

# ECAL × MARSOTTO

LAB



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ECAL \_\_\_\_\_ Marsotto LAB  
The Italian marble manufacturer that entrusted the project development to ECAL Master of Advanced Studies in Design for Luxury and Craftsmanship with a clock collection for last year's Milan Design Week, chose to repeat the collaboration to create home accessories for this year's edition.

Marsotto LAB, the new laboratory of the family business founded in 2018, gives talented young aspiring designers an opportunity to present simple yet functional objects while learning about the specific properties of marble, namely its weight, hardness and aesthetics.

A tour of the factory in the outskirts of Verona provided the students with a unique opportunity to discover the Marsotto manufacturing plant as well as the leading-edge machines that enable them to optimise production while maintaining the level of handcrafted quality to which the Marsotto brand has been equating for six generations now.

After their trip, the students were able to develop their ideas alongside Pierre Charpin, the French designer who shared with them his enthusiasm for perfect and well-balanced shapes.

The result is an original and surprising collection of kitchenware (a champagne bucket, containers, trays and other accessories) vases and incense burners, all these objects form a fresh yet useful range that aims to complement the marble furniture collections created by renowned designers for Marsotto edizioni, a brand that has been internationally successful already for a number of years.

1 *Pattern* \_\_\_\_\_ Beatrice Barbieri  
The geometric shapes etched on the surface of these marble trays create peaks, which are both aesthetically pleasing and functional. Recalling the grids of metal sheets used in industrial buildings, this dot-and-line effect brings a punchy and high-contrast something to the type of finish that is usually performed on this material.

2 *Steps* \_\_\_\_\_ Somchai Thumthananukul  
*Steps* is a range of marble containers whose aesthetic is inspired by industrial production and more specifically by CNC machines. The stepped edges allow the lid to be perfectly aligned while remaining inside the container and allow the boxes to be easily stacked.

3 *L'Origine* \_\_\_\_\_ Charalampos Potzidis  
With a view to illustrate the monumentality of marble, this incense holder is made of three parts whose interconnection has been naturally dictated by their shape and the weight of the stone. Incense smoke can subtly escape from and within this architectural composition and sensually interplay with the marble.

4 *Oracolo* \_\_\_\_\_ Charalampos Potzidis  
Like building blocks, this essential-oil burner is made of a base surrounding the candle and a textured disk. Once poured over the carved surface of the lid, the oil will subtly evaporate thanks to the heat of the candle.

5 *Tracce* \_\_\_\_\_ Lorenzo Giovannoni  
Inspired by significantly eroded landscapes, *Tracce* is a range of small trays carved out of marble. The geometric cavities that shape these objects create varied layouts and allow many versatile uses.

6 *Totem* \_\_\_\_\_ Nathan Gramage  
*Totem* is a three-piece kitchen set made up of a lemon squeezer, a mortar and a meat tenderiser. All its elements are based on similar graphic lines, so they can easily be stacked and form a compact sculptural column.

7 *Cooler* \_\_\_\_\_ Bhimanshu Pandel  
With its rounded base, this champagne bucket seems floating on the table. Once taken out of the fridge, it will keep bottles cool thanks to the marble's insulating properties. Two small disks engraved in its base allow an easy grip.

8 *Slide* \_\_\_\_\_ An Taniguchi  
*Slide* is a cylindrical candle holder with a staggered section that creates a levitation effect. In addition this detail means that it can be simultaneously used in two ways, with a tea light and another type of candle.

9 *Vortex* \_\_\_\_\_ Nabhadr Apiwanopas  
Inspired by a vortex of water this vase is made of a wide disk with a hole in its center. Thanks to a very gentle incline that leads towards the hole, the water gathering around the flower looks like a small pond in a Zen garden.

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