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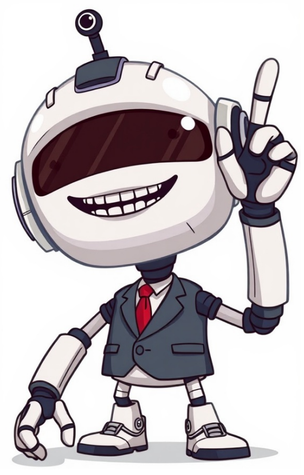

Affairs Flags are open to many meanings lets not allow small-minded flappers get in the way. Diplomacy Which countrys cultural influence grew and whose slumped in the past 12 months? We take a look at six nations. Affairs A new government is offering the long-beleaguered city a welcome opportunity for renewal. Diplomacy On a small island off Helsinki is an institution where key political figures from Finland and Sweden meet to discuss geopolitical issues, in a space away from the pressurised corridors of power. Affairs Declining birthrates and an exodus of young people have resulted in a hollowing out of Greek family life. Now the government is stepping in to encourage people to have children. Urbanism The Canadian city is offering the world a lot to learn from as it renaturalises a harbour once used to accomodate an industrial port district. Urbanism The Portuguese capital is working to preserve and promote traditional retailers through Lojas com Histria, a municipal programme aimed at protection of cultural identity and urban regeneration. Urbanism Osaka isnt known for generous green spaces but its latest multiuse development is an exception. Monocle visits the expansive station-connected park. You currently have no items in your cart. Subtotal: Discount: Shipping: Total: Checkout Shipping will be calculated at checkout. For orders shipping to the United States, please refer to our FAQs for information on import duties and regulations All orders placed outside of the EU that exceed 1,000 in value require customs documentation. Please allow up to two additional business days for these orders to be dispatched. You currently have no items in your cart. Subtotal: Discount: Shipping: Total: Checkout Shipping will be calculated at checkout. For orders shipping to the United States, please refer to our FAQs for information on import duties and regulations All orders placed outside of the EU that exceed 1,000 in value require customs documentation. Please allow up to two additional business days for these orders to be dispatched. Editor in chief at Monocle, covering urbanism, design, and global cultural trends with expert insights. A contributor on Pop culture specialist covering music, magazines, and global cultural trends with a Brazilian perspective. A contributor on Books editor and interviewer, chairing literary events and advocating for free expression worldwide. A contributor on Deputy editor at Konfekt, covering food, fashion, and travel with a deep cultural perspective. A contributor on Monocles editorial director and chairman, heard delivering sharp global insights across our flagship programmes. 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For orders shipping to the United States, please refer to our FAQs for information on import duties and regulations All orders placed outside of the EU that exceed 1,000 in value require customs documentation. Please allow up to two additional business days for these orders to be dispatched. You currently have no items in your cart. Subtotal: Discount: Shipping: Total: Checkout Shipping will be calculated at checkout. For orders shipping to the United States, please refer to our FAQs for information on import duties and regulations All orders placed outside of the EU that exceed 1,000 in value require customs documentation. Please allow up to two additional business days for these orders to be dispatched. Monocle is an independent voice on global affairs, business, design, culture and much more. Founded in 2007, we go beyond the headlines to deliver sharp analysis, inspiring ideas and deep reporting and all with an ambitious global perspective. With HQs in London and Zrich, and bureaux in Hong Kong, Tokyo and Paris, Monocle magazine, published 10 times a year, remains the beating heart of our brand offering fresh narratives that you wont find elsewhere. Monocle is more than a publication; its a global community. Subscribers are not just readers; theyre invited into our world through exclusive events, lively conferences, and an expanding network of cafs and shops. Monocle Radio delivers around-the-clock programming, while our suite of newsletters drops insights and recommendations straight into your inbox. With a trusted and expanding presence in digital news, books, bricks-and-mortar retail, brand collaborations, podcasts and more, were the place that people (and businesses) come