

THE MONTH AHEAD

Trade fair dates for your diary...

EVENT IN FOCUS

Decofair

6-9 November 2017

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Decofair is Saudi Arabia's exclusive international design trade exhibition that offers a great business platform to exhibitors from the international and local design industry. The ninth edition of the event is expected to see 120 exhibitors, and a number of international companies from the US, Britain, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, Greece, Egypt, the UAE, and Kuwait, in addition to Saudi companies and factories operating in the sector. Suppliers and manufacturers will have the opportunities to network and do business with buyers, interior designers, architects, and investors. Decofair covers the industry from A to Z and provides exhibitors with the opportunity to showcase their products and services organised into the nine sectors: furniture, lighting, design materials, home accessories, textiles, home automation systems, kitchen and bathroom products, flooring, and design and architectural services.



Dubai Design Week

13-18 November 2017

Dubai, UAE

A diverse six-day programme of keynote speeches, panel discussions, public performances, and educational workshops will allow visitors – from local start-ups and entrepreneurs to international visitors, the media, and families – the opportunity to discover and engage with design. The free-to-attend programme will serve as a rich introduction to the design scene in the UAE, and build on the many events and exhibitions happening throughout the week and beyond, including Downtown Design, Global Grad Show, and The Ripe Design Market.

World Architecture Festival

15-17 November 2017

Berlin, Germany

In 2016, the festival attracted over 2000 architects and designers to its current base in Berlin. Industry-leading projects are entered into the festival's competition, and of these, 200 shortlisters are invited to attend the ceremony. Previous winners of the prestigious World Building of the Year Award include Singapore's Interlace building and The Chapel in Vietnam. The event will include keynote talks from the industry's most influential figures, live crit presentations, judging of over 400 award finalists, global networking, a 500 project strong gallery and an international product exhibition.

India International Furniture Fair (IIFF)

22-24 November 2017

Mumbai, India

Said to be India's biggest international furniture fair, the event by Trescon provides a platform to bring domestic and international manufacturers, suppliers, distributors and dealers at a single place in the Bombay Convention & Exhibition Centre. This fair is aimed to discuss business trades, generate leads, discuss future deals and tie-ups. IIFF is the perfect place to see a unique blend of latest in local and global trends, with highly sought-after designs on display under various categories. More than 100 local and international manufacturers from across the world are predicted to be in attendance, who will showcase a range of high-quality home and office furniture.



The project is scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2018

Abanos secures new interior fit-out contract worth AED11mn

Dubai-based interior fit-out and joinery company, Abanos, recently won a AED11mn worth of contract for the Art Centre Mall project located on Umm Sequim road, Dubai.

The project will feature contemporary organic ceiling and custom-made aluminium *Mashrabiya*. The project's built up area is 47,381sqm (approx.) and consists of hand-selected premium materials including flooring imported from Spain.

Kamal Farah, director, Abanos, commented: "Everyone at Abanos is thrilled to win this contract. This is a milestone in our company's journey and is the result of very hard work from every single member of the Abanos team."

Farah added: "We have developed a name for successfully completing a large number of modern projects, specialising in tailor-made solutions, utilising state-of-the-art production facilities. I believe the Art Centre Mall is a great example of our reputation, capabilities, and track-record in this region."

The client for the project is MMS Global, working with main contractor Airolink and consultant Lacasa.



Kamal Farah



UAE-based architect Ana D'Castro has exclusively designed The Italian Way Product Design Award trophy for the inaugural year



Downtown Design launches The Italian Way Product Design Award

Downtown Design which will take place at Dubai Design District (d3) from November 14-17, 2017, is doing something new this season. They are launching The Italian Way Product Design Award, which will bring together regional and European cultures renowned for their hospitality and dedication to dining. This award is a new platform for established and budding product designers in the UAE to showcase their creativity by developing a functional object for the table.

Entrants to the competition were tasked to design an object that would work for the dining requirements of a typical regional home, inspired by Italian traditions of craft and effortless style. The winning designer will work with an Italian manufacturer to produce a prototype for commercial use and future production.

The designs will be judged by a panel of experts including Michael Rice, designer and artist specialising in ceramics and glass; Andrea Sensoli, from Super Future Design; as well as Rue Kothari, fair director for Downtown Design; and Giulia Flumi, marketing manager of Peroni and The Italian Way.

The five shortlisted designs from The Italian Way Product Design Award will be on display inside The Lighthouse pop-up at d3 waterfront during the Downtown design event and the winner will be announced at a private event on November 15, 2017.