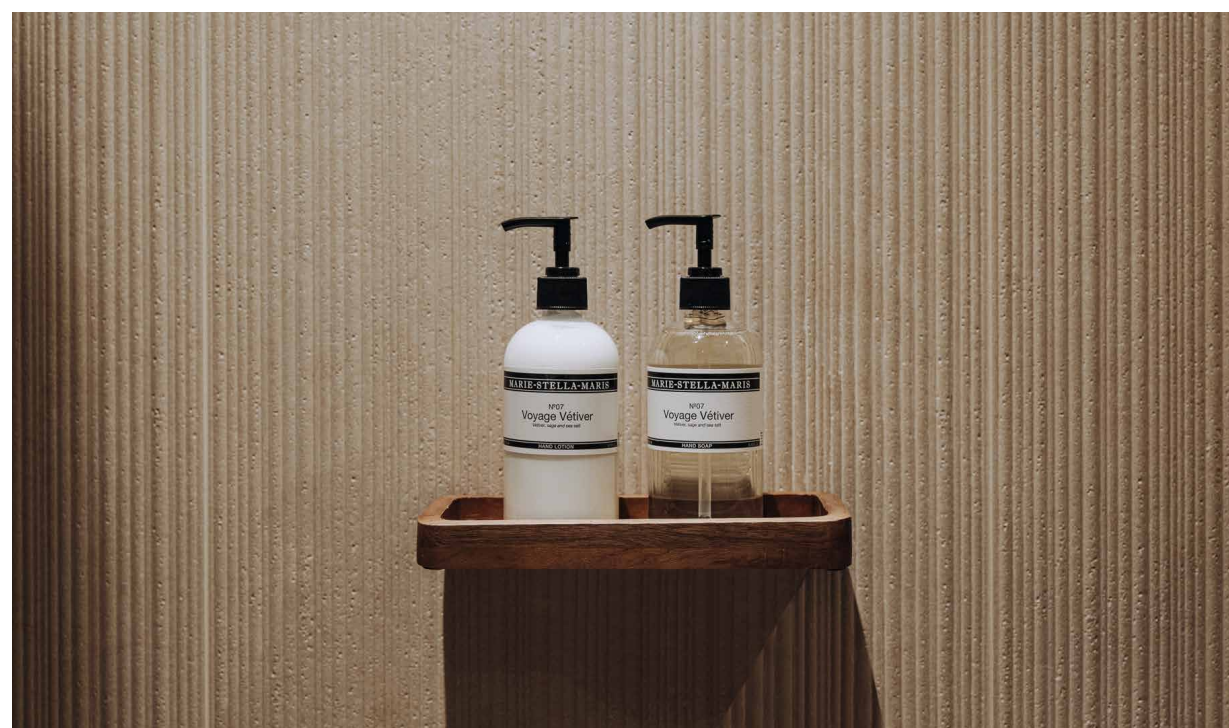
Like most interior designers today, I love to use natural materials: wood, linen and natural stone. Integrating natural elements into the design can help create a sense of harmony and balance, while also encouraging tranquillity in the space.

In the world of interior design, natural stones such as marble, granite, limestone and slate represent the archetype of elegance and timelessness. These magnificent stones or ceramics are used in worktops, floors and wall finishes, perfectly combining the beauty of the natural world with our living spaces.

By carefully selecting materials for a project, we create spaces that not only impress visually, but also meet clients' practical and ethical needs.

You have worked with different materials by the PORCELANOSA Group. Can you tell us what values and advantages you find in the different brands of our Group?

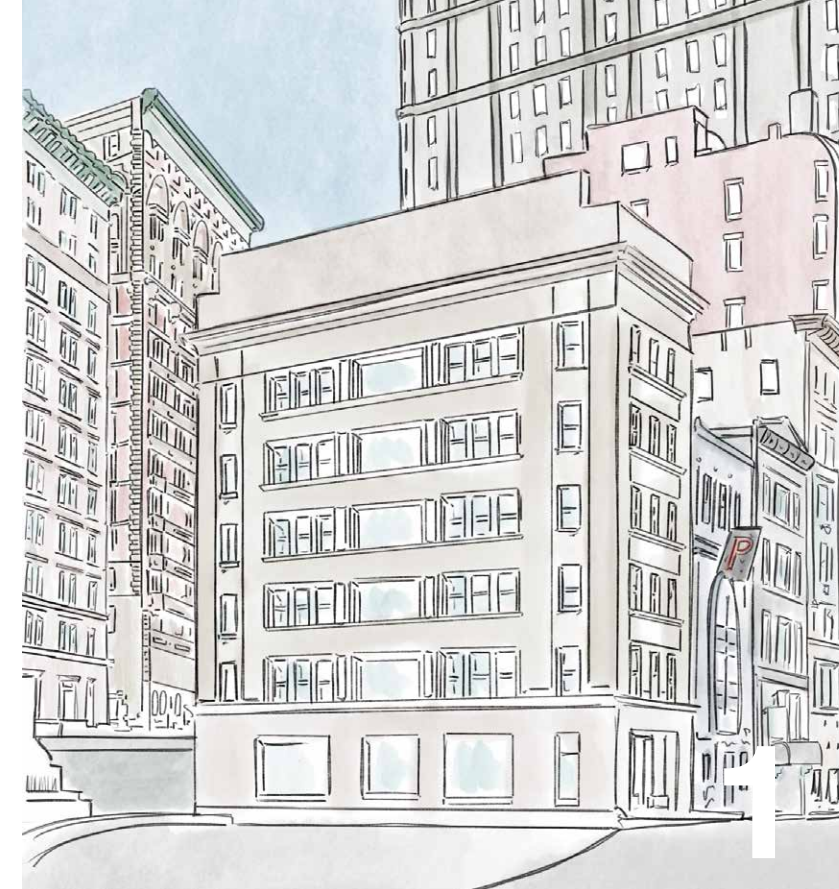
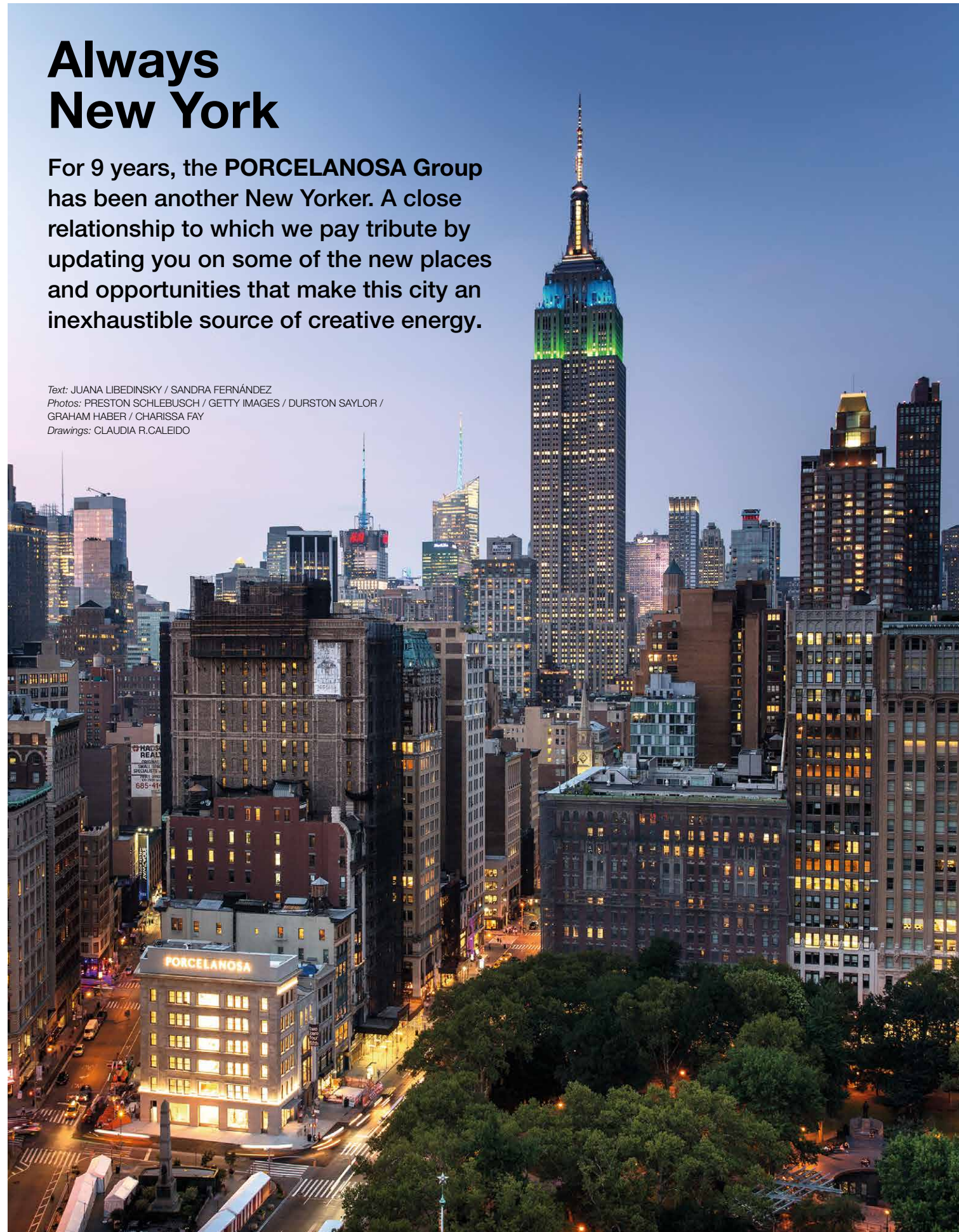
Over the years I have surrounded myself with a series of companies that I love working with, and **Porcelanosa** is one of those. Thanks to the diversity of materials, I can delegate several facets of my work to a single company. In several projects I have used large pieces for bathrooms, made of natural stone or metal, as eye-catching elements; I have also used ceramic elements for walls and floors, as well as non-slip materials for outdoor spaces and terraces. I think it's fantastic that there are so many different possibilities, allowing us a thousand and one combinations and making each design unique.



