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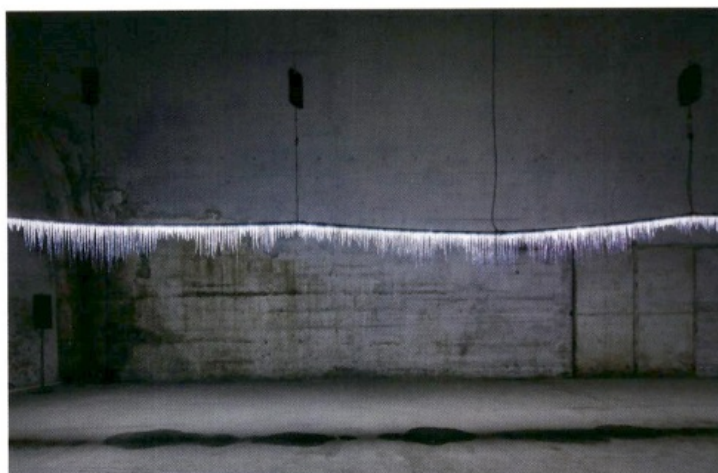
25 leaders of the future

Selected by
Formafantasma
Frida Escobedo
Michèle Lamy
Nendo
Theaster Gates



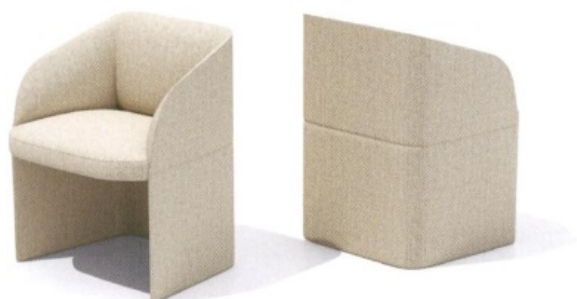
21. Takt Project

This Japanese multidisciplinary studio was founded in 2013 by Satoshi Yoshiizumi, formerly a member of Nendo's team. Describing itself as a 'Design Think + Do Tank', the studio works on briefs for clients such as Toshiba and Sony, in parallel with research projects on how design can have a positive impact on society. It is based both in central Tokyo and the rural Tohoku region – 'to reaffirm design and manufacturing from multiple perspectives'. One of its most impactful projects is *Glow ≠ Grow* (pictured), which sees resin dripping onto LEDs, slowly solidifying into an organic form defined by gravity and chance. 'Takt Project's designs are not only sharp and advanced, but Satoshi Yoshiizumi's understanding of and insights into materials and techniques is far deeper than that of designers in general,' says Sato. taktproject.com



22. Federica Biasi

A rising star of contemporary Italian design, Federica Biasi set up her studio in Milan in 2015. A graduate of the European Institute of Design, she has worked for clients including Gallotti & Radice and CC-Tapis, also serving as art director of metal workshop Mingardo since 2017. 'Her lean, soft and sophisticated forms remind me of Japanese design elegance,' says Sato. 'In addition, her art direction and interior styling suggests very mature design skills. I sometimes imagine that she has a cockpit in her back with an elder designer inside.' Including the 'Timo' chairs for La Cividina (pictured), a collection of coffee cups for Nespresso and woven baskets for Rabitti 1969, Biasi's projects span materials and mediums. 'I like it when an artisanal touch turns into an industrial product,' she says. 'I like studying the object and imagining the process that will make it accessible to everyone.' federicabiasi.com



23. Mario Tsai

'Tsai is a designer who seems to go back to the "roots", such as the process of making things, the principles of nature, and the laws of physics,' says Sato of the Hangzhou-based creative, one of a select few Chinese designers who receive commissions from global furniture brands (see W*266). 'His is like a scrap-and-build process with a completely different methodology. I would love to see his architecture work someday.' Among Tsai's latest creations are no buildings yet, but striking designs such as the axe-cut and burnt 'Origin' bench (pictured), inspired by primitive tools, and the wooden 'Rong' bookshelf, with its cross-shaped details. Both are part of a series of designs for Designew, an initiative Tsai established to help amplify the value of design within the industry. 'My time spent at factories taught me how to execute ideas with the least amount of material and energy consumption to achieve maximal results,' says Tsai. mariotsai.studio

Photography: Takumi Ota, Davide di Tria, Xiaopeng Yuan



WRITER: ROSA BERTOLI, YOKO CHOY

Space

From left, 'Hydro' vase, from €571, by Sofie Østerby, for Fredericia. 'Lodge' chair, from €989, by Morten Bo Jensen, for Vipp. 'Lilas' armchair, from £2,200, by Dainelli Studio, for Gallotti & Radice. 'Balzac' coffee table, £6,330, by Tom Faulkner. 'Materic' table, from €8,146, by Piero Lissoni, for Porro. '100' pendant, price on request, by Bocci



