

EDITION #143 NOVEMBER 2025

Inside

LIFESTYLE & INTERIORS



GNAPET

Inside

EDITION #143



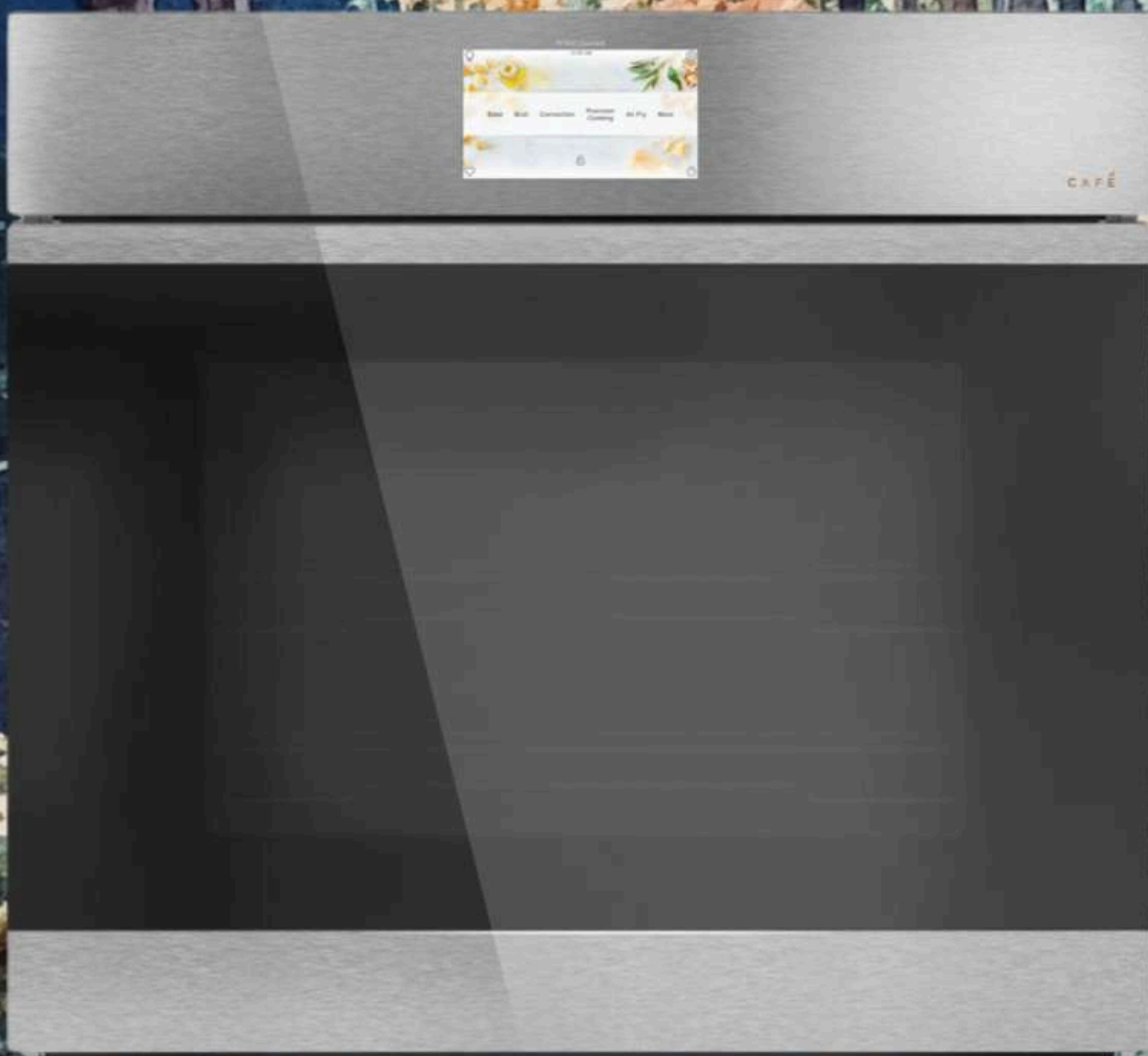
Inside this downtown Aspen residence, architect Seth Hmielowski of Z Group Architecture & Interior Design, interior designer Andrea Glinn of Glinn Interiors, builder Sebastian Wanatowicz of Type Five Builders, and landscape architect Amy Capron Barrow of Land Design 39 collaborated to create a contemporary mountain home guided by ikigai—the Japanese concept of living with purpose. The three-story sanctuary balances minimalist architecture with organic materials, crafting spaces for both communal gathering and private reflection.