to for smart solutions and an engaged, common-sense read on the world. Our independent publishing imprint produces books that explore everything from travel to entrepreneurship with the same Monocle sensibility. For those looking to engage directly with our audience, our commercial partnerships and bespoke media offerings provide meaningful ways to connect. We also produce seasonal and event-focused newspapers as well as annual specials such as business titleThe Entrepreneurs, our global lookahead, The Forecast and our travel title The Escapist. Monocle is the news source for people who want to know more, hear a richness of views not just from the anglosphere and who, despite all the challenges, want to venture out into the world. Monocle: keeping an eye and an ear on the world. Skip to main content Currently being edited in London Daily inbox intelligence from Monocle Home Magazine Issue 183 The Monocle Design Awards 2025: All 50 winners Design Issue 183 April 23, 2025 31 Min Read From handsome Nordic furniture to sleek kitchen appliances, the following 50 designs, people and places are the recipients of Monocles annual Design Awards. Best armchairFlair O Maxi by B&B ItaliaItaly The Flair O Maxi is a new iteration of B&B Italias 2021 Flair O chair and the rightful winner of our best armchair award. We love it for its simplicity: its stately plinth and swivel combined with comfortable padding. The key idea for this particular form was lounging, Monica Armani, the chairs designer, tells Monocle. But thats a very broad notion. Last year, suddenly inspired by Italian dresses from the 1960s, I decided to change the proportions of the seat.bebitalia.com Best barBar Vitrine by FramaDenmark Designed and run by furniture brand Frama, and with a menu devised by a former Noma chef, Bar Vitrine occupies a 1960s-era brutalist building. We loved the spaces uniqueness, says Frama founder Niels Stryer Christophersen. We wanted it to feel warm, like entering someones home or kitchen. Dark and light wood interiors balance the exteriors metal and stone. A communal birch table is at the bars centre, while tables along the windows are complemented by Framas 01 chairs.barvitrine.dk; framacph.com Best portable lightSnowman 15 Portable by ILKWSouth Korea The Snowman15 Portable marks South Korean lighting brand ILKWs wireless debut. This design features a polycarbonate resin shade, giving it a balloon-like, join-free silhouette. Kwon Sunman, creative director of ILKW, says he developed the portable light for adaptable and outdoor use. The body, shade and integrated led, which is capable of producing a wide range of colour temperatures, all come together, he says. The lamp not only replicates natural light but can evoke different atmospheres according to its owners mood.ilkwdesign.com Best in the kitchenExpressive series oven by GaggenauGermany German home-appliances manufacturer Gaggenaus latest is a sleek oven from the Expressive Series. The kitchen is now often part of the living room, says Gaggenau industrial designer Alexander Stuhler. That means you might have a view of it from your sofa. So its important to design appliances that you want to look at. Here, that means a simplified user interface, smooth joints and a floating control ring a combination that lets you show off your cooking skills and your taste. gaggenau.com Best for versatilityStudie chair by FermobFrance Fermobs versatile oak-and-metal Studie chair is the perfect stackable number. It was created by French designer Tristan Lohner as a seat thats fit for the dining room but just as easily used in other situations. When I pick up a pencil, I aim to get closer to the concept of service, says Lohner. The concept of service is wonderfully broad. We can see this chair in a French bistro, an auditorium or piled up five-high after a party.bebitalia.com Best bookshopGood Company BookshopPortugal Good Company Books is a newcomer to Lisbons bookshop scene, focusing on English-language titles and serving coffee, baked goods and wine. We missed the kind of space where you can sit down, read a book, work or meet a friend over coffee, says American-born Samuel Miller, who opened the bookshop last November with his Brazilian partner, Giovanna Centeno. goodcompanybooks.com Best train fit-outTGV InOui by Nendo and ArepFrance French state-owned rail service SNCFs soon-to-launch TGV InOui trains have a new look, courtesy of Frances Arep and Japans Nendo. This is principal Oki Satos first