DESIGN STORIES

Table of Contents

TERRACE™ **4** VEIL™ **10** BRIOLETTE 14 DERRING™ **18** REVE™ **22** MARGUAX_{TM} 26 ARTIFACTS™ 30 AVID™ **34** COMPOSED™ 38 PURIST**™ 44** LOURE **48** STANCE™ **52** ALEO™ **56** KUMIN**™ 60** KOHLER DESIGN STUDIOS 64







TERRACE

The design exploration that led us to the Terrace bathroom sink stemmed from a series of insights we uncovered during extensive research surrounding modern styling spaces and today's evolving grooming rituals.

The Kohler Paris design studio began touch-pad control into the back by pursuing a pure, elemental form of the sink. The move resulted in appear less overtly task-oriented and added benefit of shifting the drain feature a silhouette more akin to a out of the way of prime storage contemporary bureau. Our insights space beneath the basin. indicated a developing desire

for bathrooms that skewed more Adding the iconic L shape allowed comfortable and living-roomesque. us to conceal the plumbing and

team to consider an alternative entirely new slotted drain system and layered approach allowed the Paris

Ultimately, Terrace is about absolute introduce a unique storage solution simplicity, in form and function. There This notion of purity prompted the positioned between the sink and is a familiarity in the basic geometry, cabinet. Depending on individual but it reveals itself to be an evolved, placement for the center drain and preference, this space can be left layered design. Today Terrace is to reimagine the basin as a smooth, open or finished with a slim drawer available in a number of standard uninterrupted surface. Instead of a that invites a simple arrangement sizes including a 150 cm doubletraditional drain, we integrated an of beauty and self-care items. This basin model.

team to address changing storage needs based on new styling rituals: that when paired with cabinetry would a clean, rectangular form with the the shallow drawer accommodates daily-use items that require quick access while the cabinet's deep drawers contain those items in less frequent rotation.







The home should be the treasure chest of living.













The China studio team launched the Veil project to address space saving tankless toileting with ultra responsive bidet functionality.

However, the team was also determined to refine and soften the Flipping the popular domed profile existing profile of contemporary tankless toilets, to disrupt the current expectation.

With the relatively recent architectural The lift at each end is evocative phenomenon of the Cape Town of the lines of a sailing vessel and Stadium still fresh, the design team gives the design a surprising lightdrew on its sculptural simplicity and ness. Combining sleek design with sophistication to inform the design incredible personal comfort and vernacular of Veil. As a result, Veil control sets the Veil toilet apart. marries unexpected artfulness with It is the perfect marriage of advanced technology for a visual technology and art.

and experiential seamlessness. on its head, Kohler China designed a slightly bowed seat cover with a very tight corner radius that captures the elegance of precision.











There's design, and there's art. Good design is total harmony. DIANE VON FURSTENBERG













BRIOLETTE

At the time Briolette was being designed, the Kohler U.S. design team was still exploring the potential of their newly established glass studio. They were still discovering the possibilities and limitations of the glass itself, so the window of opportunity was fairly wide open.

Turning to a variety of inspiration antique decorative crystal and cut works with cast, pressed and diamonds to modern architecture. slumped glass as well, spun glass Drawn to the highly contemporary was used to achieve the incredible Briolette, with its interlocking structure of the Beijing National Aquatic Stadium, she eventually narrowed her focus to working with of a smooth interior surface. the hexagonal shape that gives Briolette its distinctive design.

The small team of designers and glass artisans experimented with prototypes of spun glass molds, playing with the scale and repetition edges of Briolette were a direct

of the hexagon to find a balance depth of dimension in the facets while still preserving the function

One of the benefits of the small glass studio is the collaboration that occurs between the designers to include four distinctive and the glassmakers themselves during prototyping. The scalloped





result of that collaborative effort points, the lead designer began by that showcased the true beauty of an unexpected discovery when the studying faceted glass forms, from the material. While the glass studio mold stopped short that became a dominant element in the design.

> geometric pattern, has a uniquely modern sensibility that plays equally well against a minimalist backdrop or accompanied by classical detail. Today we have expanded the Briolette line translucent hues.





















- Cast glass

"stepped"









We set out to take the very best of what the Artist Editions™ collection stands for and tap into the craft-forward movement at the forefront of design.

After a broad initial exploration working with rutile glaze, a highly unpredictable artisan glaze that creates a dimensional effect as it qualities highlight the subtle tonal differences even further.