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DESIGN.

Nerai

The Japanese philosophy of Ikigai, living through meaning, balance and intention, is not used here as a styling reference. It is embedded in the way the home works, breathes and holds its people. Every space feels considered rather than displayed. Every material feels chosen rather than imposed.

What is most compelling about this residence is its confidence in restraint. In a world obsessed with louder, bigger and shinier, this home chooses softness, depth and calm. The architecture frames views without forcing them. The interiors invite you to slow down rather than speed up. Wood, stone, metal and light move together quietly, creating rooms that feel grounded rather than performative.

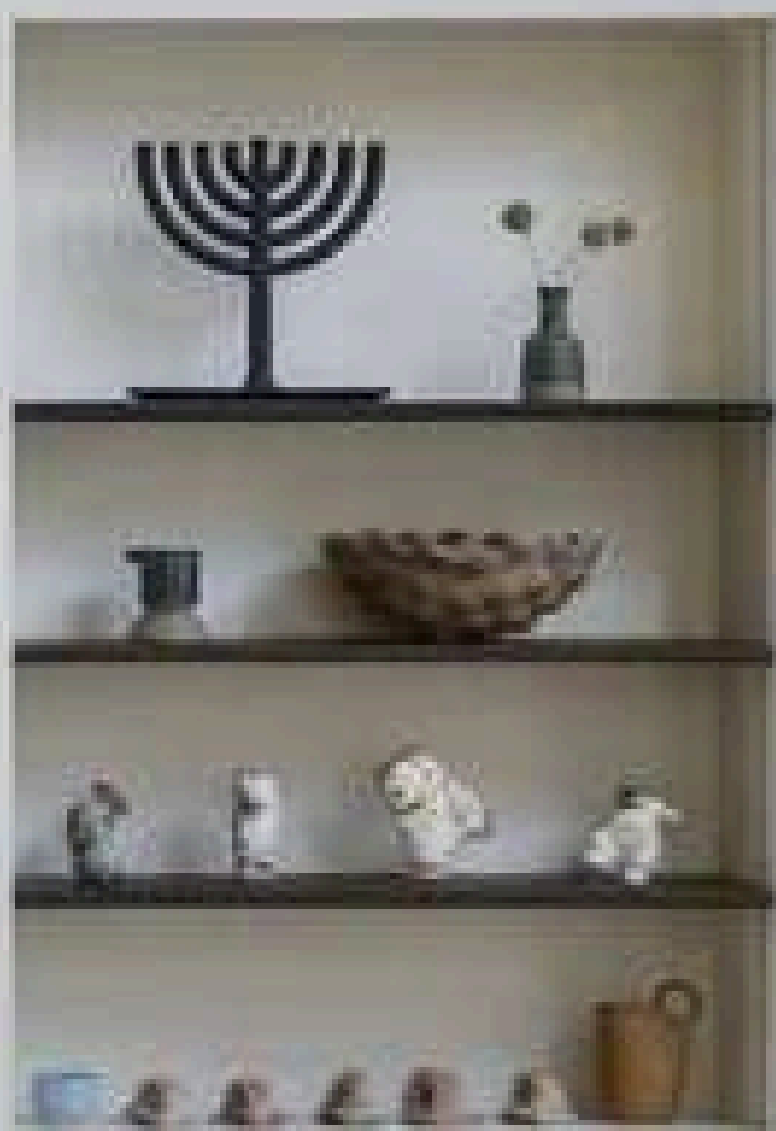
This is a home designed for real living. For long conversations around the kitchen island. For large gatherings that flow effortlessly into outdoor spaces. For quiet mornings wrapped in stillness. It understands that true luxury is not excess. It is ease. It is space that works for you, not against you. There is also something deeply human about this project. You sense the relationships within it. The thought behind where people sit, how they move, where they pause. It is a home that allows both connection and solitude to exist without conflict.

