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THE MIDDLE EAST ARCHITECTURE & INTERIOR MAGAZINE



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Elliott Erwitt, 2011



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تركيز

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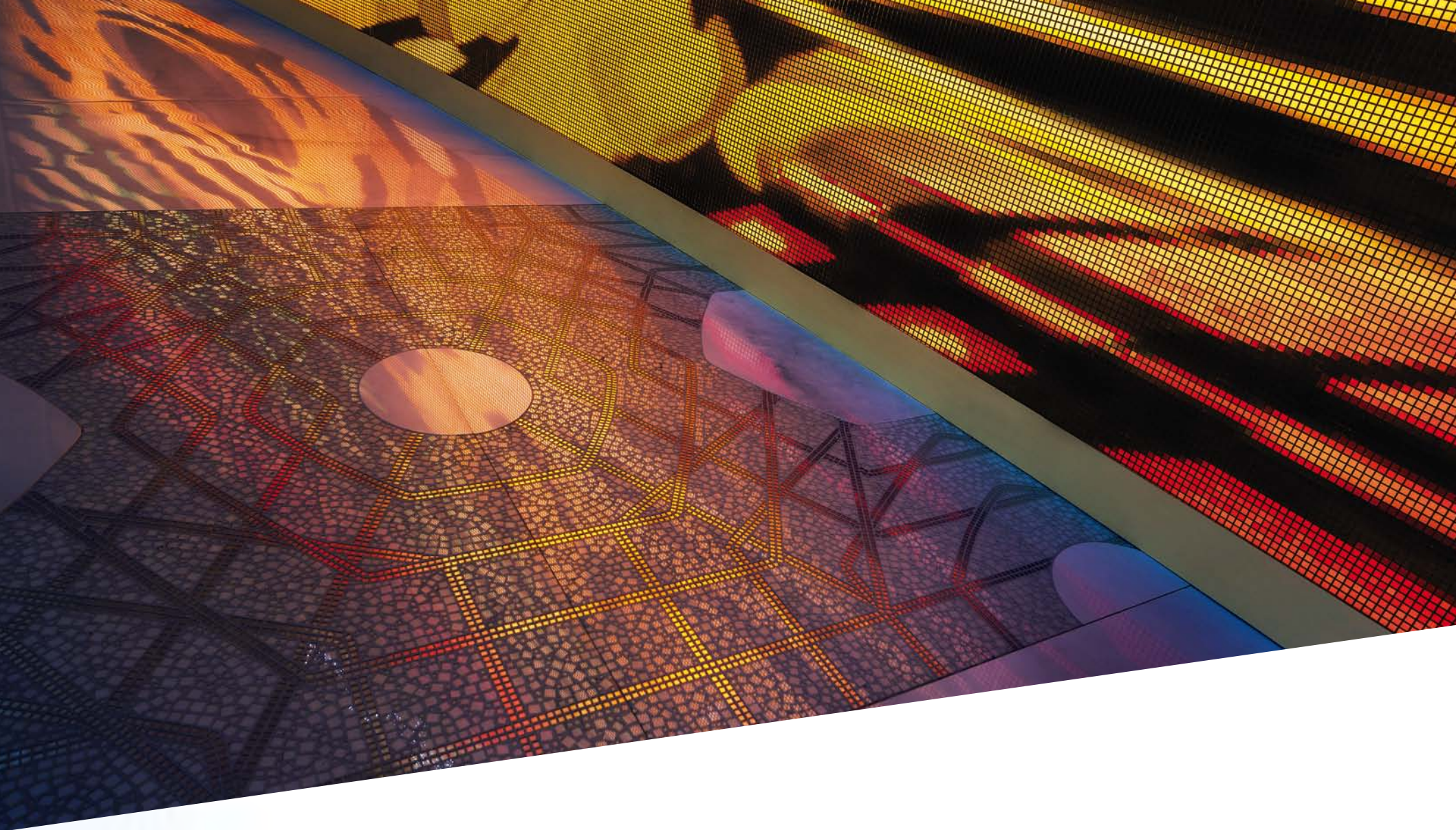
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The Big 5 - International Building & Construction Show
Dubai World Trade Centre, 17-20 November 2014 - www.thebig5.ae

