

# Wallpaper\*

MAY 2013

\*DESIGNINTERIORSFASHIONARTLIFESTYLE

UK £4.99  
US \$10.00  
AUS \$ 11.00  
CDN \$ 10.00  
DKK 80.00  
F €9.00  
D € 11.00  
NL €9.00  
I £9.50  
J ¥ 1780  
SGP \$ 18.20  
E €9.00  
SEK 80.00  
CHF 16.00  
AED 46.00

## NAKED CITY

Milan unveiled, from the bottom up, in the essential Salone Preview

### FORM AND FUNCTION →

Maurizio Cattelan and Pierpaolo Ferrari mix flesh and furniture. 24 pages of Radical Design classics



### HANDS ON

The watch supplement that ticks all the boxes

### VIVA LA REVOLUCIÓN

Design's new Mexican wave

### A CRACKER IN FUKUOKA

Kengo Kuma goes country

### TOUT SUIT

Sharp tailoring for ladies and gentlemen

### REMAPPING MUMBAI

Reena Kallat's high-strung street art

SWINGING PENDANT LIGHTS / SMOKING AT HOME  
SCOTTISH CUISINE / PAULA REGO'S PORTUGUESE STEW

# Fine figures

Vacheron Constantin and ÉCAL launch a new design and craftsmanship course with a remarkable installation by Alessandro Mendini

WRITER: ELLIE STATHAKI

## AROUND THE CLOCK

0. Mosaic totem, by Bisazza
1. Blown glass totem, by Venini
2. Lace totem, by Comitato per la Promozione del Merletto di Cantù
3. Ceramic totem, by Superego Design
4. Lacquered polyurethane totem, by Slide
5. Lacquered wood totem, by Galleria Paolo Curti & Annamaria Gambuzzi
6. Methacrylate totem, by Giovanni Scacchi
7. Bronze totem, by Gori Lab
8. Inlaid wood totem, by Fedeli Restauri
9. Gold-plated brass totem, by Cleto Munari
10. Sandblasted glass totem, by Henry Glass
11. Resin and iron totem, by Carlo Poggio Design
12. Natural woods totem, by Riva 1920

When the synergy between business and academia comes naturally the results can be spectacular. We predict that this will be the case with the new collaboration plans announced by the École Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne (ÉCAL) and the world's oldest fine watchmakers, Vacheron Constantin, founded in Geneva in 1755.

Even though their partnership was only recently revealed with an official announcement in Lausanne, the two sides have been working hard on a new course at ÉCAL, which will begin in September 2013. Entitled Master of Advanced Studies in Design for Luxury & Craftsmanship, the course is set to raise the bar of industrial design within the luxury goods market.

The students will not only benefit from Vacheron Constantin's unrivalled expertise in horology, but they will also be able to work across different fields of luxury product design. 'This course will not look at watchmaking alone. It is much wider. There will be a range of materials explored and this joint adventure will last for at least three years,' says Vacheron Constantin general director Juan-Carlos Torres.

To mark the occasion in style, the Swiss school and Vacheron Constantin invited Italian icon of design Alessandro Mendini to create a series of pieces inspired by craft and the idea of time in collaboration with the Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte in Milan. Mendini's

response came in the form of a finely crafted series of 13 clever and colourful art pieces – one for every hour of the day, plus one representing zero. 'I am honoured to work with a school as important and influential as ÉCAL. I was asked to create 13 objects with 13 different materials and artisans. I immediately thought about totems and a collection of icons that would be able to narrate the idea of time,' says Mendini. 'They were all designed and built within two months.'

The installation, called *Arts & Crafts & Design: Time according to Alessandro Mendini and his Artisans*, spans an inspiring array of fabrication techniques that includes mosaic, glass, marble, ceramic, lace, polyurethane, wood, methacrylate, bronze, gold-plated brass, resin and iron. The range of Italian artisans involved in creating the objects is equally impressive: Bisazza, Venini, Superego Design, Gori Lab, Riva 1920 and Cleto Munari are but a few of the high-profile names involved in the project.

Mendini's pieces offer a timely illustration of the design potential within the field of time and luxury crafts and whets our appetite for what this degree's future alumni will have to offer. After showing at the ÉCAL gallery in Lausanne, the exhibition will be on display at the Superstudio Più space during Salone del Mobile. [www.ecal.ch](http://www.ecal.ch), [www.vacheron-constantin.com](http://www.vacheron-constantin.com)