For me, this is where architecture becomes personal. Where design stops being an object and becomes an experience. This home is a reminder that when intention leads, beauty follows naturally. And that, to me, is Ikigai translated into walls, light, texture and life.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LEPANG'.











I k i g a i

MOODBOARD 143

A VISUAL BALANCE OF CALM, INTENTION, WARMTH AND PURPOSEFUL MATERIAL HARMONY.



The home's aesthetic emerges from a restrained material palette that balances contemporary architecture with organic warmth. Three wood species—including wire-brushed finishes and ash—introduce textural depth, while blackened metal and concrete provide structural counterpoints. The color story revolves around cool blues and grays, punctuated by natural stone in varied finishes: polished Leblon quartzite, tumbled stone accents, and black Cardoso granite. Exterior cladding in Adobo Vulcan combines black, silver and dark brown tones. Fabrics from Pierre Frey and Romo add softness, while custom metalwork and patinated steel elements reinforce the architectural lines. Antique pieces, including Japanese screens and vintage rugs from Isberian Rug Company, layer history into the deliberately minimal interiors.



Beyond Zen

In Search Of *Ikigai*

Ikigai—the Japanese concept of finding meaning through what makes life worth living—rarely manifests in architecture. But for one Aspen homeowner, a three-story residence in the city's downtown core embodies precisely that philosophy. After years of business travel to Japan, he sought to translate his appreciation for Japanese culture into a home that balanced modern sensibility with a sense of calm intentionality. Working with architect Seth Hmielowski of Z Group Architecture & Interior Design, the challenge was articulating a vision that transcended simple aesthetic references.

Hmielowski explained that the client would reference Zen or wabi-sabi, but neither term quite captured what he sought. The breakthrough came when they landed on ikigai—not as a design theme to be literalized, but as a guiding principle for how the home would function. For this owner, whose relationships anchor his life, that meant creating spaces equally suited for large gatherings and quiet contemplation. The result is a home that sleeps up to 16 while maintaining an atmosphere of serenity and focus.

Hmielowski, working alongside firm principal Scott McHale and project manager Randy Henrie, approached the design with careful attention to light, view and connection to place. The architecture frames sight lines toward Aspen Mountain and Red Mountain, while the material palette—three distinct wood species, blackened metal and concrete—softens the building's clean geometry. This tension between sharpness and warmth runs throughout the project, where minimalism meets materiality. The home's proportions avoid the extremes that plague some contemporary mountain architecture: glass is abundant but not excessive, ceiling heights feel generous without becoming cavernous, and volumes flow logically from one to the next.

Sustainability entered the conversation early, with green roofs, solar panels and high-efficiency air filtration integrated by general contractor Sebastian Wanatowicz of Type Five Builders. These systems remain largely invisible, supporting the home's environmental goals without compromising its aesthetic coherence. Perhaps most striking are the massive double pivot doors, fabricated by Riviera Bronze, that open the great room to the outdoors. When fully deployed, these doors dissolve the boundary between inside and out, transforming the living area into a sheltered pavilion.

Interior designer Andrea Glinn, who had collaborated with the owner on two previous projects, understood his preferences and trusted her instincts accordingly. Their process involved repeated refinement—eliminating anything superfluous, questioning every choice. Glinn noted that she dug into what would feel light, calm and contemplative, ensuring nothing overstimulating made its way into the design. Television sets are deliberately scarce. The color palette revolves around blues and grays, tones the owner gravitates toward naturally, punctuated by the warmth of wire-brushed wood and tumbled stone.