UAE Construction Sector's Space Set to Rapidly Accelerate with USD 46 Billion in Projects for 2014

Renewed Industry Confidence Sees Largest Ever Editions of The Big 5, Middle East Concrete and PMV Live This Year

Regionally, Qatar forges on with its National Development Strategy 2011-2015 through a pipeline of major infrastructure projects, including the USD 45 billion Lusail City project, the newly opened USD 17.5 billion New Doha International Airport and a high number of road, rail and associated World Cup 2022 construction projects, while Saudi Arabia is undertaking infrastructure improvement projects in roads, bridges and rail to the tune of USD 77 billion.

Throughout last year's third edition of the focused shows, PMV Live and MEC welcomed more than 355 exhibitors from over 32 countries, with more than 20,000 international participants descending on the events. PMV Live provides visitors and decision makers a platform to source and preview plant equipment, construction machinery and vehicles, with multi-million dollar equipment deals signed at the event over the past three years, while MEC has already established itself as the largest dedicated concrete event in the Middle East.

GROWING INTERNATIONAL FOOTPRINT
The Big 5 has cemented its international footprint, as the show welcomed 2,700 international exhibitors from nearly 60 countries, and attracted more than 74,000 international and local participants from 124 countries last year. More than a third of the previous edition's participants hailed from countries outside of the GCC, with some of the highest numbers coming from Europe (Italy) and Asia (South Korea). The 35th edition of the show has already seen an increase in international exhibitors, driven by renewed confidence in the region's construction sector.

DEDICATED SECTORS AND ACCREDITED EDUCATIONAL EVENTS
The Big 5 returns in 2014 with eight dedicated product sectors: steel; building interiors; coating, adhesives & sealants; general construction; kitchens & bathrooms; water technology; windows, doors and cladding; and heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems (HVAC).

Following last year's record attendance across more than 130 educational seminars, 30 live product demonstrations, and five workshops, organisers are preparing an even larger and more interactive suite of educational activities at The Big 5, with more than 40 certified workshops plus a two-day conference on Sustainable Design and Construction taking place in 2014.

The Big 5, PMV Live and Middle East Concrete run from 17 - 20 November at the Dubai World Trade Centre, and are open from 11:00am to 7:00pm daily.

ABOUT THE BIG 5
Launched in 1979, The Big 5 International Building and Construction Show is the Middle East's largest construction exhibition. With the 35th edition running from 17 - 20 November, 2014 at the Dubai World Trade Centre,

The Big 5 in the UAE hosts more than 2,700 international exhibitors from nearly 60 countries, and welcomes more than 74,000 participants from 124 countries. The Big 5 also recently expanded to deliver three dedicated shows in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and India. For more information visit www.thebig5.ae





THE BIG 5

Andy White, Group Event Director for The Big 5



The Big 5 and co-located events PMV Live and Middle East Concrete offer a 360 degree platform to the building and construction industry, as the largest international building construction, concrete and heavy machinery gathering place in the region. The three shows provide unparalleled access to industry knowledge with 45 free to attend accredited seminars taking place, as well as key conferences and live demonstrations conducted on-site.

ABOUT PMV LIVE AND MIDDLE EAST CONCRETE
Co-located with The Big 5 International Building and Construction Show, niche construction events Middle East Concrete and PMV Live are the region's most important meeting points for heavy construction machinery, plant equipment, commercial and construction vehicles, and concrete.

The pioneering shows bring together more than 355 exhibitors from over 32 countries with more than 20,000 international participants. For more information visit www.pmvlive.com and www.middleeastconcrete.com

ABOUT DMG EVENTS
An international exhibition and publishing company, dmg events produces market-leading B2B exhibitions and conferences across the Middle East, America, Europe and Asia. For more information visit www.dmgeventsme.com

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Landscapes in a porous box

Gerber Architekten

Work
King Fahad National Library

Year
Competition: 1999-2002
Design: 2004-2006
Construction: 2008-2013
Completion: November 2013