transportation design and it features curved surfaces, a modular layout, warm lighting and a muted palette its understated elegance a welcome departure from other trains utilitarian monotony. Our favourite detail? The lemon-yellow lamp from TGVs prior design remains, but with a bulbous shade typical of Nendos playful style. sncf-voyageurs.com Best cameraSigma BFJapan For its combination of austere beauty, technical prowess and ease of use, we salute the Sigma BF, a digital camera from the iconic Japanese lens maker. Sigma CEO Kazuto Yamaki had a very specific aim in mind: a return to the beginnings of photography, when a camera was no more than a lens and a black box. For a lens manufacturer like us, the lens is the true star, says Yamaki. We felt that the camera body should be as simple as possible, much like the camera obscura. sigma-global.com Best hospitality fit-outFinlandia Hall by FyraFinland Though a central part of Helsinkis cityscape, Alvar Aaltos 1971 Finlandia Hall always felt remote to the citys residents, who knew it only as a conference centre until now. Finnish design studio Fyra has opened it up to the public with a new bistro, caf and shop. The bistro features original Aalto chairs and lighting, complemented by marble tables and an oak bar. The caf and shop are bathed in natural light. When you design for a protected building and an Aalto one, no less youre a custodian of heritage, says Eva-Marie Eriksson, Fyras co-founder. But this building isnt a museum. Ensuring that its used is the best way of honouring Aaltos legacy. fyra.fi Best retail installationJe taime comme un chien by Le Bon MarchFrance Le Bon Marchs retail installation Je taime comme un chien was a love letter to dogs of all shapes and sizes. The pedigreed Paris department store was given a fetching makeover recently, featuring cutouts of hounds, mastiffs, retrievers and poodles gazing longingly towards the treats on offer. The commercial team unleashed its creativity, assembling an impressive assortment of items for dogs and their owners from more than 200 brands. These ranged from Barbour raincoats to a poodle-motif necktie from Cinabre. It was the exhibition that generated the most enthusiasm among both our staff and our customers, says Elodie Abrial, Le Bon Marchs commercial director. lebonmarche.com Best in productionKasthallSweden Founded in 1889 in Kinna, a historic textile hub in southern Sweden, Kasthall continues to operate from the same factory and design studio where skilled artisans and designers bring every rug to life.Our factory in Kinna is the heart of our brand, says CEO Mirkku Kullberg. The artisanal pride and generational expertise in our team define us. Without them, we would lose not just our legacy but our identity.kasthall.com Best retail additionAlaas London caf and bookshopUK A new caf and bookshop on the top floor of French fashion house Alaas London flagship is a welcome development in the retail landscape. An aluminium table occupies the centre of the caf, which serves flat whites and matcha lattes with pastries from London bakery Violet. The bookshop is curated by the team behind Claire de Rouen, a popular east London spot for titles on art, photography and fashion. maison-alaia.com Best playgroundYirran muru playspaceAustralia When Shellharbours town council planned an educational space to recount the local Dharawal Aboriginal peoples history, they tapped landscape architect Fiona Robb for a playground design. You should experience a good playground for its own sake but a deeper didactic meaning is there if you want it, says Robb of the project, whose design functions as a miniature map of the Dharawal peoples region. Blue zones represent the nearby ocean and lake, sandpits symbolise the beach and coast, and a large stone semicircle represents the Illawara escarpment. architectsofarcadia.com.au Most democratic designMofalla Easy chair by IkeaSweden Swedish furniture company Ikea has built an archive of accessible, democratic design since 1943 and from this, back by popular demand, is the Mofalla chair. First made to the design of Denmarks Niels Gammelgaard in 1978, this foldable number features a simple, appealing combination of canvas and chrome.Its also very practical, says Karin Gustavsson, the projects creative lead. I believe that theres always a need for lightweight, easy-to-use furniture for extra seating. And thanks to Ikea, this example is available to everyone. ikea.com Best branding27/4 by Yorgo & CoFrance Graphic designer Yorgo Tloupass branding work on entrepreneur Paul Dupuys 27/4 building in Paris creates a sense of cohesion across the drinking-and-dining hubs three floors. Tloupas developed bespoke signage and typography for everything including customised fire-safety notices and alcohol-licence information. The overall effect works on a subconscious level, says Tloupas. This impressive attention to detail sets abenchmark.27quatre.com; yorgo.co Best artistic installationOn Weaving pavilionSaudi Arabia Its a given that places of worship are spiritual and ethereal, says Charles Kettaneh, co-founder of East Architecture, referring to the practices modular musalla an open area used for prayer in Islam. Titled On Weaving, its an exploration of the idea of transience, adds Kettanehs fellow co-founder, Nicolas Fayad. Musallas have never been studied as architectural typologies, he says.eastarchitecture.net; akt-uk.com Best incubatorUAE Designer ExhibitionUAE Cities such as Abu Dhabi and Dubai have long imported star architects and designers from across the globe for major works. But the UAE Designer Exhibition, which took place during last Novembers Dubai Design Week, is shifting the narrative. We want people to know that designs potential here is quite large, says Omar Al Gurg (pictured), who curated the most recent exhibition, spotlighting 30 local talents. About 22,500 visitors saw the show, helping to change the Gulfs design narrative.dubaidesignweek.ae Best hi-fiRA03 by Rudy AudioDenmark Monocle spotted Rudy Audio when it debuted at last years 3 Days of Design festival in Copenhagen: we were taken by its gorgeous speakers, amps and turntables with chiselled surfacing and exquisite joinery. A collaboration between Sren Rose Studio, furniture maker Kbenhavns Mbelsnedkeri and a Danish technician, this hi-fi features speakers hand-made in Denmark by Scan-speak. We went the road less travelled, says Sren Rose, the founder of his eponymous studio. rudyaudio.com; sorenrose.com Lifetime achievementMarva GriffinItaly For more than 25 years, Venezuelan-born, Milan-based curator Marva Griffin has been helping to develop design talent from across the globe. In 1999 she founded Salone Satellite, an exhibition within Milans Salone del Mobile trade show that spotlights projects by young practitioners under the age of 35. It has nurtured the careers of designers such as Cristina Celestino, Sebastian Herkner and Oki Sato an on-going achievement thats worthy of celebration. Best bedframeMC-1 by ReFramedDenmark It pays to be flexible in the bedroom. Copenhagen-based practice ReFrameds sleek and modern MC-1 bedframe is a case in point. Created in collaboration with Swiss industrial designer Michel Charlot, it features a chunky steel frame that holds the mattress and four simple cylindrical legs.There are two powder-coated finish options (ivory or moss green) and sprung slats that are supportive and remain flexible for added comfort.reframedbrand.com Most playful designAo collection by GhomePortugal I dont think about products but rather what they can do to the spaces that they inhabit, says Gonalo Prudncio, founder of Portuguese design firm Ghome. Case in point: Ao, which exudes playfulness through bold shapes and colours. ghome.pt Residential architect of the yearManuel CervantesMexico Its appropriate that were meeting Manuel Cervantes, our residential architect of the year (though his practice encompasses much more), in his studio. I live next door, so its an extension of my home, says Cervantes. His residence and studio is filled with books, artwork and objects that shape the way that we discuss projects, says the architect. Its a space for thinking and connection, not just work. Sometimes its easier to communicate an idea with a painting or a material sample than through a drawing. Best retail displayTojiro Knife GalleryJapan At Tojiro Knife Gallery in Osaka, every detail is a celebration of traditional Japanese craft. In particular, the design riffs on yoroi-bari cladding, a method of construction inspired by samurai armour that involves weaving metal plates with silk or leather cords. The knives are lined up on magnetic shelves, held up by clever notches. If a product is exceptional, the space must be equally refined, says the shops designer, Katata Yoshihito.tojiro-japan.com Best exhibition designGallery of the KingsItaly Museums of ancient history can sometimes feel a little dusty and stale. Thats why the bold and