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HOW CALVIN KLEIN IS MADE



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TECH Filip Locator and Phone

Four years ago, Sten Kirkbak's 3-year-old son, Filip, went missing at an Oslo shopping mall for 30 minutes. The incident inspired him to develop technology that would combine a cell phone, clock, and geo-locator all in the guise of a brightly colored, kid-friendly wristwatch. To realize his idea, Kirkbak brought the project to Norwegian design duo Anderssen & Voll, who sought to find a delicate balance between form and function. Says Torbjørn Anderssen: "The technology we needed didn't exist when we started. We needed to find a form that would communicate the function of the product. The biggest challenge was packing all this technology down into something that would actually fit a child's wrist." The tech component—a combination of GPS, cell-tower technology, and Wi-Fi—was developed by a team of engineers in North Carolina who created three of the world's smallest antennas to fit the device. "It's been inspiring to see that our design thinking is a resource to the engineering team on subjects of complex technicality, since we usually do more low-tech designs," Anderssen says. "The easiest way to think outside the box is sometimes not knowing what the box looks like or where it is." —**Ava Burke**

LIMITED EDITION Copper Mirror Series

For designers Amy Hunting and Oscar Narud, roots reign supreme. The two share a studio in East London as well as a common background: Born and raised in Norway, both have lived in England for several years (he for 13, she for five), and their work puts their Scandinavian heritage on prominent display. The latest example: the duo's Copper Mirror series of highly polished metal disks supported by slender steel rods atop blocky stone bases, on display at London's Gallery Libby Sellers from Sept. 5 through Oct. 5. "The initial idea was really to meditate on northern [European] materials and see them in their rawest state," Hunting says. Swiveling in semicircular metal frames, the mirrors rotate like globes of the old schoolroom variety, and not surprisingly, the designers have compared the series to a solar system. Their prime cue, however, remains their homeland. Says Narud: "All the materials have quite strong connections to Norway." Copper, in particular, evokes the Nordic country, having been a major national export as far back as the 1700s. In actuality, though, all the materials were sourced locally in the U.K. "Everything is made quite close to us," Hunting says, adding that the pieces are "kind of mixed-Scandinavian." Not unlike their creators. —**Ian Volner**



PHOTO: COPPER MIRROR SERIES, COURTESY GALLERY LIBBY SELLERS.