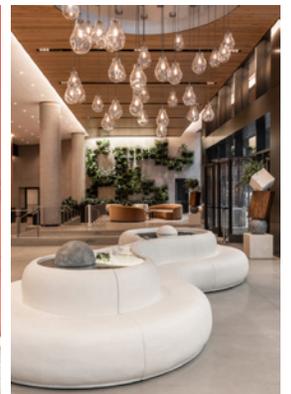
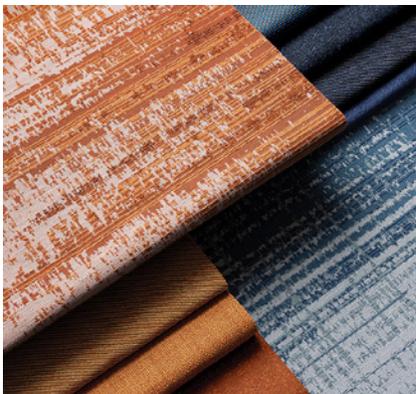




officeinsight

2022

Year In Review



year in review

>Happiness in the Post-Pandemic Workplace: As we experiment with hybrid schedules and new ways of working, the immediate focus is no longer on keeping staff healthy. Architects are looking for solutions that foster greater connection, authenticity, and happiness in the workplace. Editor Anna Zappia explored this new emphasis on emotional design factors with Melissa Strickland at HLW, Michelle Beggans at Ted Moudis Associates, Samantha McCormack at TPG Architecture, and Jodi Williams at CallisonRTKL. [[2.28.22](#)]

>February officenews highlights:

-In Memoriam: Solveig Ek. Our dear friend and colleague Solveig Ek passed away after a short illness. We came to know and respect Solveig while working with her in her position as director of marketing and public relations for the ICF Group and Unika Vaev. She was full of fun and always added color to our day. Solveig immigrated to the U.S. from Sweden with her husband Gunnar in the 1990s and began her career with The ICF Group in 1998, working with Dan Fogelson. She retired from ICF in 2021.



Solveig Ek

-Winter Stations returned for its eighth year at Toronto's Woodbine Beach after a one-year hiatus stemming from impact of the pandemic. Three winning designs were selected from hundreds of submissions worldwide, alongside three student designs. Launched by RAW Design, Ferris + Associates and Curio in 2015, the competition invites designers, artists, and architects to create bold designs that spark conversation and draw people outside to enjoy the beach in the winter.

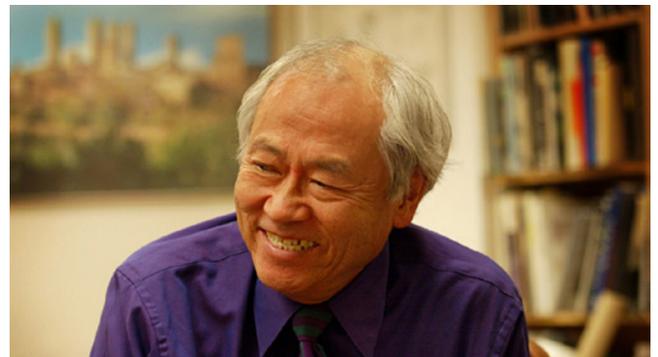
-Interface® expanded into the rigid core flooring category with the introduction of the Even Path™ collection. Rigid core flooring offers the performance of long-lasting hard flooring with the convenience of resilient tile.

-Henricksen acquired Synergy Business Environments, which has officially changed its name to Synergy, A Henricksen Company. Synergy is a full-service contract furniture and architectural solutions company with offices in Nashville, Knoxville, and Chattanooga. Synergy and Henricksen share key manufacturer partnerships, including HNI, OFS, Enwork, and Humanscale.

-Camira celebrated the 10-year anniversary of Hemp. First launched in 2012, Hemp is made from an all-natural blend of wool and hemp fibers to create a fabric with "impeccable eco-credentials" and innate flame retardancy. The hemp plants used within Hemp are grown as an agricultural crop under license from the UK government Home Office on a farm in England.