Location
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Client
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Project Team
Landscape Architecture: Gerber Architekten
in Cooperation with Kienle Planungsgesellschaft
Lightning Design: Gerber Architekten
HVACR: DS - Plan (Drees & Sommer Group)
Structural Framework: Bollinger & Grohmann Ingenieure
in cooperation with: Saudi Consulting Services

Structure
Andrés Rubio Morán

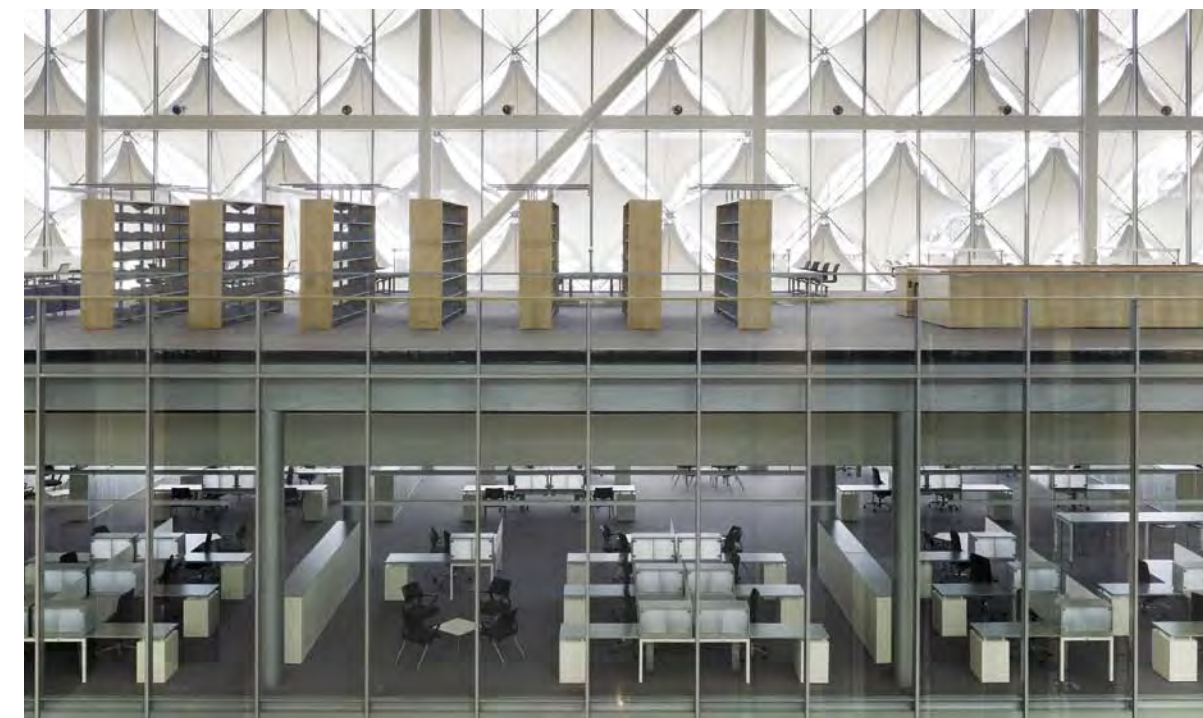
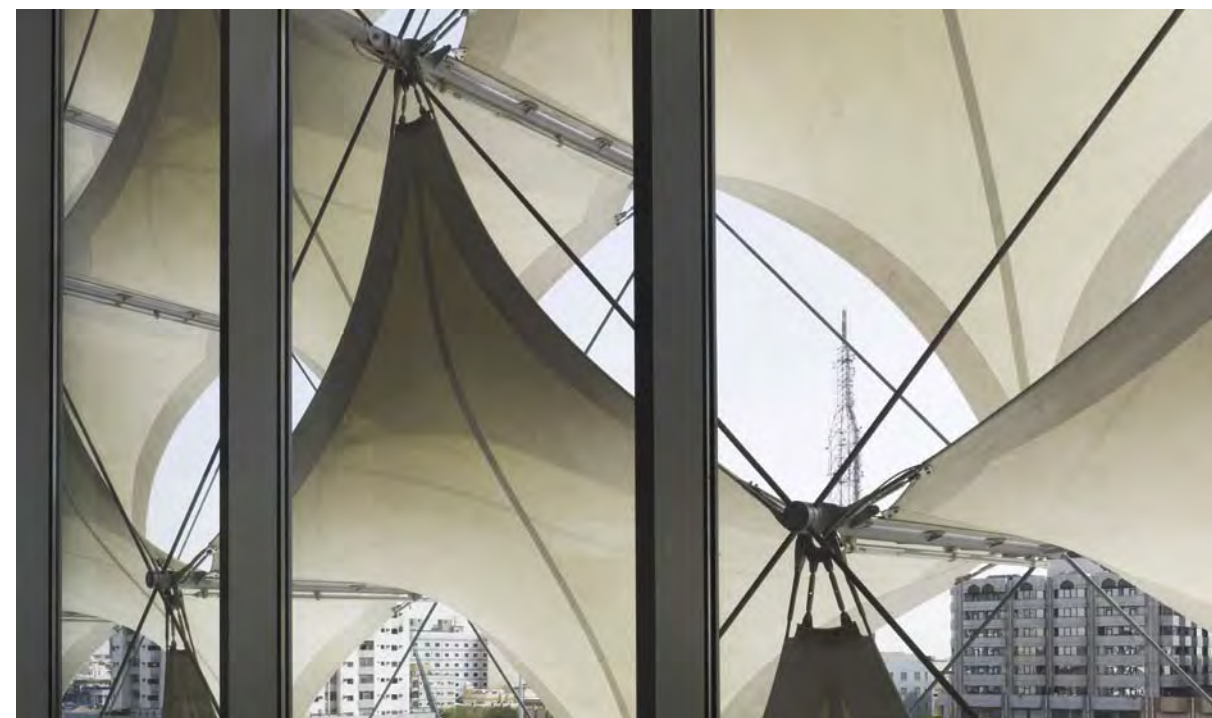
Engineering
Urculo Ingenieros