Always New York

For 9 years, the **PORCELANOSA Group** has been another New Yorker. A close relationship to which we pay tribute by updating you on some of the new places and opportunities that make this city an inexhaustible source of creative energy.

Text: JUANA LIBEDINSKY / SANDRA FERNÁNDEZ
Photos: PRESTON SCHLEBUSCH / GETTY IMAGES / DURSTON SAYLOR / GRAHAM HABER / CHARISSA FAY
Drawings: CLAUDIA R.CALEIDO



Chalet: you'll need to **book 60 days in advance!** His personal hallmark: the care with which he treats fresh and local foods, his cocktails and the wonderful decoration. Madison Avenue at 77th Street.
<https://www.themarkhotel.com/restaurant-bar/>

5 SANT AMBROEUS

Here the roots are Italian; more specifically from Milan, where a small *pasticcera* opened in 1936 next to La Scala. In 1982, the secrets of their **crispy panini** and *cornetto* landed on Madison Avenue, where tasting them continues to be a pleasure. 1000 Madison Avenue.
<https://www.santambroeus.com/en-eu/pages/chi-siamo>

6 NEUE GALERIE

A "great little secret", a museum with the best of the art and design which came out of Germany and Austria between the end of the 19th century and the first third of the 20th century: Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Adolf Loos, the Bauhaus. We can round off the experience with a visit to the **Café Sabarsky**, which transports us to the brilliant Vienna of the 1920s. All set in a historic building completed in 1914 which, among others, was home to Cornelius Vanderbilt III. 1048 Fifth Avenue.
<https://www.neuegalerie.org/>

1 PORCELANOSA FLAGSHIP STORE

On 9 September 2015, the **PORCELANOSA Group** opened its New York headquarters at the intersection of Broadway and Fifth Avenue, with Madison Square Park close by and the iconic Flatiron Building as a neighbour. The six-storey building, constructed in 1918, was transformed by the Foster + Partner studio. In 2020 a significant expansion was undertaken to create an area of 1,900 m² where you can visit the exhibition area displaying the group's brands, the ceramics laboratory, the event rooms and the café. 202 Fifth Avenue.
<https://www.porcelanosa.com/us/showroom-porcelanosa-new-york-city-1025/>

2 CASA TUA

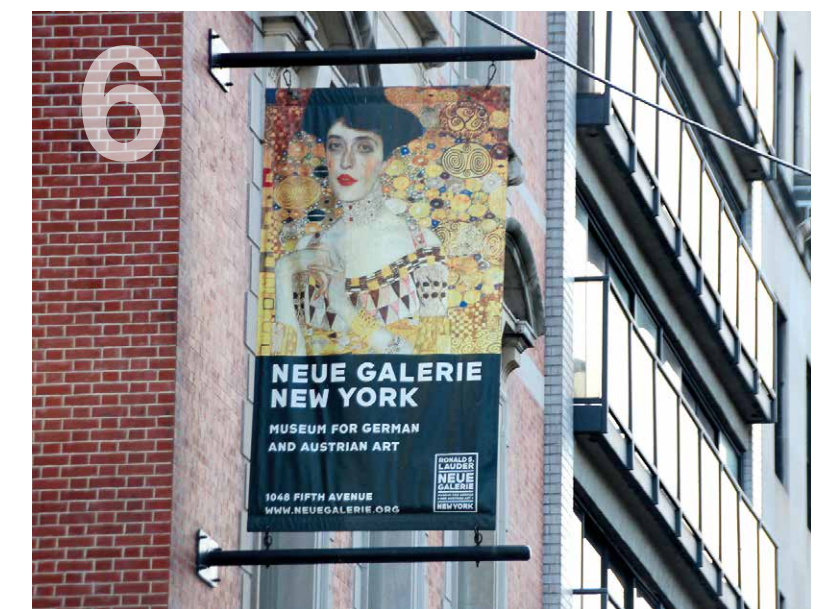
Following the example of the establishment opened in Miami, this restaurant and club on the **Upper East Side** offers a select and sophisticated atmosphere, whether for breakfast, an appetising brunch or a cappuccino. To take refuge from the dynamism of the city that never sleeps. 20 East 76th Street.
<https://www.casatualife.com/Newyork.html>

