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A BEACH-SIDE
BEAUTY BY L.A.'S
JOHNSTON MARKLEE

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ISLAND COOKING

Ultra-thin, geometric and movable counters trend at Milan's EuroCucina biennale and beyond

BY DIANE CHAN AND GIOVANNA DUNMALL



1 Sharp by Poliform/Varenna

This customizable kitchen by Daniel Libeskind features his signature angular and geometric style across a modular system whose heart is the oversized white Corian and steel kitchen island. The end table comes in a penetrating deep black (thanks to new Corian colour technology), with a slanting leg that mimics the architectural language of the collection's accompanying Web bookcase. poliform.it

2 Salinas by Boffi

Patricia Urquiola's first kitchen system is a characterful affair. The modular design features warm, tactile materials: from ceramic and lava stone, with geometric patterns, in the work surfaces; to wood and super-sustainable, FSC-certified PaperStone; to copper, brass or zinc finishes for the doors. A large stone sink and a solid wood rounded peninsula table, which slides back to create more work-space, lend nostalgic touches. Urquiola named the unit after the beach in Asturias, Spain, where her grandfather had a summer home. boffi.com

3 Invisible Kitchen by Toncelli

It was a double first for the Italian manufacturer this year in Milan, which showcased a new liquid metal varnish and elements – such as the peninsula and hanging wall units – made of carbon fibre. The result was an ultra-streamlined, architectural kitchen that almost seemed to melt away from sight and touch. The lack of handles and grooves only adds to the seamless quality of this high-tech system. toncelli.it

4 Arc by Avani

The company partnered with Dror Benshetrit for this minimalist kitchen, featuring a retractable Corian island that slides away from the main unit to maximize counter space. It consists of lacquered doors and white oak cabinetry, with slide-out cooktop covers, concealed appliance garages, a hideaway swivel table, integrated LED strip lighting and handleless, soft-close drawers. Available in 14 lacquer and matte stains. avonikitchens.com avakitchens.com





5 Ola 25 by Snaidero

To mark their 25-year partnership, Italian kitchen and automobile icons Snaidero and Pininfarina have created a revisited limited edition of their first kitchen collaboration. Ola 25 is a glamorous contoured island system with light-reflecting mineral lacquer work and a smooth, curvilinear shape with a sculptural carbon fibre support. It comes in three different colour versions; the most sensual has deep black and red glossy finishes and a black glass work surface.

snaidero.com

6 Soul by Ernestomeda

After Icon, Giuseppe Bavuso designed Soul, with a countertop that dramatically cuts into the kitchen; a large, functional old-school sink unit (reminiscent of an outdoor wash basin at a country house); such high-tech touches as abrasion-resistant ceramic coating on the surfaces; and barely visible door handles with an incorporated aeration filter that facilitates air exchange. Extra features include the LED-backlit shelving and Bulbo's hydroponic domestic greenhouse.

ernestomeda.com