MARCH

>In Memoriam: Gyo Obata, FAIA: Gyo Obata, FAIA, renowned architect and a co-founder of HOK, passed away on March 8, 2022 at the age of 99. His work defined a multidisciplinary approach that established HOK as a firm capable of complex projects, and fueled its growth into one of the largest, most highly regarded architectural firms in the world. He continued to come into the studio into his 90s. [[3.14.22](#)]



Gyo Obata

year in review

>Reducing Loneliness in the Workplace: With remote work now the norm, there has been an increase in employee loneliness. This disconnect leads to absenteeism, staff turnover, and loss of productivity. Suzette Subance of TPG Architecture explained how she utilizes design to reshape offices so that workers feel less isolated. “People aren’t coming back to the office just to sit at a desk behind a monitor. They’re returning because they crave social interaction,” she said. [\[3.14.22\]](#)

>Four Commercial Design Trends You Should Know About Now: Contributor Claire Butwinick detailed four key commercial design trends we should know about now. She provides an insider’s look at the most exhilarating color palette of 2022, the next stage of biophilic design, and how the new office will take shape. [\[3.14.22\]](#)

>Division Twelve’s New York Showroom: Designed by Toronto-based interior design firm Figure3, the shop-in-shop space captures the exuberant essence of the subsidiary Keilhauer brand. Adjacent to the existing Keilhauer space at the New York Design Center, clients can view both lines at the same time, yet have an entirely different experience. [\[3.21.22\]](#)



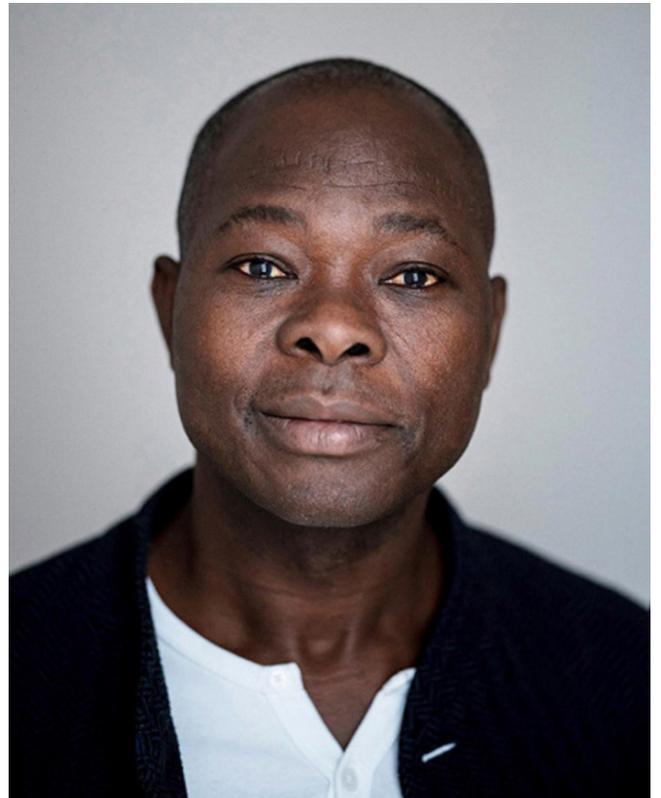
Division Twelve showroom in the New York Design Center

>Multifamily Design Trends: The Remote Worker: Contributor Melissa Banko, founder and principal of Banko Design, explained that the pandemic has left a lasting impact on how we design spaces, especially multifamily buildings. To accommodate remote workers, communal workspaces are the hot ticket item, with everything from office pods to conference rooms. High-quality materials and finishes make multifamily work areas more stylish. [\[3.21.22\]](#)

>New Look Among Pritzker Winners: Contributor John Morris Dixon looked at the work of this year’s winner of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, Diébédo Francis Kéré — the first Black architect so honored. Noted for his community projects constructed within typically limited means, Kéré’s buildings are exceptional for their embodiment of social and environmental virtues. [\[3.28.22\]](#)



Léo Doctors' Housing, 2019, Léo, Burkina Faso by Pritzker Prize Laureate Diébédo Francis Kéré