3 CAFÉ CARLYLE

You just have to cross Madison Avenue to enjoy New York's nightlife. After getting past the pandemic, The Carlyle's **legendary jazz club**, an essential feature since 1955, reopened its doors in 2022. Every night, the atmosphere is of *beautiful people* surrounded by live music and murals by Marcel Vertès. 35 East 76th Street.
<https://www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/the-carlyle-new-york/dining/cafe-carlyle>

4 THE MARK BAR & RESTAURANT

We continue to enjoy the Upper East Side with the help of chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten, from Alsace, who is responsible for the cuisine at the Mark Hotel, such as the exceptional fondue served in winter at The Mark





7

7 CASA CRUZ

One block from Central Park is “the place” of the moment, a restaurant and private club in a six-storey building that mixes the sumptuousness of this neighbourhood with the casual touch of the Hamptons and the **Latin American inspiration** of its founder, the Chilean Juan Santa Cruz. Stunning cuisine, interior design with works by Fernando Botero and Keith Haring, and a great deal of exclusivity: the upper floors are reserved for club members. At night, live performances and DJ sessions extend the evening. Note: no entry if wearing trainers, jeans, a baseball cap or tank top. And they “recommend” that you don’t take photos with your smartphone. VIPs guard their privacy closely. 36 East 61st Street
<https://www.casacruz.nyc/>

8 VANDERBILT TENNIS CLUB

Can you play tennis in downtown Manhattan? Yes, thanks to this club that opened its doors in 2011 on the fourth floor of **Grand Central Terminal**. You can book the court and then recharge your batteries at the station’s legendary Oyster Bar. To keep the court clean, only shoes with flat soles, preferably white, are allowed. Grand Central Terminal (entrance on Vanderbilt Ave., between 42nd and 43rd streets).
<https://vanderbilttennisclub.com/>



8



9

9 THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM

The magnate Pierpont Morgan assembled the best collection of manuscripts, illustrated books and incunabula outside Europe. In 1924, his son Jack decided to open his extraordinary personal library to the public, making it an essential stop for scholars, students and anyone with cultural interests. Several renovations, the most recent by Renzo Piano in 2006, have given New York beautiful spaces, such as the historic Reading Room and **The Morgan Garden**, which are always worth a visit. 225 Madison Avenue at 36th Street.
<https://www.themorgan.org/>

10 UBANI

In such a cosmopolitan city you might not expect to find anything that surprises you. That’s because you haven’t yet tried the **Georgian cuisine** at this restaurant. To start with, how about the traditional *Adjaruli Khachapuri*? That is, a bread dough filled with cheese and topped with an egg, which is eaten throughout Georgia. 37A Bedford Street.
<https://ubaniny.com/>



10

11 THE REAL REAL

Whether in their physical stores (we recommend the one located in SoHo, 80 Wooster Street) or on their website, this company gives you access to unbeatable offers in **second-hand pieces** from luxury brands in fashion, accessories or jewellery: Tiffany, Cartier, Van Cleef & Arpels, Christian Louboutin, Prada, Hermès, Jimmy Choo, Louis Vuitton.
<https://www.therealreal.com/nyc>

12 GLOSSIER

The flagship store of this **beauty and cosmetics company in SoHo** has reopened its doors with more sophistication than ever. The space, in white and pastel tones, is divided into small capsules in which customers can experiment with the products they have at their fingertips. 72 Spring Street.
<https://www.glossier.com/en-es/pages/locations>

13 ALAÏA

It has been a year since this company returned to New York. A year in which the store has established itself as an essential destination **for devotees of the collections** that honour the legacy of the great Tunisian designer Azzedine Alaïa: bags, coats, shoes. Original and fascinating creations that continue to attract the attention of Manhattan’s elite. 149 Mercer Street.
<https://www.maison-alaia.com/experience/us/store/alaia-soho-ny/>

14 L’APPARTEMENT

The French fashion brand Sézane remains faithful to its philosophy: no conventional stores. Instead, there are **cosy, welcoming spaces** where you will find all the basics that are essential in your wardrobe. 254 Elizabeth Street.
<https://www.sezane.com/us/our-locations/the-appartement-new-york>



14



15

15 “ICI, C’EST PARIS”

French accents are increasingly heard in New York, where a true “Little Paris” has emerged (on Center Street, between Broome and Grand St., in Nolita/SoHo) thanks to the initiative of the Coucou cultural centre, which set up in this area in 2019. Around it you’ll find a bakery and deli (Maman), the Compagnie des Vins Surnaturels and the Clic interior design store. And, of course, **boutiques displaying French fashion**. To finish the route, and continue the French theme, we cross the Brooklyn Bridge to L’Appartement 4F, in Brooklyn Heights. Here, the couple Gautier and Ashley Coiffard have revolutionised pastries with their “**petits croissants céréales**” and other offerings, which have become popular thanks to Instagrammers. Nothing better than savouring them while we walk through this neighbourhood of streets dotted with “brownstones” (typical brown sandstone buildings from the 19th century), where Truman Capote, Charles Dickens and Mark Twain took refuge. The final destination is the **Brooklyn Heights Promenade**. The view of the Brooklyn Bridge, Manhattan with the One World Trade Center in the background and the Statue of Liberty remind us that we are in the world’s capital. 115 Montague Street.
<https://lappartement4f.com/>

Excellence in medical care

The View Hospital, which has a collaboration agreement with the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, has brought about a revolution in the healthcare sector of this country in the Persian Gulf, since it opened in December 2022. It has 245 rooms and offers cutting-edge medical care to expats living in the capital, Doha, as well as to members of the Qatar royal family, who have their own private suites.

The spectacular building was designed by Chapman Taylor Architects and built by the RAMCO Group. It is distributed over 15 floors, with a total area of almost 100,000 m², and aims to improve patients' well-being, starting with large spaces focused on comfort and hygiene. Hence the use of **Krion**® Solid Surface, by the **PORCELANOSA Group**, in all operating rooms, where its white finish provides luminosity and asepsis, and in the various customer service counters. Due to its special characteristics (it is antibacterial and guarantees resistance, durability, low maintenance and easy cleaning) it has also been chosen to equip all the private bathrooms in the bedroom suites.

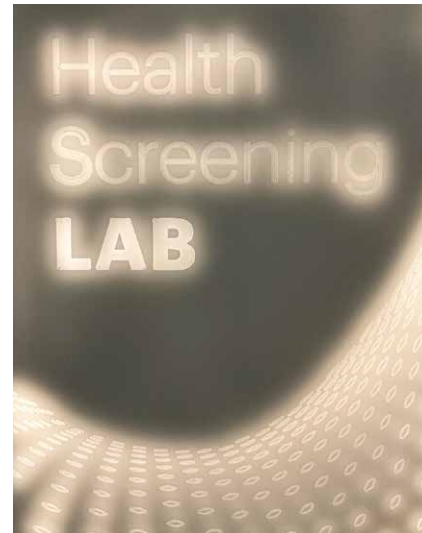


In addition to its presence on the façade at the hospital entrance, **Krion® K-Life 1100** Solid Surface, with its high mineral composition, is the protagonist in almost all the interior environments: customer service counters, operating rooms, medical equipment rooms, and bathrooms both in private rooms and in common spaces. All of these benefit from its exclusive properties, which guarantee toughness, durability and hygiene.