Rather than simply specifying furniture, Glinn and her client traveled together to experience pieces firsthand. They sat in every chair, evaluated every sofa, ensuring that comfort and proportion aligned with intention. The resulting selections feel considered rather than curated—a Frigerio sectional in the family room, Poltrona Frau seating in the kitchen and primary bedroom, Overgaard & Dyrman dining chairs upholstered in Pierre Frey fabric. An Apparatus lighting installation hovers above the dining table, while a custom credenza sits beneath an antique Japanese six-panel screen from Naga Antiques.

Art advisor Simone Joseph worked with Glinn and the owner to bring in works from living artists with diverse cultural backgrounds. A custom chandelier from Israel, pieces by Syrian American and Vietnamese American creators, and a painting by Whitney Bedford in the under-stairs nook contribute to a collection that spans geography and generation. Glinn commented that they paired modern art with antiques to show the dimension of time, with layers mixed in to tell a story. The primary bedroom features a work by Diana Al-Hadid, hung deliberately in a space free from technology—a retreat within a retreat.

Landscape architect Amy Capron Barrow of Land Design 39 extended the home's thoughtful material palette into the outdoor spaces. The building's exterior combines black, silver and dark brown Adobo Vulcan cladding from ReSawn Timber Co., while a low-slope shed roof rises above the interior stair enclosure, planted with sedums that shift with the seasons. Outside the great room, Janus et Cie seating surrounds a Paloform fire pit, creating another zone for gathering. A second-story balcony offers additional outdoor territory, and the strategic placement of these spaces ensures that groups can disperse or converge as desired.

In the kitchen, white oak cabinetry contrasts with black Cardoso granite on the island and Leblon quartzite that extends from the perimeter counters up the walls. A patinated steel hood by Colorado Steel Works provides a sculptural focal point. Nearby, a banquette upholstered in Romo fabric creates an intimate dining nook beneath the stairs, flanked by Ravenhill Studio sconces. These smaller moments—the breakfast spot, the reading chair, the covered terrace—balance the home's larger communal areas.

What emerges is a residence that operates on multiple scales simultaneously. It accommodates crowds without feeling institutional and provides solitude without isolation. The owner describes it as his happy place, where the vibe is peaceful and fun, feeling alive, warm and active. That liveliness comes not from stimulation but from purpose—rooms shaped by how they'll be used, materials chosen for how they age, details refined until nothing extraneous remains. It's architecture in service of ikigai, a home that knows exactly why it exists.



























Inside | EDITION #143



The *Kitchen* Edit



The kitchen operates as both a functional workspace and a social hub, designed for gatherings while maintaining visual calm. Custom white oak cabinetry lines the perimeter, its clean horizontal grain providing warmth against the cooler stone surfaces. Leblon quartzite extends from the countertops up the backsplash walls, creating a continuous plane that reflects light throughout the space. The island centers the room with a substantial black Cardoso granite countertop, offering contrast and a durable work surface. Poltrona Frau bar stools provide comfortable seating for casual meals and conversation. A custom patinated steel hood by Colorado Steel Works anchors the cooking zone, its sculptural presence serving as a focal point without overwhelming the space. Open shelving breaks up the cabinetry, displaying carefully curated objects. The design prioritizes clear sight lines to adjacent living areas, ensuring the cook remains connected to guests throughout the home.

KAVARI

A sculptural kitchen balancing warmth, stone, steel and social flow.