Size and total Area
86.632 mq

Image credits
Courtesy of Gerber Architekten
Picture: Christian Richters

The King Fahad National Library realised in Riyadh by the German company Gerber Architekten is an interesting example of how an absolutely contemporary project can shape a cultural building, full of symbolic values and, using the most advanced technologies, express continuity with the Arabic cultural tradition. The intervention preserves the existent building but wraps it completely with a new cuboid shape involucre covered by a three-dimensional structure which supports a permeable and bright facade of romboidal textile membranes. In this way, the old building becomes the closed interior which defends the patrimony of books, while the new building represents the interface with the outdoor space of the square. By day, the particular structure of the facade interacts with the sunlight and produces effects of chiaroscuro which change with the passing of the hours. At night, the same facade transforms the illuminated library in a sort of lantern, which points out the drawing which evokes traditional figurative motives of the Arabic tradition. The new building contains the old one, keeping a distance from it, in order to transform the spaces among the wings of the old library in covered squares which have functions of information and distribution.

The connection between the old building and the new one is guaranteed, on the ground floor, by the main routes which cross each other in the rotunda and, on the other floors, by many bridges. The extension allows to give to the library all the functions which connote every contemporary library, such as a restaurant, a bookshop, study rooms, exhibition areas and a lecture hall. On the first floor there is a library which is only for women and has a separate entrance. The upper floor realizes the best connection between old and new and the most interesting and open space: the preexistent roof of the old building becomes a wide reading and open stack consultation area, linked, through gangways, to the upper level of the new building. The King Fahad National Library interprets the two main instances which summarize the meaning of such a significant place for the cultural life of a city: is, at the same time, not only a collective place full of symbolic values, highly representative of the identity of the community that identifies itself in it, but also the place of the individual recollection and concentration, of the exclusive relationship between the reader and the book.