Pritzker Prize Laureate Diébédo Francis Kéré

>Spacekit’s Modular Wall Art: Spacekit’s signature product is a fully customizable, modular system featuring panels with graphic designs that can be configured in multiple ways to transform plain walls — created by creatives. Developed during the pandemic, it can be used in residential or commercial settings. Each panel features colorful geometrics and sound-dampening properties. [\[3.28.22\]](#)

year in review

for commercial applications. Rugs, broadloom, and carpet tiles feature vibrant color and pattern. [9.19.22]

>Designing Offices During The Great Resignation:

Contributors Jeff Paine and Russ Holcomb of DudalPaine Architects explained that during the era of “The Great Resignation,” companies are looking for innovative ways to reimagine the work environment, creating more inclusive and engaging spaces where people can connect. [9.26.22]

>LightArt’s New Coil Pendants: LightArt introduced pendants made with reclaimed ocean plastic. Building on the success of the original Coil Collection, these pieces take the brand’s sustainability impact even further — each pendant is 100% recycled and diverts up to one pound of waste from the waters. [9.26.22]



LightArt’s new Coil pendants are made with reclaimed ocean plastic

>Less Truly is More: Laura Barski, Inscape’s vice president, marketing and product design, explained how less truly is more in the workplace. Simplicity is about getting down to the essence of great products — understated design that doesn’t sacrifice quality or beauty. Simple and effective pieces bring the most value to clients. [9.26.22]

>September officenewswire highlights:

-Interior Design named the honorees of its 2022 Hall of Fame Awards. This year’s inductees are **Yves Béhar**, Founder and Chief Designer of fuseproject; **Mavis Wiggins**, Managing Executive, Studio Creative Director of TPG Architecture; **Will Meyer and Gray Davis**, Founders of Meyer Davis; and a special award to artist and activist, **Claudy Jongstra**.

-Division Twelve’s line of bent metal furniture is now officially certified as carbon neutral. To achieve this status, the company reduced carbon emissions at every stage of its processes – from design and the materials used in production, distribution, and end-of-life. To offset the inevitable carbon that cannot be eliminated throughout the life cycle

of each product, the company in third-party verified carbon offset projects through Carbonfund.org.

-Configura unveiled the latest additions to its CET ecosystem: Notify, Spec and Workspace. The rebranding of ProjectMatrix products—part of the Configura family through a recent acquisition—debuted at NeoCon 2022 and is now available for users to experience. Used across the industry for two decades, ProjectMatrix’s legacy solutions offer additional platforms to Configura’s portfolio, creating a seamless user experience.

-Andreu World released a new book, *Work Well Seated: Good Design is Good Business*. Published by Lunwerk (Grupo Planeta), the book reflects on the changes in office spaces and considers what makes a workspace that bring out the best in us. It explores 50 offices across the globe furnished by Andreu World – including McDonalds’ Headquarters, Uber’s San Francisco Office and Google’s office in Hyderabad, India – and examines what factors contribute to healthy workspaces.

-Atmosphere Commercial Interiors, headquartered in Minneapolis, acquired **Business Environments**, a Steelcase solution and commercial flooring provider based in Albuquerque and El Paso. Both organizations are multi-year recipients of the distinguished Steelcase Premier Partner award. With the acquisition, Atmosphere’s territory now covers six states: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

-Carla Galli joined Allsteel Inc. as its new Vice President of Sales. With 20 years of leadership in sales, architecture, and design, Ms. Galli brings a well-rounded understanding of the industry to her new role. Her most recent position as Regional Sales Director at MillerKnoll was both challenging and educational as she was charged with developing the strategy for go to market initiatives while simultaneously integrating the design and sales teams for the Northeastern regions.

-Lauren Hession is the new President of **Design Public Group**, a division of HNI Corp. Previously the Divisional VP of Sales and Distribution for Knoll Inc. for the majority of North America including the East Coast, Mid-West and Texas, Ms. Hession thrives on creating, developing, and leading diverse dynamic teams in a high-performance culture while inspiring an environment of innovation, collaboration, and trust. In her new role, she will lead the charge in developing the infrastructure to increase brand awareness and overall productivity for each of the DPG brands – Danish Design Store, DesignPublic.com and Design Public Group Contract Division.

-bde, communications firm serving the A&D market for more than 25 years, has rebranded with a new name, **bde&co**. The company’s fresh visual identity and updated