

design report

WHERE IT'S AT

Exciting new superpowers are taking their place on the international design stage, showcasing vibrant, innovative looks and world-class talent

FEATURE Roddy Clarke





WIID

One of the stars of the dynamic South African design scene, Laurie Wiid van Heerden's Wiid Design has become renowned for its use of cork and its contemporary interpretations of the material. Building a strong team of artisans around him, Laurie continues to bring his vivacious aesthetic to the design world and has been recognised by creative communities across the globe. With cork being a sustainable material, thanks to its regenerative production process, showcasing the capacity of the material not only helps to shift the local design scene, but also draws attention to its benefits on a much wider scale.

See more from South Africa overleaf. wiiddesign.co.za ►

south africa

The sheer energy of South Africa's design community brings joy and passion to the forefront with its celebration of traditional materials, colours and patterns brought together in contemporary and unique applications. With a connection to nature, the country pays close attention to its impact, working with organic materials and producing with a conscious mindset.



MURRMURR

Founded by interior designer Mia Senekal, Murrmurr produces furniture collections that blur the boundaries between art and design. With a sculptural aesthetic and ergonomic shapes, the studio's latest collection takes inspiration from the textures and forms of mushrooms.
murrmurr.co.za



HOUTLANDER

Houtlander founders Philip Hollander and Stephen Wilson's Interdependence II bench won the Most Beautiful Object in South Africa Award at Design Indaba 2019.
houtlander.co.za



THE URBANATIVE

Started by engineer and furniture designer Mpho Vackier, The Urbanative's designs are handcrafted locally. The studio's strong, modern aesthetic is catching attention with its innovative application of material and colour. theurbanative.com



MASH.T DESIGN STUDIO

Founded by Thabisa Mjo, Mash.T Design Studio makes furniture, lighting and accessories that celebrate African craft. Its latest creation is the Noodle sofa. For almost a decade, Thabisa experimented with pool noodles, a staple of South African summers, to prototype the complex production of this glamorous design.
mashtdesignstudio.com



MESTIZ

Architect, designer and creative behind Mestiz, Daniel Valero works with craftspeople across Mexico. He merges industrial design and techniques to create ceramic pieces with bold palettes and organic forms inspired by nature and cultural syncretism. mestiz.mx



DANIEL OROZCO ESTUDIO

Interior designer Daniel Orozco produces bespoke furniture collections in collaboration with local Mexican artisans. The studio's latest collection, The Original, draws on the emotions of new challenges, stepping outside of the box. The result is tactile seating, with wood whittled beguilingly into shape. danielorozcoestudio.com

ARUDEKO

Sisters Nailea and Denisse Arnaiz founded Arudeko in 2016, taking inspiration from textiles to local architecture. The duo work with highly skilled artisans in Oaxaca to create rugs, cushions and wall textiles. arudeko.com



mexico

With a rich history of artisanal design, Mexico is brimming with small studios and an energetic craft scene. Bridging the gap between traditional techniques and contemporary aesthetics, the country's creative community is expanding across the world thanks to gallerists and curators who are working hard to showcase the depth of talent Mexico has to offer. ▶

COLECTIVO 1050°

Passionate about reviving pottery traditions in Oaxaca, designers Kythzia Barrera and Diego Mier y Terán set up Colectivo 1050° in 2008 and now represent over 50 potters across six communities in the region. With its motto, 'Together, we turn mud into beauty', the cooperative helps to preserve skill sets as well as provide financial opportunities for the creatives involved. Available in the UK via revolutionofforms.co



PHOTOGRAPHS (PREVIOUS PAGE) JUSTIN PATRICK/MARK WILLIAMS; (THIS PAGE) HOUTLANDER/HAYDEN PHIPPS

israel

Addressing strong narratives and exploring new techniques, Jerusalem has become Israel's design capital and its scene is questioning lifestyle choices by presenting innovative solutions. With a focus on using materials to provoke discussion, this region is one to watch for designers and entrepreneurs of the future.

MAJDI NADR ASHHAB

Jordan-born, Jerusalem-based glass artist Majdi Nadr Ashhab's latest collaboration, with embroidery artist Aamal Jamel Hamadeh Sabbah, is a series of lighting designs mixing traditional techniques and modern silhouettes. Using stiffened fabrics decorated with Islamic motifs and the iconography of Palestinian towns, these chandeliers feel delicate yet thought provoking.

@
majdi_ashhab



LIRI SEPTON

Graduating with a degree in industrial design in 2021, Jerusalem-based Liri Septon is questioning our perception of foodstuffs and raw materials. In the Eretz Collection she combined flour and clay to create the material for her hand-formed vessels. @lirisep

ASSAF COHEN CERAMICS

With an avant-garde approach to ceramics, Assaf Cohen's latest collection, A Moment of Clarity, is in collaboration with soft metal turner Shem Tov Mar Haim. It includes a series of lighting designs in unique forms and silhouettes. assafcohen-ceramics.com



PHOTOGRAPHS (MAJDI NADR ASHHAB AND ASSAF COHEN) | ANTMAN ODED; (MOOQUE) STUDIO PERIPHERY

HARVBRAND

Designed by THINKK Studio in Bangkok, the Wircle stool brings together board offcuts, sawdust and other waste resources in a contemporary silhouette. These playful designs also work well as side tables. @harvbrand



KHAISAENG HANDMADE

Thai designer Khaisaeng Romphotong blends handmade craft and modern creativity. Showcasing responsible design, she has made a material from hemp fibre and sawdust that can be applied to furniture and accessories to striking effect. khaisaeng.com

PASAYA

Renowned for its textile manufacturing, Pasaya uses new technology to upcycle plastic waste into yarn. This practical Urban Art Rug, as seen at Design London, makes a strong statement with its graffiti-style print. pasaya.com



MOOQUE DESIGN

Sarunphon Boonto's latest collection, shown at Singapore Design Week 2022, features colourful woven ropes set into an aluminium frame and includes seating and storage accessories. mooque-design.com/mel



thailand

From recycled materials to eye-catching forms, Thailand is bursting with creative talent. Inspired by the local environment, using responsible production and resourceful craft, gifted artisans are putting Thailand on the global design map.