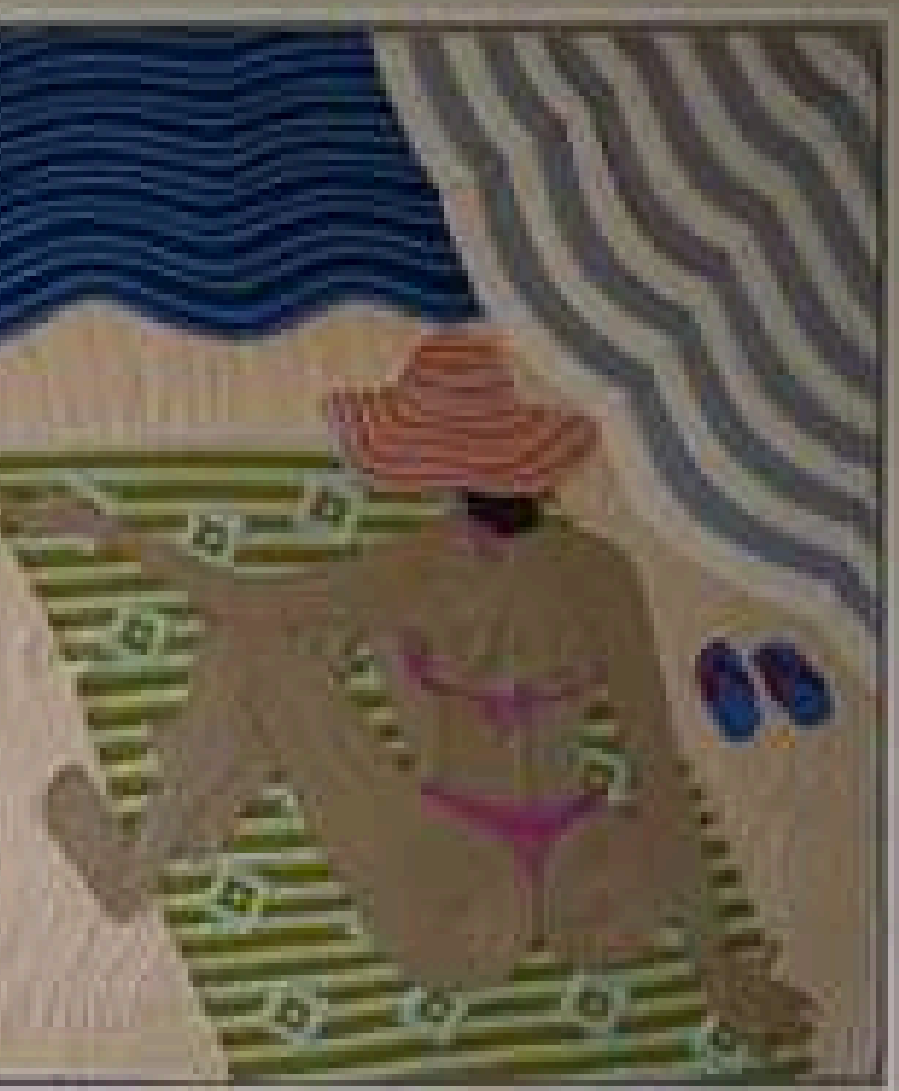








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BAKSHAISH WILLOW HANDWOVEN TRIBAL RUG

INSIDEMODE

AUREVANE

Water used as a quiet architectural ribbon, guiding movement through reflection and light.

BAKSHAISH TRAVELER HANDWOVEN TRIBAL RUG



HAND KNOTTED GABBEH RUG.

The rugs in this home are not decorative afterthoughts but soulful anchors. Vintage Turkish, Isberian and Serafien pieces layer the interiors with history, character and quiet luxury. Their softly faded palettes temper the home's contemporary architecture, bringing emotional warmth to stone, steel and oak surfaces. Each rug introduces gentle imperfection, a counterbalance to the home's clean geometry and modern restraint. Beyond beauty, the rugs define living zones, soften acoustics and invite barefoot living. They add narrative, tactility and depth, proving that true luxury lies in pieces that have lived, traveled and gained meaning over time.

