

Wallpaper*



**Authority and influence, rank and standing, cash and credibility.
We get a measure of the hard currency
and soft power of the 2014 global design elite**

After many hours of heated debate here at Wallpaper*, the loose application of a complex mathematical model, and consultation with an international panel of curators, we have arrived at our design top 100. This is our inaugural ranking of design's major players, and we have considered a number of factors: quality and consistency of output, of course, but also influence and, as much as possible, a market value and earning power. We have also limited ourselves to designers and interior architects, with the occasional educator and commercial patron thrown in.

We understand that some of you may feel squeamish about such a league table and even more will contest its results. But come on, who doesn't love a list? And mapping out power and influence is one way of looking at where design is heading and where it has been, the wax and wane of ideas and trends.

Ultimately, we hope it inspires thought and debate. It is, in part, a playful provocation, but it is also a serious stab at identifying, and even honouring, those who are setting the pace in contemporary design, remaking, rethinking, redefining, and creating designs that are smart and beautiful, and perhaps even world-changing.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Dom Pérignon




Sparkling gems

We photographed ten of our major design players at the birthplace of one of the world's finest and fizziest inventions

Photograph by Stuart Franklin

The historical Benedictine abbey of Saint-Pierre d'Hautvillers, sits on a Marne Valley hilltop in the heart of France's Champagne region. Now owned by Moët & Chandon, the abbey is where, in 1668, young monk Dom Pierre Pérignon was appointed cellarer and procurator, and the rest, as they say, is history. Aiming to create 'the best wine in the world', Dom Pérignon perfected his method over the course of almost 50 years using the principle of 'champagnisation'. The product, the drink that



famously took his name, was born in this striking medieval abbey, originally built in 650 but altered many times over the years and recently meticulously and lovingly restored.



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55

Marcel Wanders

The prince of Dutch design, Wanders' work now ranges from affordable kitchenware for M&S to wallpapers for Graham & Brown and upscale interiors for the Andaz Amsterdam Prinsengracht and the Mondrian South Beach hotels. A 'Crochet' chair will still set you back the best part of \$40,000 at auction.

54

Fabio Novembre

Novembre enjoys a reputation as the *enfant terrible* of Italian product design, never happier than when creating disorder, pushing the boundaries of taste or simply turning everything up to 11. Novembre's recent work includes a hyper-masculine headquarters for his beloved AC Milan football team.

53

Ross Lovegrove

Industrial designer Lovegrove has applied his ergonomic forms to 3D-printed gold jewellery for the Louisa Guinness Gallery this year, while last year he created a concept car design for Renault. Material science, technology and form dominate, as with Liquidkristal, architectural glass designed for Lasvit.

52

Ron Gilad

A graduate of Jerusalem's Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, New York-based Gilad's work is characterised by his whimsical and critical approach to the design of everyday objects. He is one of those rare designers able to work with ease across varying scales of output from limited editions to mass production.



51

Patrick Seguin

Few curators can lay claim to transforming the market view of a designer's entire body of work. With Galerie Patrick Seguin, the French dealer has taken Jean Prouvé into the mainstream and also brought lesser-known works by Charlotte Perriand, Jean Royère, Le Corbusier and Pierre Jeanneret into the public eye.

50

Kenya Hara

The Muji art director and principal of his own Design Institute has not only promoted the simplicity of Japanese design to global consumers, but he's been instrumental in making good design a 'thing' for all of East Asia. Also, he's the moving spirit behind Architecture for Dogs, another 'thing' altogether.

49

Michael Anastassiades

Longtime Wallpaper* collaborator Anastassiades is a master of restraint. The London-based Cypriot launched his studio in 1994, but it's arguably his more recent lighting objects for Flos that have really captured the industry's attention with their simple geometry and stunningly precise construction.