Additionally, while rutile's association Based on our color research and of studio pottery and the methods with the craftsman glazes of the the palettes we've identified as used, we narrowed our efforts to American Arts & Crafts movement significant to bathroom design, in seemed particularly well suited to our particular neutrals, earth tones and goals, creating a repeatable glazing coastal blues and greens, we've process that could be scaled from expanded the color selection. The rakes over a surface. Ironically, what the studio to manufacturing was collection now includes Bourbon, a makes rutile glaze so difficult to no small feat. The challenge was rich brown with copper highlights; work with is also what makes it so three-fold: developing a glaze with Bluestone, a soft, layered blue; and appealing. The way the fired glaze the right flow consistency; carving Translucent White. Derring's handshifts across the ceramic creates a the scoops to a pitch and depth crafted design puts one-of-a-kind unique depth of color. When water that would allow water to drain freely artistry at the center of contemporary pours over the pattern, its reflective without pooling; and casting a new bathroom settings. basin shape to achieve a graceful lift from the countertop.





What art offers is a space — a certain breathing room for the spirit. JOHN UPDIKE







RÉVE_{TM}

As we developed designs to build out our contemporary collections, we saw opportunity to push the material limitations of ceramic. Rectilinear shapes are by far the most difficult to produce consistently in vitreous china, so achieving the long, straight lines that characterize modern design became the primary challenge in creating the Rêve collection.

Our exploration began with the signature 100 cm vanity top and accompanying cabinet. Eliminating not be flush with the cabinet, we ornamentation and purely decorative added a recessed base along the elements, we drew on the minimalism sink to create a uniform, visually and utilitarian essentialism of Bauhaus design. This focus on function led us in turn to expand At its heart, the Rêve collection is the basin to the entire area of the a celebration of the simple beauty vanity top, increasing the usable space of the sink and redefining the relationship between the basin essentials, extending lines and and functional deck area. The functional deck area became instead an island within the basin, of each piece. set off by deep v-shaped channels at the back edge of the sink.

To resolve concerns that, given its length, the edge of the vanity top may arresting gap where the two connect.

found in clean lines. We pared individual pieces down to their seamless surfaces to accentuate the sculptural geometry and purity design stories







You begin with the possibilities of the material.





design stories





Whereas many faucets possess a muted aesthetic in order to complement interiors, Margaux simultaneously demands attention and harmonizes with classically inspired surroundings.

Kohler's American studio created additional reference to personal Margaux, when the designers noted objects found in the bathroom, the rising popularity of eclectic decorating. Margaux bridges traditionalism and modernism in ensures that these details have a similar way, by combining curves the precise sculpting required and edges with a thoroughly modern stance. In finishing these shapes, the designers made

such as quilted linens and perfume bottles. Digital manufacturing to convey their luxurious intent.









$\mathsf{ARTIFACTS}_{\mathsf{TM}}$

Wishing to create a collection that allows people to piece together a unique design solution within a system of forms, the Kohler U.S. design studio turned to the past for inspiration.

Artifacts reimagines Edwardian design for today's bathroom spaces. We drew on the overall aesthetic of turn-of-the-century designs reflecting the ingenuity of practical-minded craftsman who made do with the resources at hand.

Artifacts revives this pragmatic approach within the context of

a culture that embraces highly personalized design. We wanted each piece of the collection to be distinct in form and ornamental details, yet to feel part of a whole. Artifacts, with multiple spout and handle options featuring detailed turnings and finials, allows people to compose a space one piece at a time, each piece chosen for its particular character.



31





Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine and at last you create what you will. GEORGE BERNARD SHAW



design stories









Contemporary interior design has an infinite variety of expression. To discover the potential for new and inspiring cultural conversations as a springfaucet designs, we continuously converse with designers and consumers worldwide, probing for insight and meaning that we can connect to with new design. This work caused us to debate emotion in modern design and consider how to craft minimalism, to prevent it from becoming impersonal without resorting to known visual characteristics - a non-referential modernity, without a backward glance.



A global design team, using the board, set about encapsulating contemporary mood in metal, seeking sensitivity and emotional connection without sliding into embellishment or cliché.

feminine form was created by the U.S. team following an extensive collaborative concept period. Fluid bathroom interiors. metal flows from deck through

spout. As it turns forward, Avid splits, projecting a graceful fingertip-control lever far forward. The lever connection is pushed as far back as possible to maintain a continuous flowing surface through the 90-degree turn.