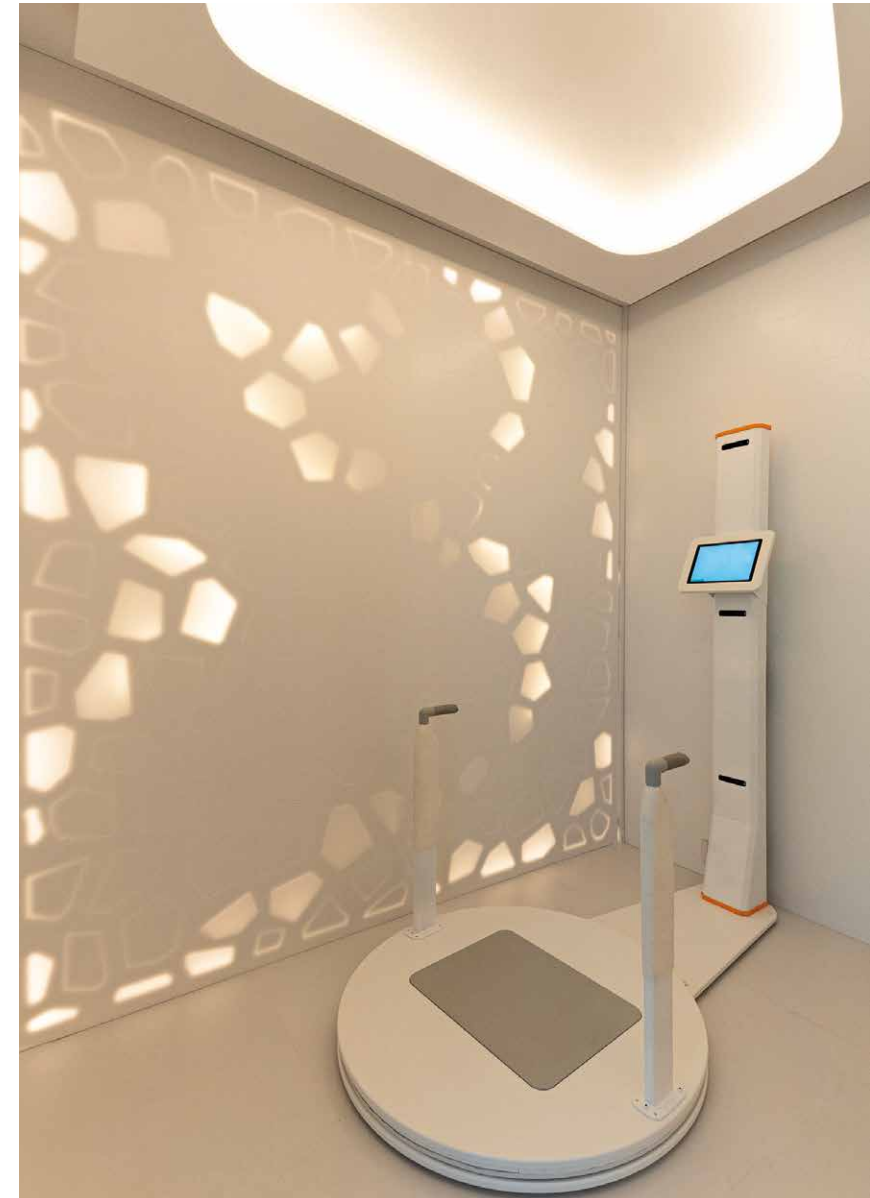
An immersive space in a health laboratory

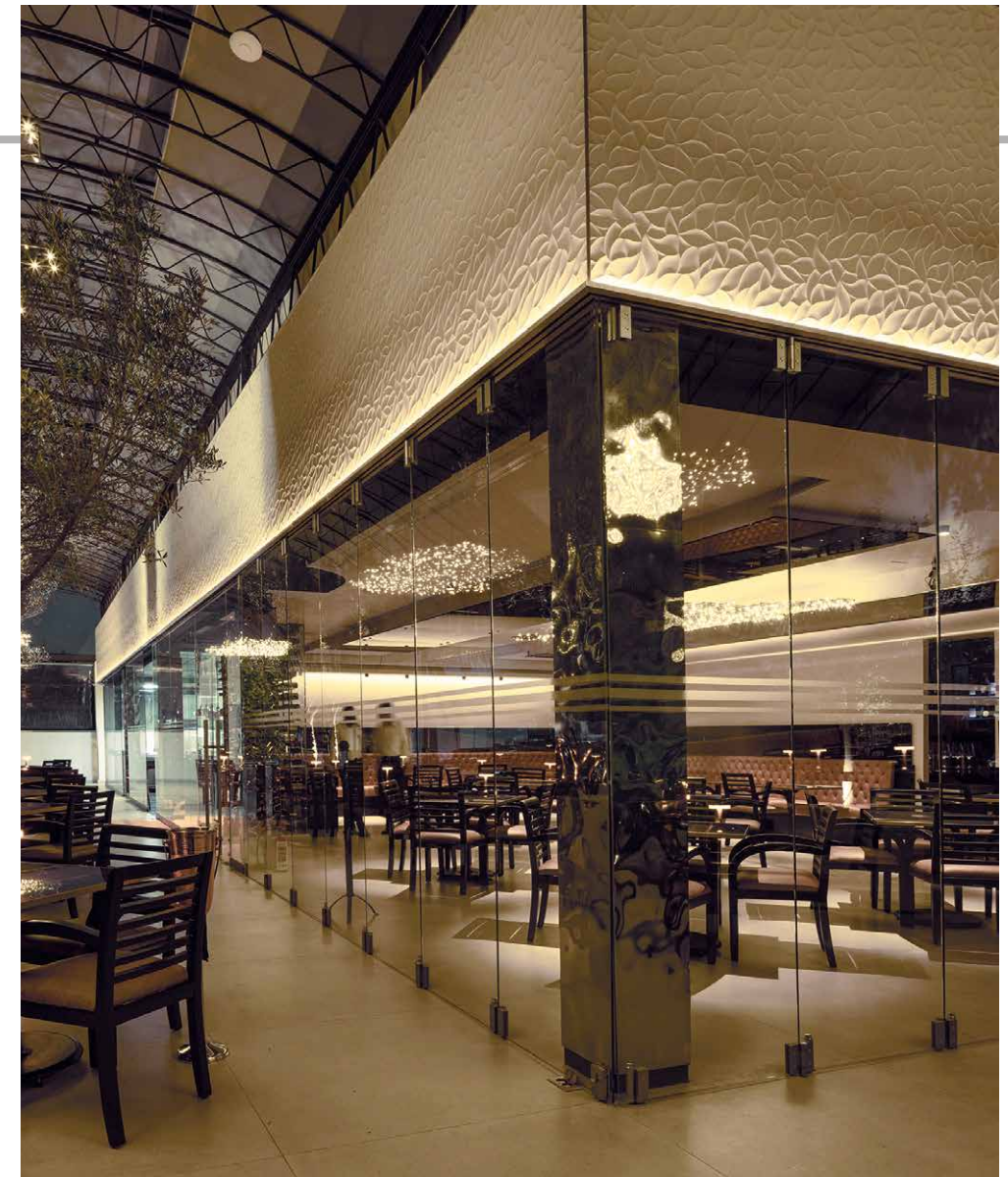
Health Screening Lab, a project set up by the SHA Wellness Clinic, is a pioneering new clinical diagnostic centre that provides an immersive experience in a bright, futuristic-looking space. The interior design, by Francisco Palacios, from the De Palacios studio, responds to the requirement to generate a dynamic and complete experience for the guest, who enters a circuit where multiple tests and check-ups take place. Along the route, some of the equipment is zoned visibly, some is hidden and some is

