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Pantone's ColorMunki Software ... Museum of Arts and Design's New Home ... Down with Speedometers!

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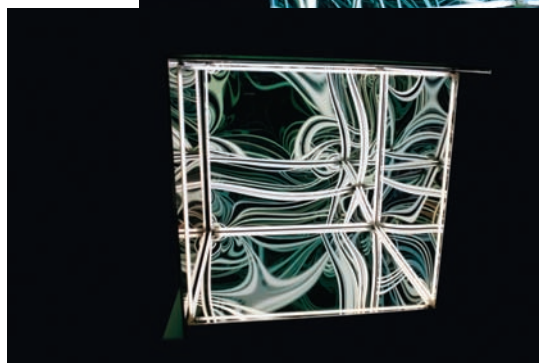
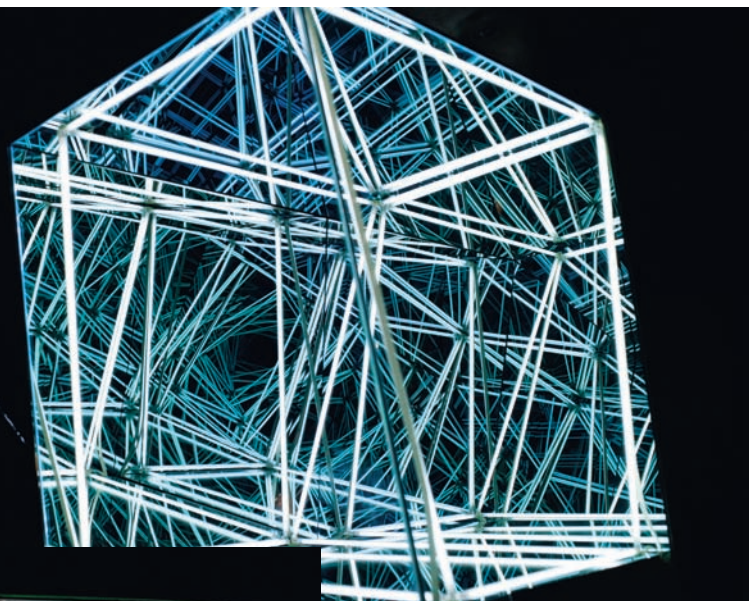
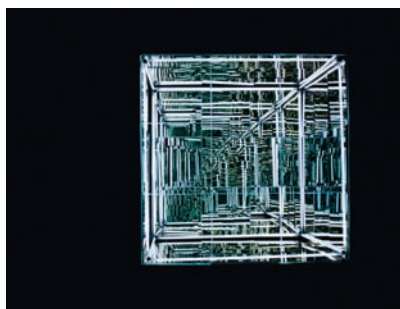
\* Like Herman Miller's new Embody chair—even more comfortable than Aeron

# New + Notable 2008



IAN ALLEN

# shine



NUMEN LIGHTS [www.foruse.eu](http://www.foruse.eu) or [www.numen-light.eu](http://www.numen-light.eu)

Peer inside one of seven mirrored light boxes created by Vienna-based design firm For Use and the free associations come pretty easily: Dalí, M.C. Escher, Grace Slick singing “White Rabbit,” that day on the lake when...oh, never mind. The point is the cubes are trippy, and that’s just the effect designer Christoph Katzler and his team intended. “It’s an investigation of perception,” says Katzler. The cubes range in size from 8.5 to 14 inches tall and are crafted from flexible two-way mirrors (the kind you find in a police station or at a peep show) and foil. Fluorescent tubes illuminate the interior. When a hidden compressor pumps in or sucks out air, the mirrors warp, creating a wavy sea of reflections. “The whole structure gets distorted

and psychedelic,” Katzler says. “It looks like fractals or snowflakes.”

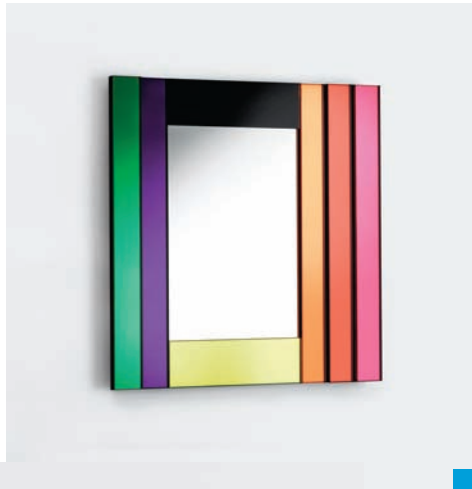
The cube series, introduced in April at the Milan Furniture Fair, is an artistic spin-off of a set design that Katzler and his partners created for a 2005 production of Dante’s *Inferno* at the National Drama Center in Madrid. “Normally an inferno is fire and heat, but we decided to make it cold and lonely,” he says. “We had this idea that we could work with mirrors, which seem icy and endless. You get lost in the reflections.” The result was a 32-foot-tall boxlike stage made of mirrors that shocked the audience, Katzler says.

