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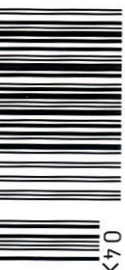
*Our Selection of
Spring Looks*

*Bisazza Reveals
Its Artistic Ambitions*

The **ENDORSEMENTS**

*Design's leading voices praise
a new generation of talents*

APRIL 2012
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LIKE POLISHED STONES PULLED FROM A RIVER, THE SMOOTH CURVES OF THIS CHALET DRAW MAN CLOSER TO NATURE.

Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance, a 37-year-old French architect and designer known for his organically shaped restaurant interiors and products for the likes of Baccarat and Ligne Roset, admits he never wanted to make a residential project. But when a couple came to him to renovate their three-story, 6,775-square-foot chalet comprising two buildings—one dating to the 1950s, the other to the 18th century—in Saint-Martin-de-Belleville in the French Alps, it was an offer he couldn't refuse. "It wasn't about profits," he says. "It was about making something we'd all be proud of." The result is a smooth, sinuous interior landscape that references the surrounding mountains via materials such as fir and Vals stone and includes seven bedrooms, a kitchen, and a built-in Jacuzzi. "Its forms are like a river," Duchaufour-Lawrance says. "The river comes from a lake in the mountains"—the chalet's top floor—"and it arrives downstairs." This fluid-style framework can be found in his studio's other interior projects, too, such as the Senderens restaurant and Galerie BSL, both in Paris.

Central to the scheme is a suspended, resin-coated concrete fireplace that "creates



a link between the concrete floor and wood ceiling," Duchaufour-Lawrance says. Also essential: the home's jagged stairwell of polished crude steel, as well as its range of contemporary design elements, including Johanna Grawunder's Wind ceiling light, Pierre Favresse's Tidelight lamp, Vitra's Slow chair, Eero Aarnio's Bubble chair, and a custom-made kitchen from Boffi. When comparing this project, his studio's only residence, to his more commercial work, Duchaufour-Lawrance says, "It's all one story with one link: my inspiration from and contemplation of nature." —**Spencer Bailey**

IDEAS IN DESIGN



WHAT TOOK SO LONG? FINALLY, SERIOUS DESIGN GALLERIES BRING THEIR WARES TO THE MIDDLE EAST.

March is a busy month for Dubai-based aesthetes. In addition to the city's annual Art Week and Sikka Art Fair, this year welcomes the inaugural Design Days Dubai, a four-day event bringing the world's best pieces to the United Arab Emirates while giving regional talent a global platform. Regular players on the design circuit like New York's R 20th Century will exhibit alongside newcomers like Beirut's Carwan Gallery in a 3,200-square-meter venue at the base of the Burj Khalifa. "In the Middle East, people take incredible care about how they decorate their homes," says director Cyril Zammit. "We want them to come here and really interact with the objects." In addition to galleries catering to collectors and buyers, on-site programming will include portfolio feedback sessions with Lebanese designer Nada Debs and weaving workshops led by Seoul-based Kwangho Lee. —**Jordan Kushins**