sequentially displayed. All is accompanied by predominantly white furniture, custom-designed and manufactured in **Krion® Solid Surface**. The aesthetic composition works with translucent materials, with their ability to move from the vertical to the horizontal, their ability to curve and continue with the lines drawn by the ceilings in the sinuous and fluid path of the activity itself. Material as an envelope, as a container and as a work surface.



The vertical walls, lattices, wall cladding and custom-made interior furniture are constructed using **Krion® 4102 Extreme Light**, in a thermoformed, machined and backlit finish that provides warmth, in addition to guaranteeing durability and hygiene.

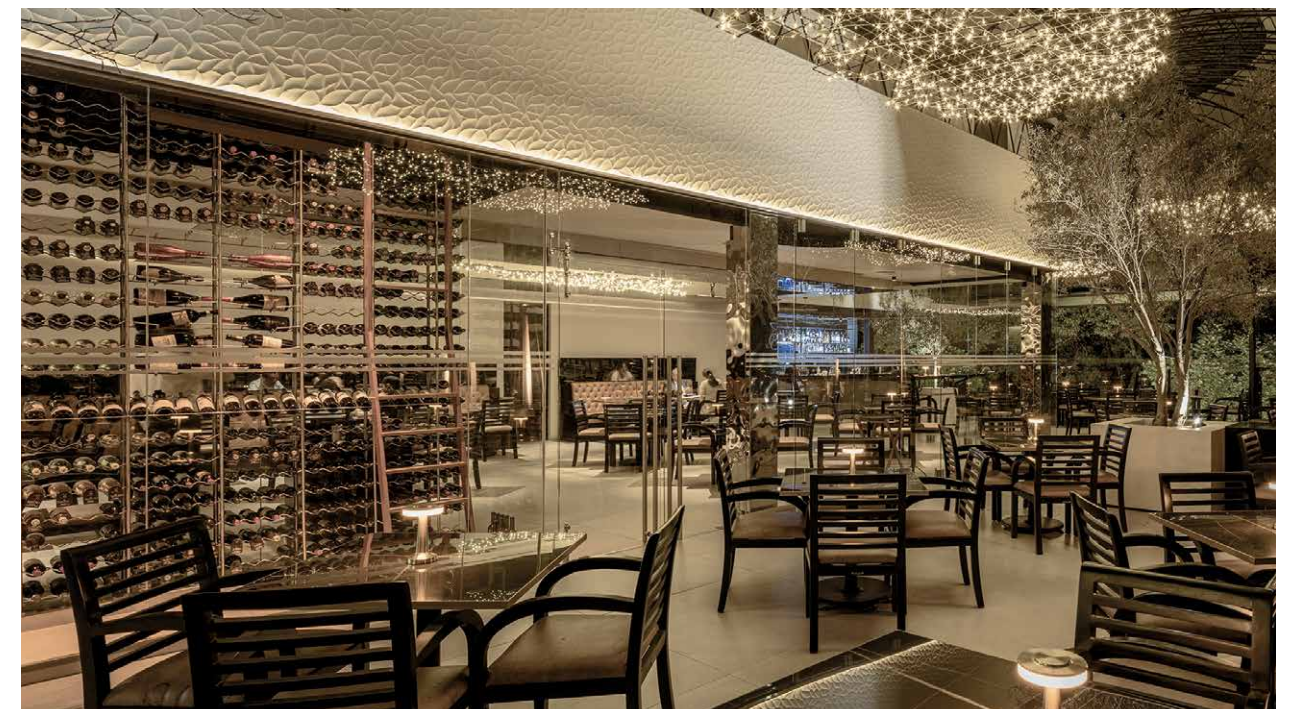
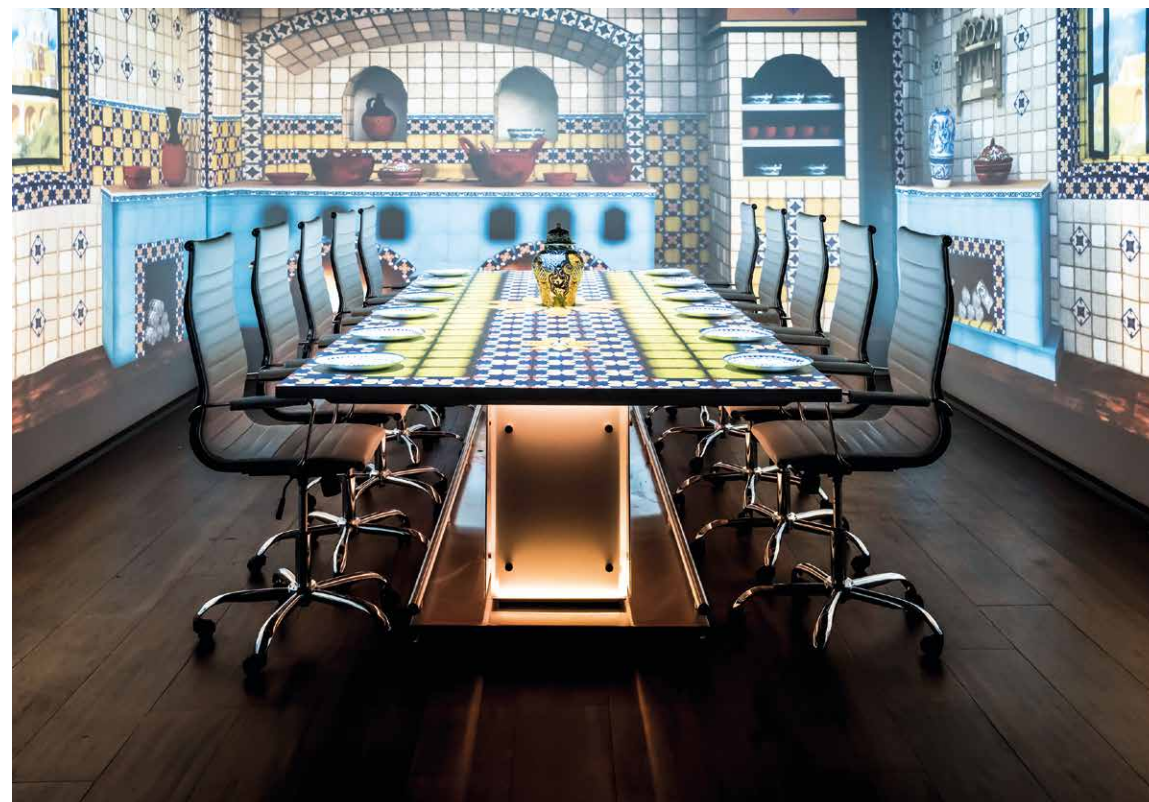




The restaurants Nido (on the left) and L'Oie Foodie Rooftop (on the right) are open spaces that allow circulation and intimacy. In the first, the cement-effect flooring is **Metropolitan Caliza** by **Porcelanosa**. In the second, the flooring is **Bottega Acero**, while the ceramic wall tiles on the interior façade that separates the two environments is **Oxo Deco Blanco**, both by **Porcelanosa**. The tables are made of **XTONE** sintered stone, chosen for its ease of maintenance and hygienic properties. The walls that act as a virtual screen in the disruptive Sensoria space (below, left) are made of **Krion® K-Life 1100** Solid Surface.

