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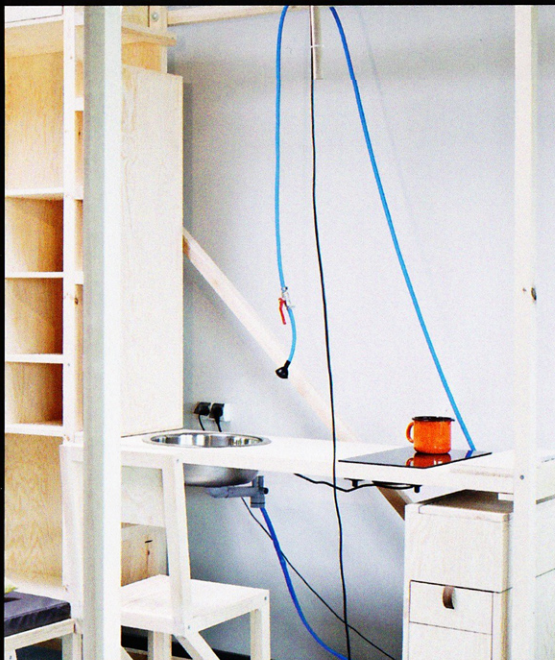


STACKING LIGHTS

After a varied career, including time spent as a molecular biologist and a champion in international motor racing, London-based designer Paola Petrobelli settled into glass making in the 1990s. Working with the same Murano glassmaker since the beginning, Petrobelli has developed a portfolio characterised by strict formal qualities that accentuate the architectural nature of her colourful glassware. "Glass is a beautiful material that lends itself to organic shapes and lots of colour," says Petrobelli, "I try to restrain myself so the shape can be more interesting, more disciplined." Her new body of work, titled '24', follows an architectural agenda, using Meccano – the modular construction system – as its inspiration. Moulded geometric forms were rigorously conceived to stack one above each other. And just like the Meccano bricks, each layer of the stacked glass lamp – be it a floor based or ceiling pendant lamp – can be reordered and swapped to create innumerable different forms and colourways. [Text: PD]

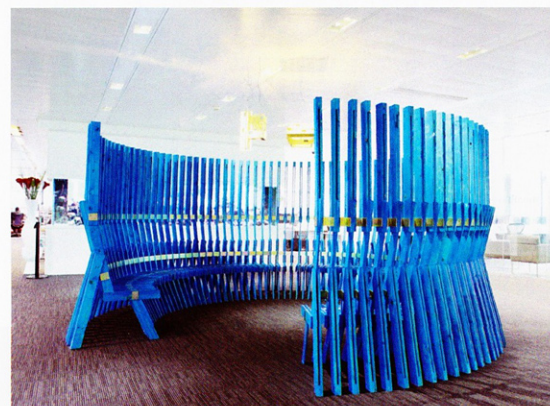
Paola Petrobelli paolapetrobelli.com

NOMADIC CUBISM



The '2.5' is modular living in its purest form. Created by German designers Ania Rosinke and Maciej Chmara as a re-imagining of the living cube by Papanek & Hennessey, the '2.5' is a minimal living cube. Its anachronistic inspiration harkens back to the 60s and 70s, when many architects and designers were concerned about the idea of modular and mobile living structures. From this ethos, Rosinke and Chmara have designed the multifunctional cube, consisting of a desk that can be changed to a kitchen, a rolling cupboard that can be unfolded to an eating table for two people, a bed, a big cupboard for clothes and a mirror/drawer. The whole cube can be closed with textiles to protect one's intimate space, and the nomadic structure can be installed in about one hour. [Text: SW]

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INNER-OFFICE ESCAPE

Cloister (verb): to confine in retirement, seclude. Sometimes a bit of seclusion is what we all need, especially on those busy days at work. And British designer Fabien Cappello has created just the kind of seclusion we would all like to see at our workplace. Composed of 95 wooden sections assembled together on site by means of steel brackets, 'Cloister', with its open-slat construction creates a space of enclosure and rest while still allowing connection to the office around it. Since graduating from the Royal College of Art in 2009, Cappello has sought to create products that explore the idea of the creative use of local resources through local manufacture. And 'Cloister', made from discarded pallet wood, has certainly achieved that aim. [Text: PD]

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