Toledo Station of Naples Metro 1: the metro of heart and soul

Oscar Tusquets Blanca

Work
Toledo Stations and Montecalvario Exit

Location
Naples Municipality

Authority
Metropolitana di Napoli

Location
Naples

Project Year
2003-2004

Building Year
2004-2012/13

Architecture and design
Oscar Tusquets Blanca

Art advisor
Oscar Tusquets Blanca

Artists
Achille Cevoli, Francesco Clemente, Shirin Neshat, Ilya and Emilia Kabakov, William Kentridge, Oliviero Toscani, Oscar Tusquets Blanca, Lawrence Weiner, Robert Wilson

Engineering and construction
Metropolitana di Napoli

Image credits
Courtesy of Metropolitana di Napoli

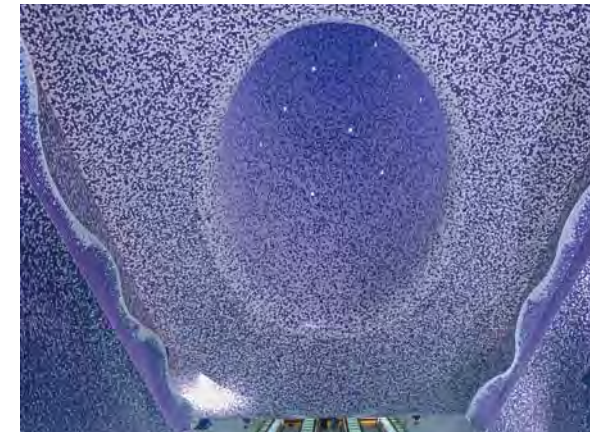
Toledo Station is a stop of the new Naples Metro 1 Line. The new building has involved the re-systemisation of surrounding urban contexts. The project for the station, provided by the Spanish architect Oscar Tusquets Blanca, links the fascist-state administrative district, 16th century Via Toledo and the grid-like layout of the Spanish Quarters (16th century), in a previously unimagined manner. The station is posed on a pedestrian final tract of Via Diaz, which crosses Via Toledo, penetrates the perimeter of the "Quartieri", and leads to Piazzetta Montecalvario, where is the second exit of the same metro station.

The crossing-space gains new grace from an equestrian statue by William Kentridge (2012), curvilinear stone seating, and lively umbrella-shaded kiosks for the street vendors. Metro users reach the station by opposing stairways, an escalator or elevator, all of which emerge under attentively designed glassed-covered forms.

At the first underground level is a substantial buried section of the Aragonese city walls (16th century) and an accompanying ruin of a defensive tower. On the opposite side is a great mosaic by Kentridge, inaugurating the new co-presence of historic and contemporary values in a single space.

Tusquets also provides three skylights, offering a view downwards from street level onto the historic walls, and at the same time bringing outdoor light in to the lower levels.

The underground spaces are coloured by natural elements recalling the excavations and the context landmarks: the "royal yellow", the crystalline blue and black are the colours used. Water is also present in the back-lit polycarbonate panels by Robert Wilson, creating wave-like effects that accompany the passengers along the corridor to the trains. The Piazzetta Montecalvario entrance is animated by photo-portrait images from Oliviero Toscani, illustrating the thousands of faces of the modern city. In this project Tusquets evokes two opposite spheres: the cycle of life and the mechanical precision in constant rhythms and intervals.





Bensen Overview



Bendtsen designs and oversees the production of an extensive line of furnishings produced in both Vancouver, Canada and Pordenone, Italy.

The Danish-Canadian industrial designer gleaned his education through familial apprenticeship as well as his own curious nature. Bendtsen's father, a cabinetmaker, studied under Jacob Kjær in Copenhagen. Bendtsen in turn apprenticed with his father at the family shop in North Vancouver where his respect for precision was formalized.

A cast metal candlestick holder, the first product he created, sparked a lifetime of passion for design and manufacturing. In 1973 Bendtsen returned to his birthplace, Denmark, and plunged headfirst into design. He freelanced for the likes of Eilersen, IKEA and Kebe for whom he created the Ribbon Chair that holds a place in the Museum of Modern Art's permanent collection and produced his own pieces under the moniker 2B.

After returning to Vancouver from Europe, Bendtsen founded Bensen with an aim to provide great design and quality at an affordable price.

Bensen Italia was founded at the end of 2010 in cooperation between designer Niels Bendtsen and Paolo Chiarot (ex co-owner of Horm Srl). Serving the European market, Bensen Italia is continually developing and producing new Italian products. Bensen offers a refined and minimalistic design - timeless, simple and modern, speaking the global language of contemporary design while deeply rooted in the elegance of Italian culture.