An inspiring environment for the great chefs of tomorrow

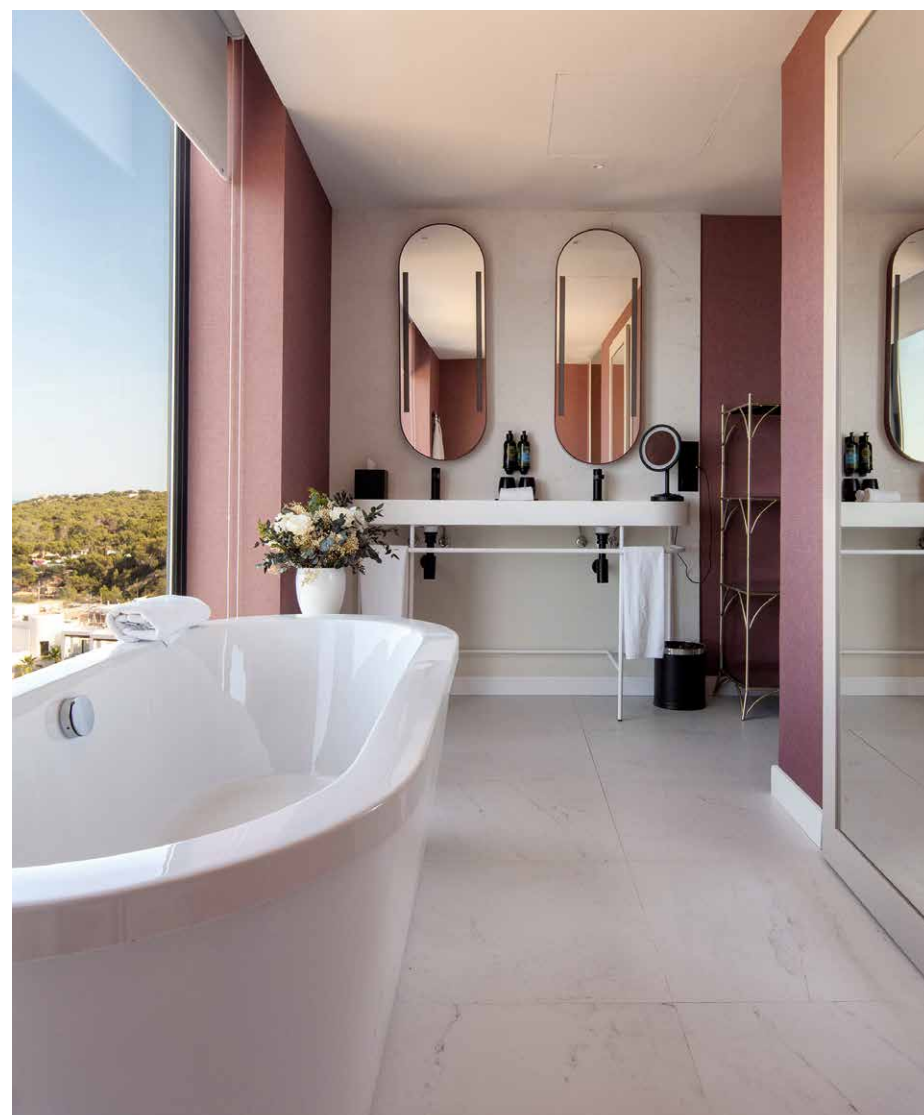
Mexico's Colegio Superior de Gastronomía is the first culinary university in Latin America. Here, cooking involves much more than using specific techniques, knowledge and raw materials to create a delicious result. Cooking, or rather learning to cook, is an experience that must include all aspects (culinary, creative, business, scientific, humanistic), but, above all, it must take place in an environment that improves the potential of the students. Created by architect Pablo Ortega and designer Arturo Anaya, the environment is full of life, stimuli and functionality. This is largely thanks to using products of the highest quality and with the best features, such as cement-effect floors and wall coverings by **Porcelanosa**. One highlight is the revolutionary use of **Krion® K-Life 1100** Solid Surface as a white wall that surrounds Sensoria, an innovative space where culinary experiences break the barrier between the physical and the virtual.



A unique Eden on the White Island

Urcoisa Interior Design, in-house studio of the Palladium chain, in collaboration with CIDON Interior Design & Contract, has created a serene and timeless aesthetic for this hotel located next to Cala Gració, in Sant Antoni de Portmany (Ibiza). The furniture in the communal areas, as well as that in the bedrooms, is mostly tailor-made. Natural raw materials such as Ibiza stone, teak, rattan and terracotta are combined with brass details and contemporary design pieces that give the whole a unique, casual touch.