By pairing painstaking simplicity with Avid's elegant, modern and somewhat visual comfort, versatile Avid creates an inviting emotional response and coordinates with most contemporary







Composed™ and Avid™ mark a new era of global collaboration at Kohler. When research revealed consumers' desires for diverse self-expression and contemporary design within bathroom interiors, Kohler called upon all five of its design studios to create a response. International colleagues supported development, critique and completion of two concepts that emerged from the initial request. Submissions from the U.S. studio eventually won, however, the interaction of designers, immersed in their local cultures, of diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences, catalyzed the creation of a tantalizing spectrum of designs. Creativity is endless – with an open mind there are so many ways to create delightful meaning!











Design dissolving into behavior. susan sontag







COMPOSED

Diversity within interior design delights and inspires designers at Kohler. Communications and social media streams now fuel experimentation, the leading edge dancing forward constantly. Against this fluid backdrop, creating new product demands clarity of purpose and a refusal to compromise.

Resonant within our observations was Inspiration for Composed finally that find purpose in many interiors. They Institute between 1939 and 1988. are frequently simple, always highly Kostellow showed generations of

This mindset led us to explore the when honestly formed, it could play difficult piece to design, with our a wide variety of roles within the flux of interior expression in modern bathroom architecture.

and reduced, seeking to achieve the repeated role of the best of the came from Rowena Reed Kostellow, poise and purpose from the most best, those seemingly timeless pieces a professor at Brooklyn's famed Pratt compact circular and rectilinear forms. A side-mounted control was introduced to strictly maintain resolved and truthful to their intent. artists and designers how to transform the visual balance, whilst providing precisely defined basic shapes into sensitive fingertip adjustment. Joystick visual poems that elicit an emotional and widespread models carry more meaning of a minimalist masterpiece response. The single-handle faucet conventional handles but have the in modern times with the intent that led our exploration. Often the most same disciplined attention to detail. self-imposed goal it would set the Composed is obsessively so. The standard for the Composed range. intent is to delight in detail whatever Its elements were repeatedly refined its role within the interior.



composed







TILT WIDESPREAD



JOYSTICK









Design exploration only, not part of final Composed collection.





The handle designs favor a minimalist aesthetic for a timeless beauty. The pure handle offers pure simplicity with a touch of whimsy and surprise, while the joystick provides elegance for a distinctive visual statement.

single-handle faucets





lever hand

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widespread faucets



cross handles







42

design stories

lever handles







In our conversations with designers and consumers The U.S. design team led the about the bathrooms they were wanting to create, design and reduced the product to its basic elements as a starting personalized minimalism was a frequent topic. The point. Delving into the industrial calming allure of perfect proportion, order and refined origins of water supply, they were detail has an enduring and broad appeal - a counterpoint inspired by the cast, forged and to a 24/7 lifestyle. For some, this disciplined architecture wrought components where form is all that's needed, but for many it forms a background clearly followed function. against which individuality can then be expressed A simple hand pump led to the unique external and internal radii to give through objects, art or carefully chosen design. This body, handle and spout architecture a quietly decorative strength. is how we approached the design of Purist; we wanted which defines the Purist bathroom to achieve simplicity with soul to provide a choice for sink faucet and is the essence of the range. We stripped this iconic Contemporary, versatile and a discerning eye.



the bathroom application but staying true to the functional intent. In our research, we also found the source of the faucet's subtle character. To anchor the product, we designed a turned escutcheon inspired by industrial-revolution-era mouldings and industrial couplings. Handles start and finish with precise

Purist is minimalism with a twist. form back, making adjustments for confidently original.



design stories









Geometric composition in interior architecture lies behind the design intent of Loure. We saw the need for a faucet that was able to enhance luxury bathrooms typically described by linearity and surface.

This idea of surface came to define of the spout itself. Every piece in the product. We saw the potential the range refers back to this, to to build upon some of the principles provide regimented coordination we had established within Stillness™ across the entire bathroom. Handles and its approach to reduction of are blocks floating above the complexity in order to achieve purity. counter surface, the valves hidden By folding a sheet of water to take below in order to preserve the it from source to destination, we simple purity of the aesthetic. established our language. Its form is linear, planar and almost two- In its precision, Loure gains a subtly dimensional. Water clad in metal, decorative tone. Highlights formed seemingly laser-cut and formed from at its crisp edges create a distinctive a single sheet. Its width is defined silhouette. Yet it remains resolute in by the intended function; the water its straight, linear intent. stream it provides is an extension



loure











STANCE_{TM}

Bathroom design is adapting to the pampering and grooming rituals that are part of modern lifestyle, demanding enlarged areas for us to lay out our select beauty and care products, with storage to conceal them when not in use. Thus cubes and surfaces, geometrically defined, frequently describe a modern bathroom.

to create a primarily cubic faucet range that could stand confidently within the bathroom environment. As our concept exploration began, our thoughts revolved around the presentation of a simple plain surface interaction to be totally bounded to the user that would completely contain both control and water delivery. Any other form would recede to a supporting role.

