

design report award

... found: Young designer of the year 2010!

Alvaro Catalan de Ocon and Francesco Faccin are the winners of the 11. design report award at the Salone Satellite in Milan.

Journalists, designers and companies from all over the world had already gathered on the 15.04. at the forum for young up and coming designers as Lars Quadejacob, editor in chief at the design report award, announced the winner of the 11th design report award at 17.00: Francesco Faccin from Milan and Alvaro Catalan de Ocon from Madrid. They share the prize money of 5000 euro and will be promoted through editorial coverage and international press relations by the design report as will the three young designers or designer groups who received a special mention: Federico Churba from Argentina, She Design Studio from Norway and Sohei Arao from Japan.

"Pieletrico" by Catalan de Ocon and Faccin is a light which has three sockets and one switch in the base of the lamp allowing it not only to be used as a light but also as a connection to attach other electrical objects. Some of the other works of the design report award winners include the light "Kyoto" (Catalan de Ocon) as well as the table "Centrino" (Faccin), which embody the demands of designs into an honest product. They use as little material as possible, their designs are durable and make living conditions more comfortable.

Federico Churba wants to arrange rooms with his products without filling them up with furniture. The sophisticated tower shelving system "Cercu Bookcase" with its diagonal cross beams allows itself to be rearranged forming new combinations, the table "Pluvial Tables" has a concave top and convex bottom, white inside and coloured outside, these are but a few of his extensive designs.

A novel textile fibre which has the name "Between" was developed by the Norwegians Silje Softing and Eva Marit Toftum. It contains natural and recycled fibres and replaces foam. In its softer form, it is used in the upholstery of the lounge chair as in "Duo" while in the poof "Fofu" it is put to use in its harder form. It can also be used as a room divider as in "Aku" which also has a sound absorbing effect.

The Japanese designer Sohei Arao has assembled his chair "Frame" which is made up of four frames bent from one piece of steel strapping. The horizontal frame is covered and creates the seating. A chair could hardly be designed using less material.

The winners and special mentions were chosen by an international specialist jury made up of the designers Nitzan Cohen (IL), Frida Doveil (I) from Studio Fragile, Kirsten Hoppert (D) from Studio Vertijet, Matti Klenell (S) and Matthias Weber (CH) from Studio Hannes Wettstein.

We are totally dependant on the help of companies which are, like us, engaged in the furtherance of young talent and the design report award could never be held without them. This year we would very much like to thank Alape, Richard Lampert, Luminaire, Nils Holger Mohrmann, Thonet and Vitra for their support.

Marva Griffin is the curator of the Salone Satellite and founded this international forum for up and coming designers in 1998.

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