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HOME FURNISHINGS

Kohler fusing design, tech-backed wellness at Salone del Mobile

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The immersive space shows off the contemporary products coming out of Kohler's brands. Image credit: Kohler

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Fixtures maker Kohler is introducing attendees of an upcoming furniture fair to its luxury and lifestyle design solutions.

At the Salone del Mobile in Milan, art, technology and wellness will come together at the brand's booth. Open daily between 12 p.m. and 10 p.m., a curated display will feature creations from its flagship brand, Kallista, Kast and Klafs from April 16 through April 21.

"Kohler Co. brands offer the most comprehensive range of designs, product categories and technologies to realize design visions through complete specification support," said Larry Yuen, international group president of Kohler, in a statement.

"Our focus on design leadership and product innovation comes to life through this multi-brand presentation, at a show that celebrates the forward-thinking creativity of the world's best architects, designers, and developers."

Art meets function

This year, Kohler's Salone del Mobile selection presents rich colors and tech-enhanced features for modern living spaces.

The Kohler Anthem + digital showering system, Kohler x SR_A Formation o2 smart toilet, Rista Vessel bathroom 3D printed sink and the Numi 2.0 smart toilet with electronic ink integration are just a few fixtures available for viewing. The former allows users to have full control over experiences such as water delivery and steam, while the latter uses new technology to splash bright hues and customizable patterns on the surface of the toilet, turning it into an "avant-garde, dynamic art installation," per the brand.



Inside a multi-brand exhibition, living spaces are woven throughout that introduce guests to new collections. Image credit: Kohler

Klafs, which was acquired by Kohler this year (see story), is highlighting its collaboration with Studio F.A. Porsche. The duo crafted a limited-edition S11 free-standing sauna, accented by metallic-Champagne cladding and a Japanese washi paper wall.

From Kallista, Polished Graphite faucet finishes are revealed, fusing quiet luxury and an industrial look. The label is also debuting its Bandeau Artistic Shower collection at the fair, nodding to women's headbands by wrapping a metal strap or stone decorations around the showerhead.

Meanwhile, Kast's Wave concrete wash basin collection draws inspiration from postmodernism and Italian radicalism. Fluid shapes, speckled surfaces, terrazzo aesthetics and tactile concrete turn these products into centerpieces.

Kohler's Heritage Colors Collection is also expanded for the event, with three archival green hues freshly curated for modern fixtures. The new, nature-inspired shades include Fresh Green, Aspen Green and Teal, first dropped in 1971, 1978 and 1987, respectively.

Furthering its creativity-focused theme, the company is hosting an on-site art installation by American sculptor David Franklin. The talent is an artist-in-residence at Kohler's vitreous china and cast iron factories, doing work within a program created by the John Michael Kohler Arts Center and the brand.



This year, Kohler has partnered with a global design studio to build an environment that invites visitors to discover wellness-focused fixtures. Image credit: Kohler

The fixtures maker's immersive space at Salone del Mobile was built by global design studio Yabu Pushelberg, a firm familiar with high-end touchpoints (see story).

Located in Hall 22 at Stand H10 and H6, the facade looks like moving water, incorporating texture, form and light into its construction. The Kohler, Kallista, Kast and Klafs displays are dispersed inside through interconnected, curved spaces.

"We are thrilled to partner with Kohler Co., leaders in innovative design solutions at Salone del Mobile 2024 and debut our first booth design in Milan," said George Yabu and Glenn Pushelberg, founders of Yabu Pushelberg, in a joint statement.

"We wanted to create a booth with presence and together, we designed a world where luxury meets purpose and innovation is harmonized with wellbeing."

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