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Coffee pot by Richard Sapper for Alessi

In 1979, renowned industrial designer Richard Sapper revisited a classic of Italian design: the Moka coffee pot. Created by Bialetti in the 1930s, Sapper streamlined the stove-top espresso maker for rival brand Alessi – its cylindrical shape earned him the prestigious Compasso d’Oro prize.

Made from sturdy stainless steel, and not aluminium like its predecessor, the top and bottom pieces now snap into place rather than screwing together. The patented design features a wide base to maximise the heat source (to reduce energy consumption), a non-slip handle and a non-drip spout. Worthy of stove tops around the world. — IC alessi.com



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Amanita lamp by the Campana brothers for Alessi

You’d be forgiven for thinking this woven rattan table lamp was a mid-century Swedish design. It is in fact by the Brazilian Campana brothers, whose mission is to work with local, found materials, turning them into something far more precious. Another surprise is that it’s produced by Alessi, the historic Italian manufacturer more usually associated with metal. It’s the effect of light seeping through the woven rattan that earns it a place on our table. — HM alessi.com



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Claudio Loria’s L’eclettico

Located in a former fabric warehouse in central Milan, L’eclettico is part design gallery, part up-scale props store – the 800 sq m space can even be rented for parties. Owner Claudio Loria keeps a collection of 20th-century furniture that cleverly mixes the well known (Giò Ponti side tables, Cassina chairs) with hidden gems (1940s sun loungers from France, a 1950s mahogany desk made by craftsmen in Brianza). Loria keeps busy decorating fashion showrooms – among his clients is the Aspesi boutique in nearby via Montenapoleone – and designing pieces himself, including solid oak seats upholstered in leather and vintage wools. — IC lecllettico.it



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Q&A with Zahira Asmal, Designing Brazil

Just before South Africa’s 2010 World Cup, critic and curator Zahira Asmal launched Designing South Africa, a multi-disciplinary effort to use design as a tool for development. Now, as Brazil gears up to host both the 2014 World Cup and 2016 Rio Olympics, Asmal is debuting Designing Brazil.

How will Designing South Africa translate to Designing Brazil?

It will share experiences with Brazil and lessons learned in city-making and design, particularly around the World Cup, by establishing key media and public-private-partnerships.

What were the main outcomes of Designing SA?

The acknowledgement and understanding by South African government institutions of the influence of design and its importance to nation development.

What are the unique design challenges facing Brazil as it preps for the World Cup and Olympics?

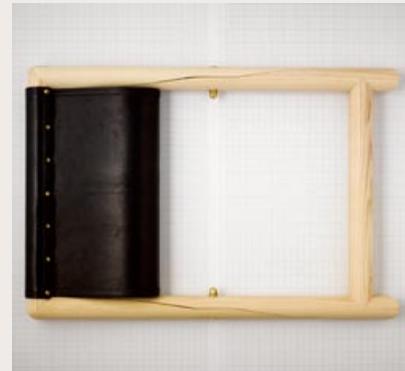
Currently designers feel excluded from the developmental process. Via Designing South Africa and Designing Brazil, the design process will hopefully be included from the onset of planning stages rather than as an emergency solution post-development. — DK



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Nyhavn drawer cabinet by Finn Juhl for One Collection

Danish designer Finn Juhl would have been 100 this year. Among the numerous celebrations happening, Danish producer One Collection has reissued a series of his lost-but-not-forgotten pieces, including the Nyhavn drawer desk shown. Available in walnut, teak or oak with a burnished steel frame and brass feet. — HM onecollection.com



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Trays by Studio Mumbai for Paola C

Set up by Indian architect Bijoy Jain, Studio Mumbai is inspired by traditional know-how and works with skilled Indian carpenters to build residences and a line of furniture that includes sideboards and traditional charpoyis. For Italy’s Paola C, Jain has made a simple set of three trays from teak with a teak oil finish that can be easily stacked. — IC paolac.com



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Propeller stool by Kaare Klint for Rud Rasmussen

A design ahead of its time, Kaare Klint’s Propeller Stool from 1930 is now produced by Danish wood craftsmen at Rud Rasmussen. The idea is simple: two cylindrical wooden legs peel apart to form the stool’s frame, then fold back together to create a flatpack design. Of course when Klint designed the stool, the notion of shrinking living spaces or growing eco-awareness was unlikely to have been driving concerns. But as with the very best designs, his Propeller Stool has continued to grow in relevance and popularity. Today it is available in light or smoked ash with a natural canvas, ox hide or goat hide seat. It also comes with an ash wood tray which turns the stool into a little table. — HM rudrasmussen.com

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Sake bottle and cups by Ceramic Japan

Shukidaruma, named for its resemblance to a snowman (*yukidaruma*), is more than just your average sake cup-and-bottle set. Made by artisans in the ceramics city of Seto (Aichi prefecture) for Ceramic Japan, this three-piece ensemble lets you warm or chill your favourite sake. Kaichiro Yamada designed the two small *ochoko* cups to double as a lid, ensuring that your cups are the same temperature as your tippie. — KH ceramic-japan.co.jp kaichidesign.com