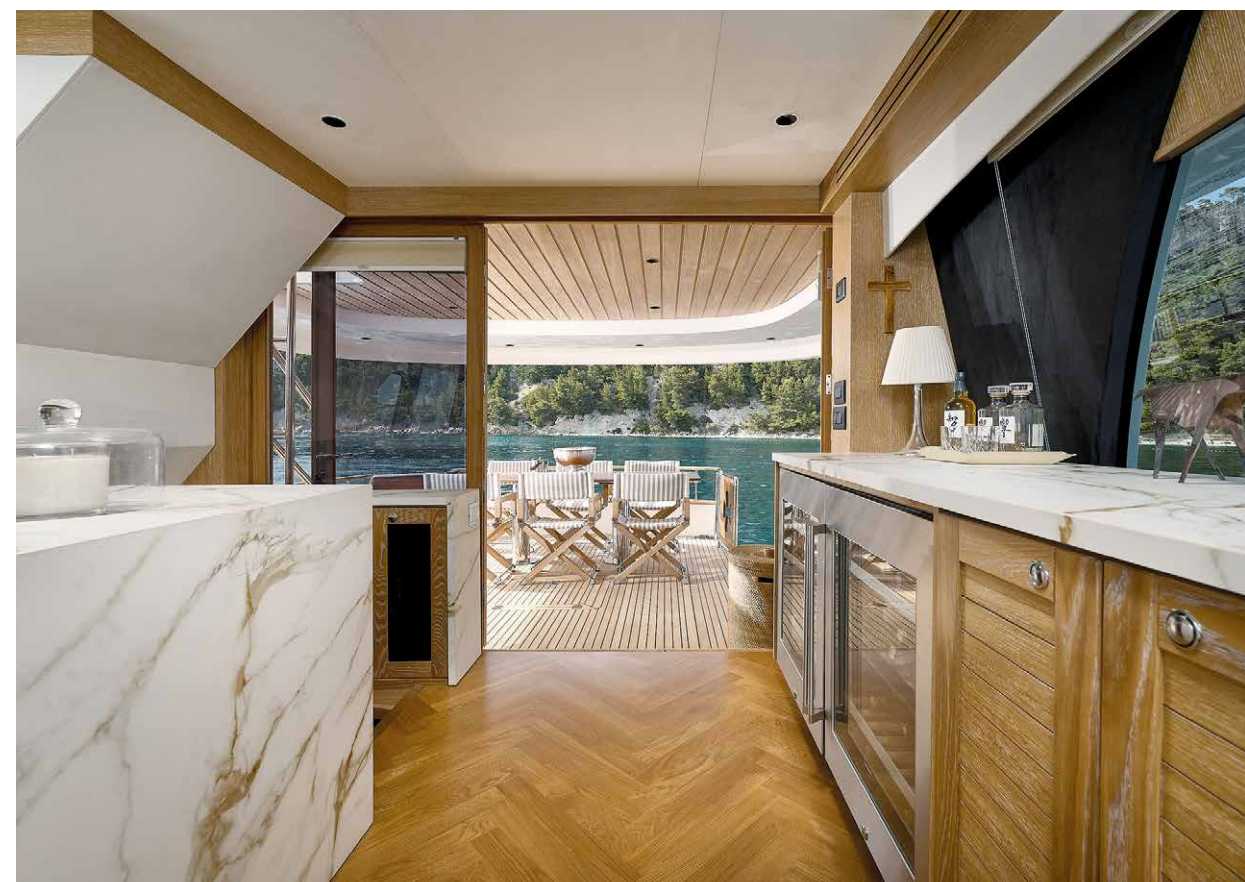
With 330 rooms distributed over 7 floors, the hotel maintains the original façade with its hexagonal terraces. Added to these are large ceiling-to-floor windows that provide luxurious panoramic views of the surroundings, whether from the bedroom or from a relaxing bath.



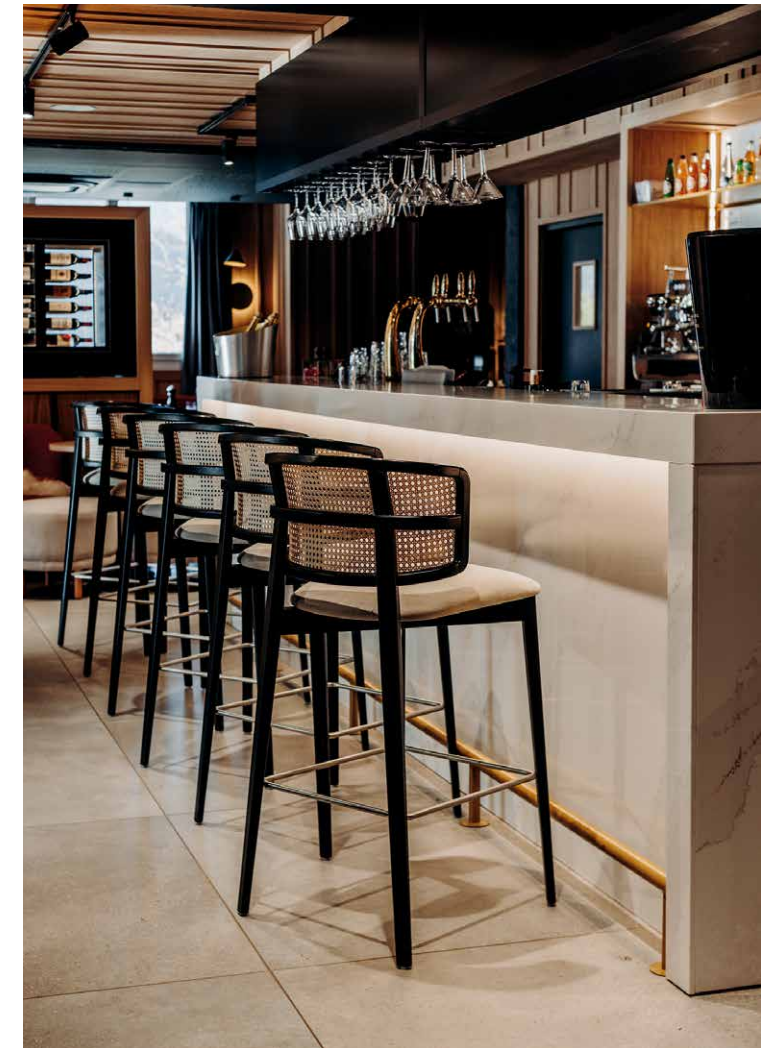
The double-bowl washbasin is made of **Krion® K-Life 1100 Solid Surface**, a highly waterproof and resistant compact mineral that has also been used for the shower trays. The black taps at the washbasins and showers, as well as the toilets and the freestanding bathtub, are by **Noken**. The bathroom floor, shower walls and wall behind the washbasins are all finished in tiles from the **Rivoli** collection by **Porcelanosa**.

Style and personality on the Mediterranean

Sailing in its waters is one of the latest projects from LP Studio, the studio responsible for the personalised and tailored redesign of this 21-metre motor yacht. A study of the interior architecture made it possible to optimise the available volumes and define the details of the furniture, the materials and the finishes. Each of the oak elements and the upholstery have been designed in close collaboration with the craftspeople who created them, by hand, following the original design by Íñigo Toledo, from the naval architecture studio Barracuda Yacht Design.



The oak used in the boat's interior is paired with worktops and vertical surfaces made from **XTONE** in the galley. In the bathrooms, the same material is used for the vanity surfaces in the washbasin area, and **XLIGHT** technical porcelain by **Porcelanosa**, inspired by marble, has been chosen for the flooring and wall finishes.