unconventional Gallery of the Kings at Turins Museo Egizio caught our eye. David Gianotten and Andreas Karavanas Partner and Project Architect, respectively, at the Dutch architecture firm OMA designed the layout in collaboration with Andrea Tabocchini Architecture. These statues hold a lot of importance and we didnt want to keep them in the dark, says Gianotten. oma.com; andreatabocchini.com Best glasswareFit by Aldo Bakker for J Hills StandardIreland Dutch designer Aldo Bakkers on-going collaboration with J Hills Standard, an Irish maker of contemporary cut crystal, is underpinned by their shared admiration for form and the use of glass. Their cup-and-carafe combination, named Fit, can be stacked and comes in three colours: grey, clear and opaque ochre. We want to re-establish the glass industry in Ireland, says Anike Tyrrell, the founder of J Hills Standard. Were not interested in revisiting whats already been done a thousand times. jhillsstandard.com; aldobakker.com Best gadgetTP-7 field recorder by Teenage EngineeringSweden Teenage Engineerings palm-sized TP-7 audio recorder has us wondering how we ever went without it. Its centrepiece is a motorised tape reel that allows you to pause recordings, control the menu navigation and more. This highly intuitive device is making waves. teenage.engineering Best project evolutionRita Lee Park by EcomimesisBrazil All too often the Olympic Games leave host cities an urban legacy of white elephants. Not so in western Rio de Janeiro, where the landscape architects at Ecomimesis Solues Ecolgicas transformed the grey pedestrian thoroughfare that was the Olympic Way into a fun and colourful park named after the late Brazilian queen of rock, Rita Lee.ecomimesis.com.br Best storage solutionUtilPortugal When it comes to steel storage solutions, options tend to fall into two extremes either industrial-grade efficiency or uninspired, budget-friendly office staples. Enter Util, a Portuguese brand striking a balance between functionality and elegance with a thoughtfully curated and design-conscious collection.thisisutil.com Best design partnershipHolder ObjectsChile & Germany Berlin-based design store and gallery Holder Objects brings new and archival Latin American design to Europe. This exchange stems from the Chilean duo behind it, Trinidad Davanzo and Camilo Palma. Latin Americas unique geographical position is a bridge between European, indigenous and African influences, says Davanzo. Eminent talents on the duos radar include Venezuelan architect and designer Jorge Surez-Kilzi and Italian-Uruguayan maker Matteo Fogale. holder-objects.com Best lampBellhop Glass T by Barber Osgerby for FlosItaly The familiar shape of UK studio Barber Osgerbys Bellhop Glass T throws a warm, uniform light wherever it sits thanks to its layers of opaline glass. The new iteration of the lamp is also dimmable: when turned down low, the glow it gives is almost ethereal. I wanted to concentrate on a light that can act as a central focal point in a space, that enhances an environment rather than just illuminating it, says Osgerby. flos.com Curator to watchZanele KumaloSouth Africa Zanele Kumalo is an invaluable member of South Africas design scene, platforming the work of local creatives through her work as curator of Design Week South Africa a new fair that took place for the first time last October across Johannesburg and Cape Town. What drives me is helping young creatives find a firmer footing in places where they havent had access, she says. Theres such a wealth of talent in this country. Design Week South Africas strength lies in Kumalos curation that includes emerging talent as well as bigger players. Although in its early days, the fair has already garnered international attention and it has also fostered domestic pride. designweeksouthafrica.com Best sports facilityGerland Aquatic and Sports CentreFrance When Lyon-based 4_32 Architecte was tasked with updating a 1930s outdoor pool in their hometowns Gerland sport complex, the architecture firm was guided by a desire to enhance the experience of sport for people of all abilities and ages.The scope of the project involved retaining the 10-metre diving tower and the 33-metre pool as well as building offices and training facilities for the citys professional rugby club. What made this project interesting is that we needed to accommodate a wide spectrum of people, from young swimmers to high-profile athletes, all in one place, says the practices co-founder