For Use had high hopes of scaling down the set design and turning it into a series of

commercial light objects, like lamps, but the effort proved too complex for mass production. “People couldn’t change the light bulbs and things like that,” Katzler says. Nonetheless, the firm is drawing attention from the likes of Saab and Armani, who may commission limited-edition cubes for presentations or exhibits. The designers are also working with Italian furniture company Moroso to bring a light-cube installation to New York this November, where its mind-altering, perception-changing effects will be rivaled only by those of Times Square, the original trippy light box. Contact designers for custom estimates. — NICOLE DYER

Glas Italia jumped on the retro bandwagon this year, debuting a string of '80s-inspired mirrors including Piero Lissoni's bizarre homage to Space Invaders and Ettore Sottsass's [Gli Specchi Di Dioniso](#). With their asymmetrical planks of colored laminate glass, the series of six read like a requiem for the late designer's beloved Memphis group. Available at Suite New York. From \$3,086. [www.suiteny.com](http://www.suiteny.com) or [www.glasitalia.com](http://www.glasitalia.com)

In 1997, Emma Woffenden and Tord Boontje woke up the design world with their TranSglass vases—artfully cut recycled bottles that have since joined MoMA's permanent collection. This year, the couple introduced [TranSglass Mirrors](#), inspired by Guatemalan tribal masks. Part of Artecnic's Design with Conscience series, the mirrors are topped with hand-cut three-dimensional glass mosaics in the shape of a canine head or star and are manufactured to order in Guatemala; \$2,200. [www.artenicainc.com](http://www.artenicainc.com)

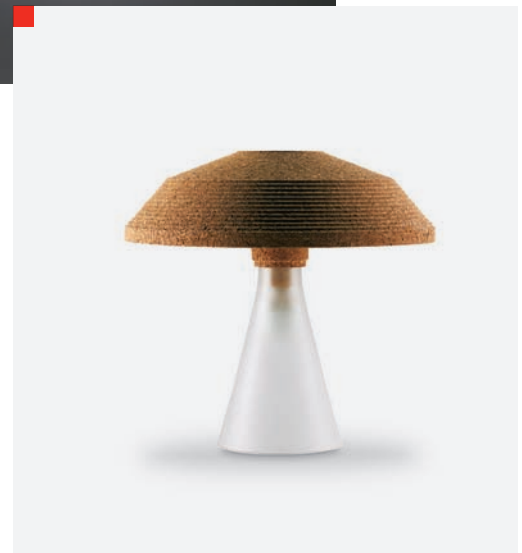




With its tangle of sculpted foam, Hiroshi Kawano's [Bloom](#) lamp for Ligne Roset resembles a giant graffiti rosebud, whose pliable material can be shaped by hand, making each lamp unique. Available in black or white as a hanging (\$225) or floor lamp (\$765). [www.ligne-roset-usa.com](http://www.ligne-roset-usa.com)

Brooklyn's Lindsey Adelman this year debuted an edition of her [Bubble](#) chandelier with a pebbled surface and gold foil smudges that look hand-applied. In fact, Adelman used the Venetian technique *murrine*, in which thin glass snakes are cut into tile-like bits; when a new bubble is blown, it's rolled in the warm tiles, fusing the two. Available at Matter. From \$9,360 for a six-arm model. [www.mattermatters.com](http://www.mattermatters.com)

It's a Helena Bonham Carter hair day every day with [Mojo](#), a methacrylate mirror by designers Emmanuel Gallina and Clara Giardina for Milan's Industreal. The mirror is framed by a halo of reflective laser-cut filigree that resembles a bird's nest or windblown hair—though in some cases, what's the difference? \$198. [www.industreal.it](http://www.industreal.it)



Named for a blueberry-like fruit that's said to have vision-enhancing properties, Alvar Aalto's [Bilberry A338](#) lamp made its first appearance in the late 1950s in the living room of the French art dealer Louis Carré. (Aalto also designed the house, which is southwest of Paris.) Now in production with Artek, the lamp has a rotating shade of white-painted steel; \$300. [www.artek.fi](http://www.artek.fi)

For his Masters thesis at ECAL, Tomas Kral studied a familiar material juxtaposition: the rough, porous cork of a stopper and the smooth glass mouth of the bottle in which it resides. He played up that relationship in a series of striated cork pieces, carved with a CNC mill, that form the bases and shades of his glass [Plug](#) lights. Contact designer for prices. [www.tomaskral.ch](http://www.tomaskral.ch)