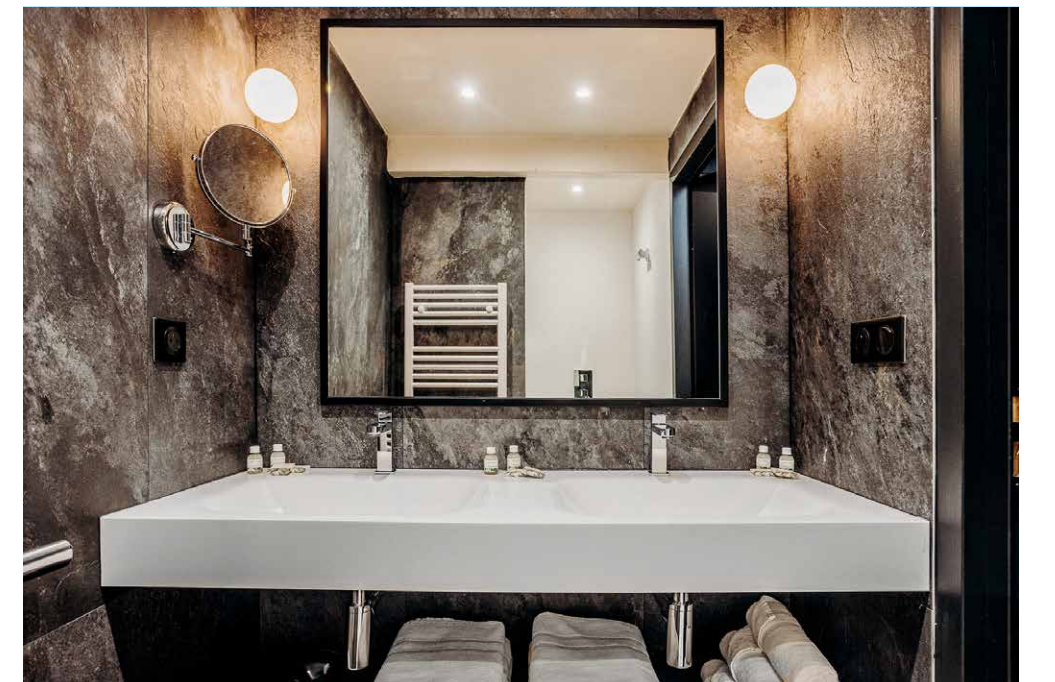


Each private chalet has a large outdoor terrace, and an electric fireplace in the living room. The floors in the common areas, such as the reception, bar and restaurant, feature **Bottega Topo** grey porcelain tiles with a matt finish, by **Porcelanosa**. The bathrooms in these common areas ensure continuity by using the same **Bottega Topo** tiles on the floors. In the private chalets, the bathrooms feature wall tiles from the **Image** range by **Porcelanosa**, in the colours **Dark** and **Cream**; the taps and the toilet are from the **Acro Compact** collection, by **Noken**; and the washbasins and shower area are created using **Krion® Solid Surface**.

Scandinavian accent in the Pyrenees

In the heart of the Ossau Valley in the French Pyrenees, just 700 metres from the slopes of the Gourette ski resort, we find a unique hotel complex: the ISKÖ BaseCamp & Hôtel. Created by architect David Robesson, it is a truly picturesque mountain town with a Scandinavian feel. It consists of 43 private chalets and several communal chalets, which include the reception, the restaurant, the spa and single-bed accommodation for mountaineers. The chalets provide the perfect base from which to enjoy the opportunities the environment has to offer: alpine or Nordic skiing, snowshoe excursions, cycle rides, or swimming in the outdoor pool.

Inside, designer Charlotte Vallon has recreated all the warmth and comfort that come to mind when you imagine a wooden house in a forest in the far north: each chalet (with one, two or three bedrooms) has a living room with electric fireplace; the kitchen is fully-equipped; insulating wood features on the floor, walls and ceilings; and each chalet has a magnificent terrace that allows guests to recharge their batteries while contemplating the spectacular natural environment in all its glory.



The commitment of professionals

Design is an art that weaves memorable experiences, a journey towards the creation of spatial narratives. We explore the vision of the professionals who are part of the 2023 PIPA Awards jury, in a deep and unifying reflection on architecture and interior design as instruments to set the scene for unforgettable moments.



Nadia Borrás

DESIGN DIRECTOR OF GENSLER MEXICO

"I don't really believe in strategies for designing, I believe more in getting to know people, looking inside them, trying to understand them and trying to make them feel comfortable."



Tony Abi Gebrayel

PARTNER AT MZ ARCHITECTS

"Architects have to look to the future and remember the end users. They must not only design something aesthetic. They must put themselves in the shoes of the end users. They have to feel what the users will feel."



Nunzio DeSantis

CEO AND DESIGNER OF NUNZIO MARC DESANTIS

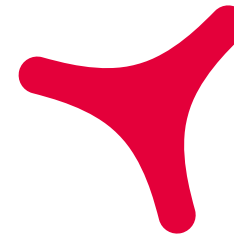
"We work to create experiences, to create the backdrop for people's lives. To allow people to use this canvas of beautiful architecture poetically and weave it into their moment."



Philippe Blanchin

CREATIVE DIRECTOR OF ELLE DECORATION UK

"I don't think people should focus too much on trends. Instead of being on-trend, the important thing is that a design suits you and your personality."



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15TH PORCELANOSA AWARDS

8 April will be the deadline for participants to submit their proposals

The **PORCELANOSA Group** has announced the terms and conditions of the new call for submissions to the **15th Architecture, Interior Design and Property Development Awards**, which aim to encourage the creative activity of new and future professionals, encourage the promotion and dissemination of their work and innovate in terms of architecture, promoting their new proposals. The awards were developed as a result of the company's commitment to professionals and institutions from the world of architecture, interior design, the hotel sector and property development. They are fundamental agents to guarantee the development of any construction project, especially in a time full of challenges, like the one we're currently experiencing, where sustainable solutions, maximum energy efficiency and disruptive creativity are essential axes that must be guaranteed to satisfy the needs and concerns of the clients. Furthermore, this year the proposals submitted will be once again be evaluated by a jury comprising architects, interior designers, hoteliers

and property developers of international prestige. In previous years, professionals such as RCR, Conran & Partners, Daniel Libeskind, Mark Fenwick, Rafael de La-Hoz, Sandra Tarruella, Fran Silvestre, Ramón Esteve, Pascua Ortega and Benedetta Tagliabue have been part of the jury.

OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

Participants will be able to submit their projects between now and 8 April 2024, within two categories. The first category is Design for the Future, with sections for students and professionals. This category will reward the project that proposes the best solution for a multifunctional and sustainable workspace. The second category is Design of the Year, which will recognise the best completed project, carried out between January 2023 and April 2024, that has used materials from the seven companies of the **PORCELANOSA Group**. Submissions can be made online through the awards website.



The Salón Real of the Mandarin Oriental Ritz Hotel in Madrid was one of the spaces that hosted the gala dinner of the 14th Porcelanosa Awards.



X V

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Submission of projects until 8 April 2024.

Aimed at students and professionals in the fields of architecture, interior design and property development.

www.porcelanosa.com/premios-porcelanosa/

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PORCELANOSA



More information on the awards website

talking about... Hotel & Residential Tower / Iraq Mall, Dora (Baghdad)



With a total area of 500,000 m², making it the largest shopping complex in the country, the Iraq Mall is about to open its doors in the Dora residential district of Baghdad. The project, led by architect Abdallah Kilani from Binaa Engineering Consultants, has been created on a large site set over three stories and features boutique stores from large international luxury brands. Embedded in it stands a substantial construction that will house a hotel and a residential complex. The spectacular nature of the project begins to be apparent from the exterior with a ventilated façade, featuring a continuous design and a sequence of undulating shapes, created using **Krion® K-Life 1100** Solid Surface and the revolutionary **K-FIX** fixing system by **Butech**.



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Panamera Models (E-Hybrid): Electrical consumption combined (weighted) (WLTP): 27,5 - 29,9 kWh/100 km.
Fuel consumption combined (weighted) (WLTP): 1,2 - 1,7 l/100 km. CO₂ emissions combined (weighted) (WLTP): 26 - 38 g/km.
Panamera Models (Fuel): Fuel consumption combined (WLTP): 9,6 - 11,2 l/100km. CO₂ emissions combined (WLTP): 219 - 253 g/km.