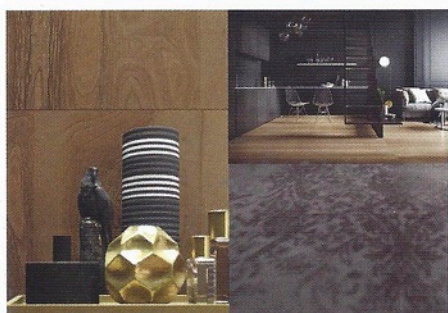


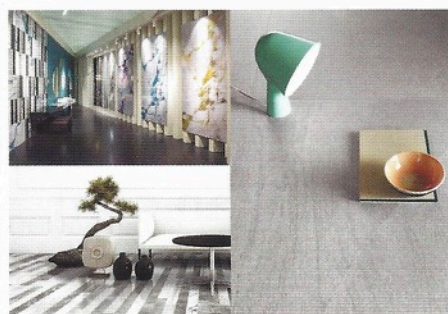
oriental carpets, Indian temporary ritual tattoos and the Kolam tradition of ephemeral rice floor decorations. Meanwhile, LaFaenza was inspired by a specific cave in Slovenia to create the Radika collection, and Imola's Koala is a doppelganger for eucalyptus wood, typically native to Australia. Thanks to advancements in digital printing, these rare materials and handcrafted techniques are available in hard surfacing to all.



Shown: (L-R clockwise): LaFaenza Radika, Imola Koala, Marazzi Grand Carpet.

New typologies

This trend mixes different materials or handpicks certain characteristics to form a whole new typology. The fusion of material-looks and themes result in a surreal, imaginative interpretation of tile and a potential new language for interior design. For Nextone, Lea Ceramiche combined stones from four different quarries while Sicis' new iteration of Vetrite

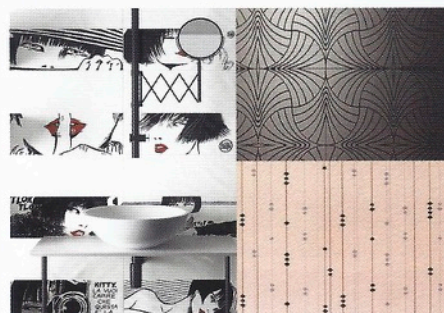


Pictured (L-R clockwise): Sicis Vetrite, Lea Ceramiche Nextone, 14oraitaliana Marmo.

infuses marble designs with metallic veins to create unique materials that can't be found in nature.

Nostalgia

People often look to design for an escape, and in this current political climate it's unsurprising that companies are turning to the past to bring people a euphoric boost. For their third comic-inspired collection, Del Conca recreates the feminist world of Guido Crepax on ceramic tile with his 1960s comic-strip heroine, Valentina. Meanwhile, other companies were inspired by simpler times, using square formats, candy colors and retro patterns reminiscent of the 1950s like Happy Days by Cevi and Confetti designed by Marcante-Testa for Ceramica Vogue.



Shown are (L-R clockwise): Del Conca Valentina, Petracer's Swing, Ceramica Vogue Confetti.

Painterly

A strong influence in design right now is flowing softness and romanticism with gentle curves, washes of color and the unmistakable touch of an artist's hand. Tile is no exception, featuring hand-painted patterns, sketches and illustrations, marbled effects and watercolor designs. Standout collections include Pad by Patrick Norguet for Lea Ceramiche,

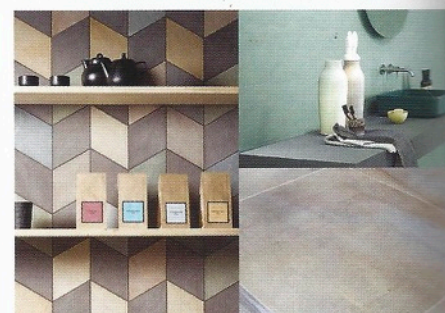
whose irregular lines and delicate shades create a soft, sensual effect and Corrispondenza by Dimore Studio for Ceramica Bardelli, whose hand-painted decors create a polychromatic kaleidoscope of soft tones.



Pictured (L-R clockwise): ABK Wide & Style Ornamenta Manifesto, Cercom To Be.

Pastels

Moving beyond the celebrity of "Millennial Pink," shades of blush, lavender, sea green and pale yellow can be found in dozens of floor and wall tiles. Less saturated than primary colors, pastels create a light, soft and calming effect, which dovetails with a few other trends from this year from Painterly to Nostalgia.



Pictured (L-R clockwise): Marca Corona Chalk, Fap Colorline, Tonino Lamborghini Nurburging.

Terrazzo twist

Already a popular trend in interior design and fashion, terrazzo started popping up in the tile industry last year and has grown to become a