Claire Bertrand. The result aligns with the vision of Tony Garnier, the sites original architect, who believed sport was part of a healthy lifestyle and should be accessible to all.432.archi Best first-class cabinLa Premire by Air FranceFrance When Air France unveiled its new first-class cabin, La Premire, in March, expectations were sky high. They were met. Were most impressed by the airlines ability to design a new seating solution that feels spacious. The muted tones, red accents and curtains remain but a full 3.5 sq m of space 25 per cent more than before has been added. Its very elegant and fits the brand, says Benjamin Smith, Air France-KLMs CEO. We are quite confident that we can remain at the top of the European space in first class. Air France spent three years refining the suite, which features a chaise longue that can transform into a two-metre-long bed. La Premires new cabins take flight from Paris to New York this spring. airfrance.com Best civic buildingSige du Conseil de la ConcurrenceMorocco Reflecting centuries-old heritage in the design of a new building is a tough brief. But Rabat-based Prism Architectes have found a way to meld traditional details with contemporary requirements in its design of new headquarters for Moroccos Conseil de la Concurrence, an institution that aims to ensure transparency in the countrys economic relations. Key architectural features include a mchouar (a central area inspired by traditional pathways), courtyards and shading devices. These features are enhanced by the use of stone, wood and intricate metalwork that reference Moroccos traditional vernacular.prismarchitectes.com Best barbecuePhil by EthimoItalyItalian design brand Ethimo and Maltese-born designer Gordon Guillaumiers concept for an outdoor kitchen just made your next summer barbecue significantly better. Part of the Phil collection, which includes a sink and induction-hob option, this sizeable, cylindrical grill-on-wheels is available in an olive green or a sepia black, with pleasing teak details. We think that Phil is the perfect summer party guest free enough to go where the evening takes him but decorous enough to know exactly what is needed and when. Phil has us longing for a hot day when we can sizzle some steaks and throw back an ice-cold spritz. This is outdoor design at its best: uncomplicated, efficient and tailored to improving peoples lives. Bring on the summer.ethimo.com Best material innovationSungai DesignIndonesia Since Gary Bencheghib and his siblings co-founded the river clean-up nonprofit Sungai Watch in Bali in 2020, they have collected more than 2,000,000kg of plastic waste. Rather than sending it to landfill, they have been transforming it into chairs. The manufacturing process involves cleaning each plastic bag and melting them into uniform sheets that can then be sliced and layered to build furniture. We launched a product that was 100 per cent made from recycled plastic, to carry as much weight as possible, says Bencheghib. Its a symbol of how much plastic were collecting from rivers.sungaidesign.com Best community initiativeCasa Ria by David Chipperfield ArchitectsSpain Chipperfields Fundacin Ria, a contribution to his adopted city of Santiago de Compostela in northwest Spain, has a new headquarters in what was once a sanatorium. Casa Ria is intended for use by the non-profit to contribute to sustainability initiatives and quality of life in Galicia. Its also a base for David Chipperfield Architects Santiago. fundacionria.org Best emergency facilityJircany Fire Station by SOA ArchitektiCzechia Czech studio soa Architektis redesign of Jircany Fire Station has turned what could have been an isolated storage space for vehicles and hoses into a place where essential workers and the community overlap. Located in Psry, a town thats a 30-minute drive south of Prague, its a luminous polycarbonate-faade structure.s-o-a.cz Emerging designerMinjae KimSouth Korea & USA Minjae Kim works across interiors, furniture, sculpture and art, in Seoul and New York. His work straddles the line between the practical and the artistic.I favour objects that reveal the layers of their creation, permitting one to discern their formation, in contrast to those flawless products that merely inspire admiration, he says. I contend that the presence of imperfections, rather than a pristine finish, cultivates an aura of breathing space.minjae.kim Best imprintPark BooksSwitzerland Zrich-based architecture and design imprint