In recent years, Bendtsen has really hit his stride creating pieces that are not only affordable and high in quality but also elegant and incredibly versatile, adaptable to many different spaces with a timeless look and visual logic.

www.bensen.it



VGnewtrend



VG participates in creating very distinct environments, spaces in which you can escape from reality; to seek refuge whilst expressing your personality; spaces in which you can breathe and dream. Bringing nature into your home, giving it space in the garden, building a colourful and decorated house, placing brilliant objects in bright lights with a vaguely Eastern flavour, regaining contact with the authenticity of an object created from a typically Italian concept and culture, a unique mix of furnishings to decorate spaces with a distinct identity, one of a kind, not modern, not classic, yet able to communicate with any style: this is the goal of the VG design concept. VG was founded in 1991 in Treviso, 20 km from Venice. This unique city can teach the art of beautiful things, architectural proportions, the use of different materials and inspiration from distant cultures, reworked by brilliant Italian craftsmanship. VG is all of this. It makes a collection of authentic and unique objects available to interior designers for use in exclusive projects, always different, never conformist, characterised by a cultured and moderately ostentatious luxury, the result of continuous research on stylishly decorative design.

In the pictures:

LIGHTING

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INDOOR/OUTDOOR

ECLIPSE:

An eclipse, a majestic spectacle offered to us by the sky, the unthreatening suspension of the ordinary rhythm of everyday life to which we can abandon ourselves with curious confidence. Light that becomes filled with meaning through its reverse in a fascinating role play where light and dark are strikingly played together. Two forces of nature rapidly alternating the role of protagonist against the backdrop of the sky. Light that does not threaten to become engulfed by the darkness but, as it slowly fades, appears to tell us that it is possible to stop and observe the sky for no other purpose than that of childish wonder. A revolving chair which is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use.

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The collection of indoor and outdoor vases-lamp "Inside Out" knowingly play with materials, finishes and lines to create different scenes in which light is the unquestioned leader of an innovative and fascinating way of understanding the furnishings and decor. Inside Out includes 8 different models, always marked by the imposing silhouette and graceful at the same time, able to bring out both the best and most luxurious spaces that are modern and minimalist. Alone, or in choreographic combinations of colors and shapes, the illuminating vases are the pride of the brand: immediately recognizable by the charm and the magic that can communicate at first glance.

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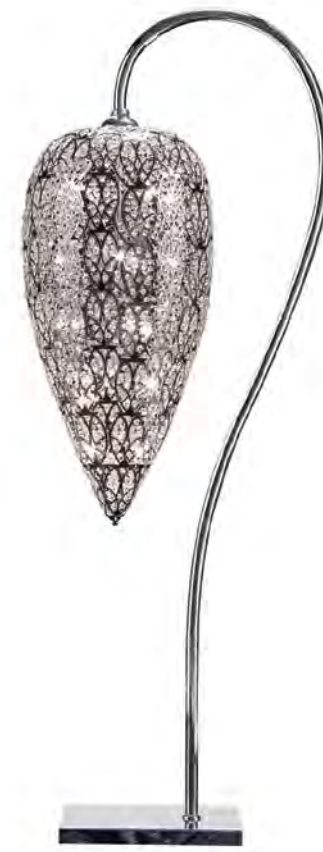
RUSTY

Modern, trendy and comfortable, the leather Rusty pouf is thought for the contract and the hotel sector, conceived in contemporary style and with strong personality, venues for young people and the trendiest lofts intended for entertainment and socializing. Rusty comes in a strong, bright colour combination to emphasise the mood of fun and relaxation typical of cocktails or evening drinks, while maintaining the sophistication and exclusive beauty characteristic of all VG collections. The pouf belongs to the larger collection of furnishing accessories styled specifically for the hospitality and entertainment world, and is illustrated in combination with the Rusty Cocktail Time line.

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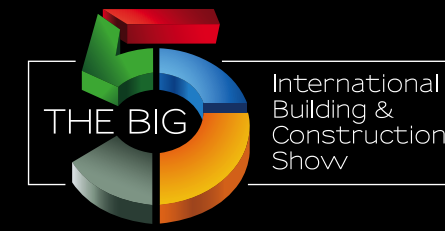


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