

New Inspirations

The global design community descended on Dubai for four days of innovative displays and an enlightening lecture series at the inaugural edition of Downtown Design

Words: Anna AbouZeid, Photography: Stefan Lindeque



From top, left to right:
Emeco; Preciosa Lighting from Czech Republic; Dilmos; Superstudio's Temporary Museum for New Design 2013; Nouvelle Vague Volume 2; Craftmanship at The Workshop by Ikon House



After four days browsing the stands, meeting incredible talents from around the world and listening to lectures at Downtown Design, we're feeling more inspired than ever. Fair director Cristina Romelli Gervasoni called the event "a catalyst for design and a hub for design in the world" and without a doubt, it was. The inaugural show offered a carefully curated selection of designs by some of the world's foremost creative talent and brands including Ora-Itto, Cappellini, Gaia & Gino, Pauline Deltour and Khalid Shafar.

Lectures by Ludovica and Roberto Palomba, Khalid Shafar and Giulio Cappellini provided insights for design aficionados, but one of the highlights for us was Superstudio's Temporary Museum for Modern Design that displayed some incredibly imaginative pieces. We also adored Ikon House's Craftsmanship at The Workshop stand where we were mesmerised by two Danish master craftsmen making Arne Jacobsen's Egg chair and Hans Wegner's Wishbone chair. We can hardly wait to see what the second instalment has to offer next year! ■

Inside
40



From top, left to right: Nakkash Gallery; Quadrature Interiors; Cappellini; De Castelli; Il Laboratorio Dell'imperetto; Superstudio's Temporary Museum for Modern Design