This observation led us to the intention Hence, from the user's perspective, duality of mass and a cantilevered Stance is just this: a presentation of slim surface pushed boundaries in water at a convenient height set on body-casting processes, requiring a strong upright pillar, reduced and innovative cooling systems and led to final design detail only made set back so as not to interrupt. Joystick lever control allows possible by intimate interplay between designer and manufacturer. by the top surface, while close inspection reveals an underside Stance is surface made solid. seemingly formed by the water flow that it contains and delivers. The

Salk Institute, designed Louis Kahn





design stories







The design of Aleo and Aleo+ resulted from our research into the evolving and complex nature of modern urban lifestyle. There is a conflict in priorities emerging between work and home and efforts to find a new balance. The role of the bathroom is evolving constantly as a result. No longer is it just a place to bathe, but an extension of living space, with a multi-mode, multi-person role demanding the highest standards of design, hygiene, performance and intuitive functionality.

The Paris studio led the design and began by exploring compact, create problems. democratic forms that could

simultaneously convey robust were exacting compositions of

balance that solves and does not an engineered-polymer core that provides unparalleled hygiene and ease of maintenance. Its flat-topped handle and spout Aleo's design reflects modern efficiency, invigorated by very few

quality and precision within a friendly with a clean, symmetrical edge intuitive form. The concepts resulting announces precision construction; the sinuous underside of the spout gestures, while enhancing the masculine and feminine meanings and the blending of body to sink ease with which users can handle seeking to create a relevant and deck is softened and approachable. and clean the faucet. original solution with a modesty and All are seamlessly integrated with

Walt Disney Concert Hall, designed by Frank Gehry









The chief function of the city is to convert power into form, energy into culture... LEWIS MUMFORD











Kumin represents a company-wide belief that all people deserve great design and embodies modern design at an entry-level price in the KOHLER_® family of faucets.

Kumin is based on conversations with consumers worldwide that identified potential for relevant originality in a relatable kind of minimalism. In response, Kumin's designer sought to find a balance between a tall, upright stance with a perpendicular spout (embodying functional needs) and a versatile form that is at once modern and warm. Once a conceptual design language had been established that could achieve this, every part of the process was considered to deliver pressurized water to hand. in order to enable the creation of a The intersection between handle

Created by Kohler's London studio, product with market-leading desig and quality at the entry level. Innovation in process was identifie that allowed seamless body and spout forms to be cast with great precision, giving the designers clari and an opportunity to explore.

> Thus, Kumin was able to be create with pure geometry - its lozengeshaped perimeter precisely definir its waist. From this, the body, spo and handle are formed in a tense domed form that implies its purpos





gn	and body is elevated above spout
	level to integrate these usually
ed	disparate forms. An additional
	benefit to this is ease of cleaning
t	at what is usually a difficult junction.
rity	
	Simultaneously restrained and
	personable, Kumin is at once
ed	intuitive, memorable and versatile.
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The only ideals allowed are healthy ones—those everyone may aspire to... SUSAN SONTAG

> Some of the greatest innovators in history are borrowers, applying existing technology to another market in an unexpected, groundbreaking way. After observing an assembly line at a meat-packing plant, Henry Ford imported the method to car manufacturing. Nature may also be a source of inspiration. Consider George de Mestral, who created Velcro by replicating the attachment formed by burrs hooking into his clothing.

Kumin came to life in a similar way. By casting the faucet's whole shape in one step, Kohler could unlock significant cost savings. Yet the design team also needed that process to yield a precise exterior and avoid costly machining of the surface. Study across industries turned up an intriguing opportunity proven in sports equipment and engine manufacture. Kumin utilizes a hybrid single-casting process, in which precise steel tools mold the exterior while lost cores shape the volume inside the faucet.



11 i_{ll}ıl ĬŪ SHANGHAI, CHINA