GAROUS BIJAR HANDWOVEN TRIBAL RUG



Inside

CATALOGUE

SHOP / BE INSPIRED / EDITION 143



ENTRY STYLE

SADDLE BENCH

This handcrafted wooden bench features a unique leather seat inspired by tribal saddles, Black stained legs and brass details.

CREATOMY



Traditional in construction and modern in conception, the **Josh Owen** Menorah is elegant and functional. It has an incorporated plate which catches the drippings from candles and provides a safe resting place for a used match while it is still hot. It is made of solid cast iron and has the heft expected of such a material.

ANTIQUE PERSIAN BAKHSHAYESH RUG

A type of Heriz, generally in squarish sizes, all over patterns and coarse to moderate weaves, wool or mixed constructions; woven before 1900.

VICTOR GALLERY NY

LIVING STYLE

HAPPY JACK SOFA

Soft, rounded and welcoming, the Happy Jack sofa, designed by Ludovica + Roberto Palomba, invites you to sit down and let your body be enveloped by its shapes.

POLTRONA FRAU



A sleek, rectangular piece with a minimalist dark wood base and a smooth, thick stone-like top by **Yucca Stuff**.

PITU CHAIR & OTTOMAN

Ottoman by Aristeu Pires handcrafted from sustainably harvested Brazilian hardwood. Down/feather insert with canvas sling. Upholstered in leather or fabric.

SOSSEGO

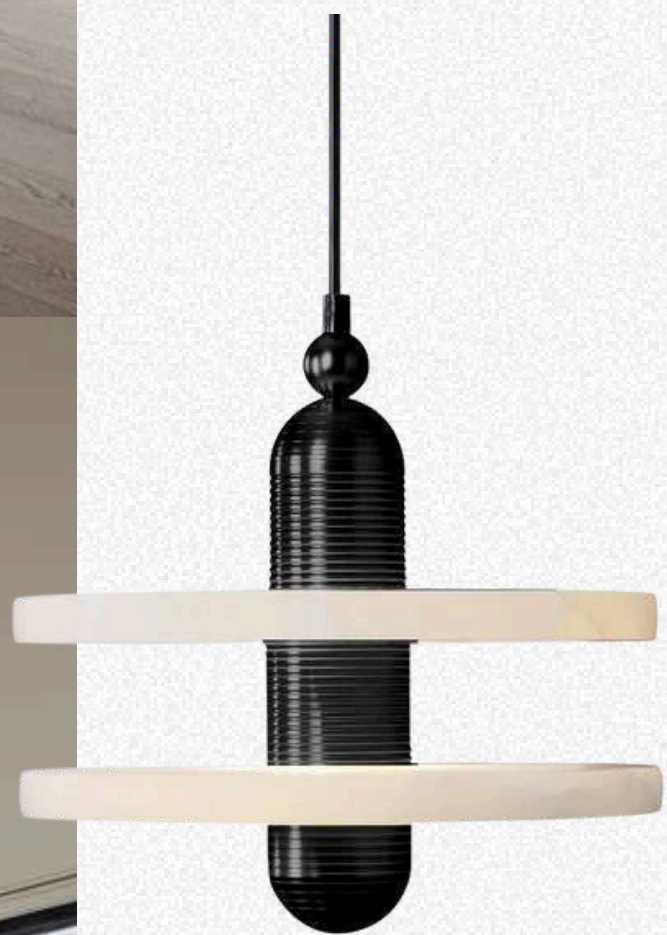


DINING STYLE

SEGMENT 6 DINING TABLE

The translucent resin bases of the segment series lift softly-rounded forms, creating a visual play between density and lightness.

APPARATUS



The translucent alabaster planes of the median series are intersected by a fluted form, referencing traditional middle eastern jewelry while pushing it through a futurist lens. the alabaster glows from a light source that remains hidden, illuminating the relationship between the solid and the permeable. **By Betu Design.**



CIRCLE DINING CHAIR WITH ARMREST

The Circle Collection is a collection of uniquely numbered dining chairs signed by Overgaard & Dyrman. T

MOHD



KITCHEN STYLE

MONTERA STOOL - BICOLOR

Montera is a stool designed by Roberto Lazzeroni for Poltrona Frau that combines refinement and comfort in an elegant and distinctive design.