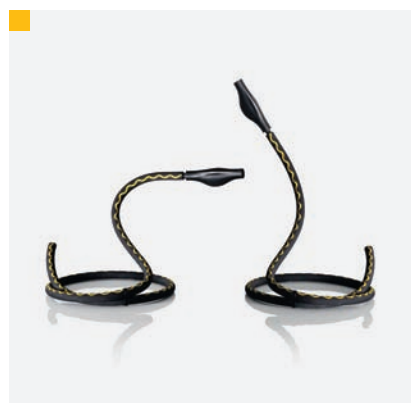
Freedom of Creation's [Riot](#) lamp runs on CFLs, so it's not as bright as the sun, but it's just as dizzying if you look too closely. The lamp's theme—loosely—is global warming, and its shade depicts an explosion of tanks, barbed wire, coffins, and other apocalyptic detritus. Like everything by FOC, the shade is rapid-prototyped, but the rest of the lamp—base, stand, even the wiring—is recycled; \$453. [www.freedomofcreation.com](http://www.freedomofcreation.com)



Philips' [LivingColors](#) lamp would have been merely the year's ultimate dorm-room accessory if not for its next-level engineering. Its high-discharge LEDs assume 16 million shades, and heat dissipates via a beautifully integrated bell-shaped sink. Look for this miniaturized version, which already has gallerists and tech bloggers atwitter, to launch by year's end; \$79. [www.lighting.philips.com](http://www.lighting.philips.com)

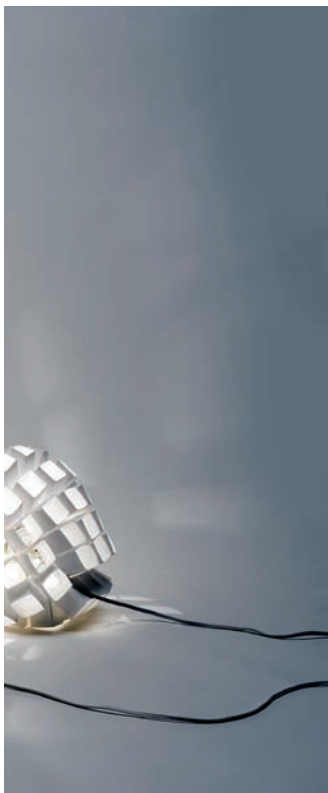
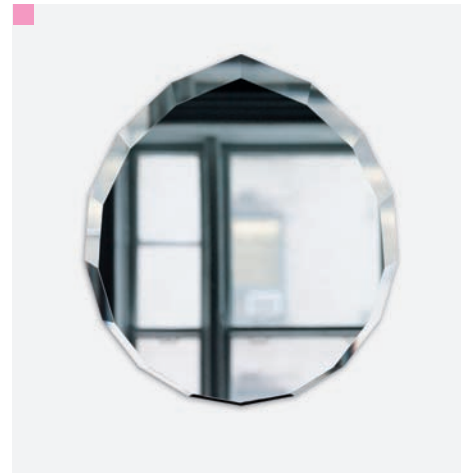


For Artecnic this year, South African designer Heath Nash created [Anemone](#): Made from Tyvek, the lamp packs flat and, like its namesake, "blooms" with a tug of the cord. A protective metal sphere keeps the synthetic sheets safe from the bulb's heat; \$178-\$290. [www.artecnicainc.com](http://www.artecnicainc.com)



Ingo Maurer has said that the yellow pattern running the length of his new rubber lamp is meant to recall irrigation pipes from his childhood on the German island of Reichenau, but its snakelike shape might have something to do with a certain heavy-metal god. [Alizzcooper](#) comes three ways: coiled on the table, suspended in knots, or upright like a microphone, ready for impromptu head-banging. Contact manufacturer for price. [www.ingo-maurer.com](http://www.ingo-maurer.com)





Three hundred LEDs illuminate the face of François Azambourg's [Pixel](http://www.ligne-roset-usa.com) clock for Ligne Roset. But turn off its lights and the clock's hands are still visible behind its ghostly surface of honeycomb-texture fiberglass; \$2,675. [www.ligne-roset-usa.com](http://www.ligne-roset-usa.com)

When purchasing Jaime Hayón's [Bastone](http://www.metalarte.com) lamps for Metalarte, you can choose from various handle shapes, "stems" (a smooth metal column or one with stacked polyurethane discs), and colors. The large version even has three optional brass finials to top it all off. A dimmer switch is in the handle; just grab and glow. Contact manufacturer for price. [www.metalarte.com](http://www.metalarte.com)

Piet Houtenbos's [Diamond Mirrors](http://www.mattermatters.com) aren't as divisive as his 2003 grenade-shaped oil lamps, but that's not to say precision and purity have stamped out whimsy: A painstakingly engineered bevel refracts everything it captures, offering riotous composite reflections. The mirrors mount flush via magnetic plates, eliminating the need for wires or studs. Available at Matter; \$3,500. [www.mattermatters.com](http://www.mattermatters.com)