

DESIGN IN FOCUS

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Semantic Designs

The newly established Paris-based studio NOCC has been playing with the concept of sound as part of design. Their latest collection, Object of Sound, features products that have been shaped according to their sound profile. First, the designers record a person saying 'candle holder' or 'light'. The sound wave then translates into a graphic, which is shaped into a 3D form and becomes the object. The name of the object is therefore directly mirrored in its shape and each voice creates its very own version of the object. "This process aims to create a more sensitive and deeper link to the object that evolves in the person's close environment," explain the designers. "Each creator leaves his human trace in the object." As of today, the collection consists of a candle holder, a vase and a lampshade. All objects are produced using rapid manufacturing technology, which allows customised production for each piece. Object of Sound will soon be available for online purchase at self-studio.com. www.nocc.fr



Bathroom Basics

Some of the most aesthetic designs are not necessarily the most successful. Harmonious lines certainly appeal to the eye, but quickly become useless if not combined with practicality and convenience. Duravit, a supplier of bathroom ceramics, furniture and accessories, has made it their pledge to not only focus on design but also take into account assembly and maintenance factors. Each item of Duravit's latest collection incorporates a subtle innovation – one that simplifies the work of many. For instance, easy wall-mounting for WCs and bidets; quick-fitting systems for siphon covers; height-adjustable metal consoles for the well-known Happy D, Vero and Starck 3 collections; a shower tray that fits flush with the floor in two simple steps; a tap pillar for free standing bathtubs; and so on... All those details are sure to make a difference. www.duravit.com