Park Books makes publications that are both sources of knowledge and beautiful objects. Inspired by Swiss craftsmanship, we pay close attention to the materiality of every book while engaging with the topical issues of design, says Julie Cirelli, its Stockholm-based director.Established in 2012 as an affiliate of Scheidegger & Spiess, Park encourages an exchange of ideas between authors, architects and readers that continues long after the publication date.park-books.com Graduate to watchChanghwi KimSouth Korea Driven by empathy and an insatiable curiosity, Changhwi Kim creates products that go well beyond what is expected. Fresh from design school, Kim is a nuanced observer of people and everyday objects, and he aspires to build a better, more playful world. We meet him to discuss his graduation project, Ed!t, in his collaborative workspace, Creative Group 297. Best for seniorsLittle Tokyo Towers by OWIUUSA Home to 301 one-bedroom apartments for seniors, Little Tokyo Towers in Los Angeles shows how assisted living spaces can be uplifting. Design studio OWIU renovated communal areas, making simple adjustments, such as custom seating, homely lighting and space-defining shoji screens.owiu-design.com Best modernisationAstep Model 262Denmark According to Alessandro Sarfatti, the third-generation owner of Danish-Italian design company Astep, his grandfather Gino was a purist. Sarfatti is modernising his family firms mid-century designs, including Ginos Model 262, a striking light fixture in which the light bulb sits cradled in the curve of a sleek aluminium disc. Originally created in 1971, the design has been updated to meet 21st-century needs and conform to Asteps exacting standards as a certified B Corp. Its chic, functional and energy-efficient and shows that the past can be both celebrated and modernised.astep.design Best new hotelStadthotel Kleiner LweAustria A celebrated Swiss practice, Bregenzerwlder craftsmen and a couple seeking a lifelong investment came together to convert a 17th-century brewery into the Stadthotel Kleiner Lwe, an elegant eight-room guesthouse. Lisa Rmmele and her partner, Johannes Glatz, convinced Herzog & de Meuron to take on the renovation. The buildings centuries-old faade has been preserved but a modern annexe has been added on top. Its a fine hospitality addition to the Austrian stretch of Lake Constance.kleinerloewe.at; herzogdemeuron.com Best public spacePier 22 by Mostlikely ArchitectureAustria Viennas Danube Island is an artificial stretch of land created in the 1970s and 1980s as a flood protection measure. When they built it, they didnt have any idea of what else it should be, says Mark Neuner, the founder of Viennese architecture firm Mostlikely. Last year the practice completed the first phase of its Pier 22 project on the island. Facing Viennas tallest building, the DC Tower 1, its the recreation space that the city has long needed, despite its strong tradition of bathing beaches and swimming pools.mostlikely.at Best for contemplationRaj SabhagruhIndia The Raj Sabhagruh in Gujarat is a meditation complex designed by Serie Architects, a firm based in Mumbai, Singapore and London. Built for Jains, the vast construction is dedicated to providing the optimal conditions for samayika, one of Jainisms key tenets, meaning the pursuit of spirituality through 48 minutes of concentrated silence.serie.co.uk Civic architect of the yearJeanne GangUSA Jeanne Gang established Studio Gang in 1997 and has since become renowned for spaces that connect people, their communities and the environment. Our core principles come through in how we approach every project, starting with whats already there, says Gang, who recently expanded the California College of the Arts. That doesnt just mean context in a traditional sense. It also means people, geology, history or existing buildings. With the Verde tower in San Francisco, for instance, we considered how the building contributes to the public realm. If a place is designed well, people will want to be there.studiogang.com Best cutleryConcorde by ChristofleFrance The Place de la Concorde in Paris is symbolic of French fraternity. So its a fitting source of inspiration for Christofles well-established Concorde silverware collections, designed for use at parties. Housed in a white-oak-and-steel case, the cutlery draws deeply from the brands heritage. A milleraies pattern lining the utensils handles provides a contrast between gloss and matte finishes. These