

Architectural PRODUCTS

An architectural rendering of a modern urban development. The scene is dominated by tall, glass-clad skyscrapers on either side, creating a canyon-like effect. In the center, a large, open public space is filled with lush green trees, walkways, and a prominent structure with a complex, faceted glass roof. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The overall atmosphere is one of a vibrant, contemporary city environment.

June 2016

face-to-face social networks

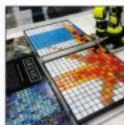
Despite our digital inclinations, appealing public spaces, such as New York's Hudson Yards, are at the core of community creation.

urban revitalization



◀ TACTILE

Dubbed luminescence, Marazzi's emerald-cut tiles elude the eyes with their shimmering finishes. Despite the appearance of a faceted structure, the tiles are smooth and flat to the touch. www.marazzi.com



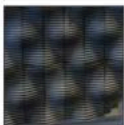
◀ DIGITAL MOSAICS

An audacious experiment by Artaic pairs a mosaic design software with a sophisticated production method for mosaics. The program uses its library of every mosaic tile available to dial in a unique recipe of how many colors of each tile need to be ordered and on hand throughout the mosaic's automated assembly process. To increase light transmission in back-lit applications, Ackworth began using Dimension Grout translucent grout from Bostik—with 60% recycled glass content. www.artaic.com and www.bostik.com



◀ IWAYERI JETSETTER

The Haute Nature concept by Antolini highlights the perfection of pure stone. Part of the Natura Collection, its Wasabi design uses its water-jet technology to impose a flamingo design on a gray stone backdrop. www.antolini.com



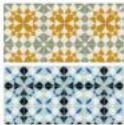
◀ 3-D-CRETE

Creating 3D tile in concrete is North American brand, Eleganza's Urban Concrete collection. An amazing and interesting variety of shapes and sizes may be expressed in any color finish. www.eleganzatiles.com



◀ PIECEWORK

Exploiting the versatility of the hex form is the sartorial look of Ceramica Sant'Agostino. The Digital Art collection was lauded for its digital interpretation of menswear fabric. ceramicasantagostino.it



◀ SPLIT PERSONALITY

Granada's convenient tiles are a veritable coloring book for designers. Modern updates to traditional tile patterns can be interpreted in any color scheme. Show us here a Metamorphosis. www.granadastiles.com



◀ MOOD-Y GROUT

Similar to inspirations from interior paint companies, Mapei's "Grouts for every Mood" campaign characterizes grout hues that complete the look of interior aesthetics created by tiles in the space. www.mapei.com



◀ MCTILE OF SPAIN

One of the Tile of Spain varieties available from the quick ship program includes Equip's collection. Visit www.tileofspainusa.com



COVERINGS SHOW

April 19-21, 2016
Chicago

by Megan Mazzocco, Senior Editor

UnCoverings

Coverings 2016 was an exploration in unexpected new materials, finishes and technologies that complement aesthetics of ceramic and porcelain tiles.

It is evident that manufacturers predict a positive outlook for the North American building industry and are poised to win market share as increases in new building starts demand just-in-time tile deliveries. Tile of Spain is joining a Quickship Collection (www.tileofspain.com/quickship) for delivery in four to eight weeks, and at least two manufacturers are ramping up North American operations, including importing new equipment to beef up U.S. production of large-format tiles. Another positive indicator comes from Italy's, Mapei, who released the most extensive array of colored grouts in the company's history.

Tile trends at last fall's Cersaie held true at this spring's Coverings' show: large-format tiles,

reclaimed everything, wood of all patterns, shapes and sizes, and 3D tiles offered above-grade texture. Double-fired metallic tiles shined strong, and some ceramics were featured as art pieces with ink applied by digital printers. Bricks are back in every Pantone color imaginable, and a patchwork of and rhomboid and triangular shapes are emerging from the deconstructed hexagon, reports Italian tile artist Giovanni Barbieri.

Complementing the general trends were some unusual outliers. These unique products incorporate stone, concrete, solid surfaces and technical processes to provide distinctive compliments to ceramic and porcelain installations.

"Similar to crafting a digital graphic user interface, designers are creating customized interiors and enhancing the occupant experience through unique expressions in tile."

—Ryan Fasan, Tile of Spain