MOHD



This Dual Zone wine chiller, you'll keep red and white wines at their optimal temperatures so you're always ready to host company .By **Café Appliances.**

CARMELLO KITCHEN ISLAND

The counter height, honed dark gray granite top is great for comfortable prepping and rolling out doughs. Two deep drawers, one hidden at each end.

BALLARD DESIGNS



BEDROOM STYLE

SALADO QUEEN BED

Solid ash framing and heirloom leather panel details craft this safari-inspired bed frame. Sourced from one of the oldest family-owned tanneries in Italy's Bassano del Grappa.

MEMOKY



The distinctive, oversized shape of our Lovett armchair draws inspiration from Italian mid-century design as well as the club spaces of **Ludlow House in Manhattan**.

HAYDEN DRESSER

Handcrafted from solid White Oak, this multi drawer dresser is a modern and elegant farmhouse style design.

URBAN MANOR



BATHROOM STYLE

SPOON BATH

Spoon XL is deeper than the original Spoon bathtub, and features an even more minimal design. It adapts easily to the widest variety of settings, and is made of white Cristalplant® biobased material.

AGAPE BATHROOMS



Beacon 30" Sconce with completely re-engineered and upgraded hardware. Notably, a solid brass 5-axis machined ring holds 11 individual slats of high-quality American Hardwoods by **Allied Marker**.

SULLIVAN MIRROR

Boasting a unique suspended frame, it steps away from the usual rectangular shape and crafted with an antique brushed brass frame and high-quality mirror glass.

FOR LIVING

The *Outdoor* Edit



The exterior spaces extend the home's intentional design philosophy into the landscape, creating multiple zones for gathering and reflection. Land Design 39's Amy Capron Barrow developed outdoor areas that respond to Aspen's mountain context while maintaining architectural continuity. The building envelope features Adobo Vulcan cladding from ReSawn Timber Co. in black, silver and dark brown, grounding the structure in natural tones. Green roofs planted with hardy sedum varieties cap portions of the home, shifting color with the seasons while providing insulation and stormwater management. Off the great room, a sheltered terrace hosts Janus et Cie seating arranged around a Paloform fire pit, offering warmth during cooler evenings. West Elm side tables provide surface space for drinks and conversation. A second-story balcony captures mountain views and morning light. The landscape design balances native plantings with maintained areas, creating outdoor rooms that feel both cultivated and connected to the surrounding environment.

KOREVA

A mountain-facing retreat anchored in natural texture.







OUTDOOR STYLE

VINO CHAIR

The superior aesthetic of the Vino collection comes from its beautiful framing techniques and innovative engineering.

JANUS ET CIE



100% earthenware.
Handcrafted and hand
glazed by **West Elm**.

TRES OUTDOOR RUG

Entirely handcrafted from solid wood, this premium quality end table features diamond shapes on all of its sides and a beautiful hexagon-shaped tabletop

ELISA PADRÓN/ NANI MARQUINA







Inside | EDITION #143





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T H E D R E A M S O F A

LUXE LIVING



@ L E P A N G L U X U R Y I N T E R I O R S

A photograph of a bathroom interior. A large, dark-framed mirror hangs on a wall of dark, square tiles. Below the mirror is a white, bowl-shaped sink set into a dark wood vanity. To the left of the sink, a towel hangs on a rack. To the right, a small white vase holds a purple flower. The lighting is soft and focused on the vanity area.

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Design is a canvas, and the brush is in our hands. Every choice, every stroke shapes the direction, breathing life into spaces and products that tell a story. This is what inspires me—to create with intention, to craft environments that feel alive. For design communities worldwide, this is more than work; it's our shared narrative.

LEPANG FERGUSON

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