Charlotte

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022

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PLUS: ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

THE ART OF ASHEVILLE

WORLDS COLLIDED

WHEN DESIGN, ART, AND ARCHITECTURE COLLIDE, THE WORLD BENEFITS FROM THE CATACI YSMIC RESULTS.

> WRITTEN BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY PRODUCED BY ASHLEY HOTHAM COX



WAXING POETIC

Art comes in many forms, and perhaps the most pervasive is functional art: an art form that provides a function to daily life. Contemporary artist Daniel Arsham has collaborated with industry giant Kohler to create a limited-edition bathroom sink that combines the utterly unique with the utterly every day. With just ninety-nine manufactured, the vitreous china and hand-poured brass piece, Rock.01, combines unrestrained creativity with the production innovation of Kohler's 3D printing process—the only method by which Arsham's complicated desian could be made tangible. "Rock.01 melds the future of 3D-printing technology with the most basic methods of hand-cast brass," Arsham says. "It is literally the new resting on top of the old, and I find that incredibly poetic." kohlercollective.com



WELCOME TO THE SURREAL WORLD

French design house Pierre Frey has teamed with the ebullient designer Ken Fulk to create The Surreal World collection—an array of fabrics, wallcoverings, and rugs in dreamlike patterns and textures. Each design is a celebration of neoclassical sculpture and brutalist architecture, gardens, and landscapes, and references to illusionist works or surrealist parties. Offered in various colors, the collection includes designs like the neoclassical, a tribute to the charm of Parisian architecture, and hedgerow, an homage to the parterres of French gardens and Escher's illusionist works. Fulk's signature cheeky and cheerful nature shines through the designs while the sophistication of Pierre Frey's imagination is palpable. pierrefrey.com

RIGHTEOUS GEMS

Rocky Mountain Hardware, the leading manufacturer of solid bronze hardware, has released Oasis, a sculptural hardware collection created in collaboration with renowned architectural firm RAMSA. The new line features cabinetry and door hardware in natural and organic forms, each with a level of detail only made possible by Rocky Mountain's advanced technology. "While designing Oasis, we were inspired by historic architectural references and the Arts and Crafts movement," says Lawrence Chabra, RAMSA interiors studio director and associate. "The result is a sculptural collection that juxtaposes the structural quality of doors and millwork with the inventiveness and craftsmanship of jewelry, featuring design elements that are similar to gem cutting." rockymountainhardware.com



PROJECT X To celebrate the tenth anniversary of The Met's reimagined Islamic Wing, the Met Store has partnered with designer Madeline Weinrib to unveil The Heirloom Project—a collection of contemporary handmade pieces ranging from accessories to home decor and jewelry. An icon amidst the textiles and home design industry, Weinrib has created this exclusive collection with artisans from around the world, dedicated to keeping traditional techniques alive and bridging the gap between centuries-old works of art and modern-day producers. Additional pieces will launch over a nine-month period and will include expanded brands with each launch. store.metmuseum.org





FÊTE FOR A QUEEN

Internationally known designer Kelly Wearstler has launched a new initiative, expanding her e-commerce platform to include exclusively commissioned and personally curated pieces by emerging global artists and designers. Her first partnership with Netherlands-based art collective Rotganzen features Quelle Fête, a five-piece collection of works inspired by Los Angeles. In this new offering, Wearstler takes her passion for integrating specially curated pieces into her projects and shares it with the rest of the world while also providing a stage for her new and favorite artists. "Rotganzen's Quelle Fête series embodies a beautiful tension of joy and sorrow, and blurs the lines between design objects and art, so they are the perfect first partner for this new venture," Wearstler notes. Reminiscent of melted disco balls, Quelle Fête is a playful representation of old glamour nights in clubs like Studio 54, Paradise Garage, and The Roxy. **kellywearstler.com**



SWEET CHILD OF MINE

Lagos-based Nigerian architect and designer Tosin Oshinowo is distinguished for her sprawling residential and commercial spaces, her socially responsive approaches to urbanism, and her line of handmade chairs by her luxury brand Ilé-Ilà, meaning "house of lines" in her native Yoruba language. The brand's innovative Àdùnní line of chairs aims to celebrate African Modernism. Framed with Nigerian teak wood and upholstered with the indigenous Yoruba textile Asò-oké, Oshinowo's designs combine traditional African craftsmanship with an elegant European aesthetic. The Àdùnní line features Gboro-gidi fabric on the front and Onja-wú ati iho fabric on the back and is available in seven vibrant colors. ile-ila.com



NATURAL *LIGHT*

Rug design house Merida is an industry leader in sustainably and naturally made rugs, using rapidly replenishable materials that are safe for your home. Their new line, Atelier, is a study in light and its role in nature. Brightness and shadow are depicted with a texture-rich palette of hand-selected natural yarns in a combination of saturated and muted colors. According to Merida, the Atelier collection pays homage to visionary artists who have explored the conversation between nature and expression through painting, sculpture, and land art. meridastudio.com





CHIPPED

Interior designer Mat Sanders has partnered with lighting design house Studio M to create a line of lighting that transcends both design and functionality yet celebrates both to the utmost. Evoking Paris brasseries, Danish modernists, and his signature casual elegance approach to living, Sanders playfully combines modernity and tradition in each original piece. The line includes five collections, including Chips, shown here. The thinly curved panels of perforated metal shades hide satin white globes perched at various points along chip-like sculptures. Airy yet substantial, each piece is inspired by pop art and sculpture, and all are cheekily named, expressing Sanders' lighthearted nature. The Chips collection includes largescale pendants vertically or horizontally suspended, smaller-scaled single pendants, and wall sconces. Shade panels are available in natural aged brass and matte white but can be customized with several other options. **studiomlighting**

WASTE NOT WANT NOT

Vienna-born lighting designer Barbara Palatin-Doyle, founder of Studio Palatin, is known for creating one-of-a-kind sculptural lighting pieces crafted by hand in limited editions. Her pieces incorporate materials and techniques used in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century contemporary design, combining art with functionality. Palatin-Doyle's new line of lighting, Charta Alba, is modeled after sculptures made from brown packing paper pulled from recycled Amazon boxes. She used a single piece of paper wrapped around a vertical axis to create each distinguished shape. Intricate and unique folds in the paper act as the perfect foundation for light and shadows to play. To transform the delicate brown paper into a solid piece made with luxe material, Palatin-Doyle partnered with the Vienna Porcelain Manufactory Augarten. studiopalatin.com