knives, forks and spoons are a pleasure to hold. christofle.com Best for coffeeLinea Micra by La MarzoccoItaly This compact version of La Marzoccos barista-approved coffee machines allows you to make caf-level flat whites at home. The Linea Micra is designed to offer the same performance as our commercial machines, scaled for home use, says Stefano Della Pietra, La Marzoccos head designer. The coffee machines clean-lined aesthetic reflects the manufacturers Florentine roots, particularly the architectural legacy of the Renaissance making the Linea Micra an elegant and eye-catching addition to your kitchen countertop.lamarzocco.com Best renovationLunetta by AcmeAustralia With its panoramic views of Canberra, the 12-sided restaurant building at 60 Red Hill Drive has been a city landmark since its completion in 1963. Originally designed by Czech architect Miles Jakl, it was reimagined in 1981 by Italian-born Enrico Taglietti, who added futuristic convex bay windows. Now, after three years of closure, the building has reopened as the home of two dining spots: Lunetta and Lunetta Trattoria.lunetta.au; acme-co.com.auWhat the winners receive The award by Harry ThalerMerano Harry Thaler has crafted the trophy for the Monocle Design Awards since its debut in 2021, working with the Tscherms-based workshop of Martin Klotz to refine its curved timber form. For the 2025 iteration, Thaler opted for plywood as the primary material, reflecting human ingenuity; the laminating of several layers of timber veneer make a product that is lighter than solid wood. The trophy, which can be used as a paperweight, is a testament to thoughtful design that is celebrated by these awards, which this year are supported by Cupra Design House.A note from Cupra Design House:Design has always been at the heart of everything that we do at CUPRA. It shapes our identity, defines our language and runs through every innovation and experience that we create. For us, design isnt just about form; its about emotion, energy and defying convention. Every line, texture and detail in our cars is an expression of our rebellious spirit. Inspired by collaborations with like-minded brands who also see design as a space to inspire the future, we push further into new, unexplored territories. From the materials that shape our cars interiors to the bold ethos that inspires our sportswear collection, every step that we take is a testament to our passion for design a passion that transcends the automotive world and speaks to ingenuity, innovation and human connection. Tatiana Bilbao argues that our homes have become products instead of places to live. Her vision for housing that reflects real lives is hard to ignore. You currently have no items in your cart. Subtotal: Discount: Shipping: Total: Checkout Shipping will be calculated at checkout. For orders shipping to the United States, please refer to our FAQs for information on import duties and regulations All orders placed outside of the EU that exceed 1,000 in value require customs documentation. Please allow up to two additional business days for these orders to be dispatched. Not ready to checkout? Continue Shopping Monocle Monocle meets 50 celebrated designers from across the globe who get cosy on their couches (with their pets, partners and children) and tell us about their sofa choices why they designed it, why they chose it, how they use it. They reveal fresh insights into their work, their lives, their passions and their style. Original photographic portraits and in-depth interviews transport us into the homes of some of our favourite creatives. We also take you on a fascinating journey that starts at an English country house in 1675 to find out about the 350-year history of the sofa. And we have compiled an illustrated guide to 100 of the most iconic examples, representing the best from 125 years of settee design. Take a seat and join the conversation. View Product Monocle City Guides Berlin Monocle City Guides Istanbul Monocle City Guides Kyoto Monocle City Guides Barcelona Monocle City Guides Paris Monocle City Guides Mexico City Monocle City Guides Madrid Monocle City Guides Singapore Monocle City Guides Lisbon Monocle City Guides Athens Monocle City Guides New York Monocle City Guides Vienna Monocle City Guides Copenhagen Monocle City Guides Bangkok Monocle City Guides Jakarta Monocle City Guides London Monocle City Guides Milan Monocle City Guides Toronto

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