

# MONOCLE

A BRIEFING ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS, BUSINESS, CULTURE & DESIGN

issue 100 . volume 10  
FEBRUARY 2017

100!

Plot and plan: an issue full  
of tone-setters for 2017

*For our 100th issue we do a world tour of 'best in class' – urbanism,  
education, media – and even get limber in Switzerland's finest gyms*

- A AFFAIRS** Taxi for Mosul!  
The strange world of the  
day-shift war reporters in Iraq
- B BUSINESS** Jakarta jackpot: the  
start-ups reshaping the hot city
- C CULTURE** Rome base: the city's  
finest – and very graphic – media
- D DESIGN** Run around: tour the  
town that's the go-to spot for  
elite sport-shoe design
- E EDITS** Discover a bolthole in  
Mexico City, dinner in Sydney  
and a bed in Singapore

## TIME FOR A REFRESH? A MANUAL

### TO GET FIT STAY SMART



From Brisbane pools to Lisbon lanes,  
the cities built for healthy living and  
toned thighs

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the best lingo-learning  
businesses. Merci!

**SAFE AND**

LEARN A NEW

LANGUAGE:

**ISSUE 100**

Keep informed with  
better news and wise  
counsel



E

INVENTORY  
February finds

E

Inventory  
N°100

## Preface

We present a premier selection of porcelain, ceramics, fine brews and eco-friendly footwear.

## Editors

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Melkon Charchoglyan

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David Sykes

01  
Pendant lamp  
Noidoi

Romanian-born designer Cosmin Cioroiu met sweetheart and studio co-founder Kathrine Lønsta while studying at Copenhagen's Royal Academy. The pair's Meld Lamp is made from two pieces of pastel-hued cast concrete. "Making a stoneware pendant lamp is unusual but that's why it's special," says Cioroiu. — MCH [noidoi.no](http://noidoi.no)

02  
Pendant lamp  
Vitamin

This lamp from London outfit Vitamin is made from spun aluminium and can be angled to cast light in different directions. "We love the simplicity of pendant lighting but it can be constrictive in terms of atmosphere; the adjustable aspect changes the mood," says Chris Vernall, who co-founded the studio with brother Andy a decade ago. — DKA [vitaminliving.com](http://vitaminliving.com)

03  
Saké  
Soto

Soto founder Billy Melnyk put 12 years of experience in the alcohol game into developing this rice wine. Made with fresh water from the mountains of the Niigata prefecture, the saké is a Junmai Daiginjo: a prized variety made with polished rice and without added alcohol. — JAF [sotosake.com](http://sotosake.com)

04  
Men's grooming  
Hunter Lab

Inspired in part by the raft of repackaged feminine products that permeate the male skincare market, Melbourne grooming label Hunter Lab created a range of natural products with a considered aesthetic that is reflected in the contents. Expect ingredients such as shea butter, passion-fruit oil and wakame (seaweed). — DKA [hunterlab.com.au](http://hunterlab.com.au)

05  
Cider  
Galipette  
Meaning "somersault" in French, Galipette is a leap forward in both branding and taste for Gallic brews. The apples are plucked from the orchards of Brittany between September and December and the silty-clay soil in these parts produce a semi-sweet cider with a slight sparkle. — JAF [galipettecider.com](http://galipettecider.com)



**E**  
**INVENTORY**  
**February finds**

**06 Boots**  
**Topo Designs x Danner**  
Though hand-stitched in Portland, Oregon, these hardy stompers combine know-how from across the US, with Horween leather from Chicago and cotton fabric from South Carolina. Beneath the firm exterior is a waterproof Gore-Tex lining and a chunky sole that'll keep you surefooted on the slopes. The hardness of Danner's no-nonsense boots is softened by a colourful turquoise touch from the Topo Designs team. — [MCH topodesigns.com; danner.com](#)

**07 Beer**  
**Tate x Fourpure Brewing Co**  
Craft beers are 10 a penny today (and not all good, either) but this one beats the battalions of pretenders. The collaboration was launched last year to celebrate the Tate's Switch House extension, the angular silhouette of which adorns the cans courtesy of UK designer Peter Saville. The best way to sample its fruity charms? "Pull up a bar stool after a visit to the gallery," says Fourpure co-founder Tom Lowe. — [CMO tate.org.uk; fourpure.com](#)

**08 Shoe brush**  
**Tangent GC**  
This brush set from Sweden's Tangent GC is made from kilned ash and carved to sit perfectly in your hand. The Paraguayan horsehair bristles are thick-set and evenly cut to give your shoes a uniform sheen. — [JFS tangentgc.com](#)

**09 Porcelain**  
**Hanne Willmann**  
Following an invite from Design Week Mexico to visit the state of Jalisco, German industrial designer Hanne Willmann teamed up with the Bernabé family (experts in petatillo clay) to produce these tasteful earthenware pots. — [CMO hannewillmann.com](#)

**10 Toothbrush**  
**Bytaps**  
Kyoto-born Tomonori Nakamura left his consulting job to launch toothbrush brand Bytaps in 2014. Behind his concept are Niigata craftsmen and brush-makers from Osaka. The result is a clean handle, carved from solid aluminium with a replaceable brush-head that the manufacturer claims requires no toothpaste (though we recommend keeping a tube to hand). — [JT bytaps.co](#)

**11 Ceramics**  
**La Petite Fabrique**  
Lucile Sciallano relocated to Brunswick, Australia, from her native France in 2014 and now creates handmade slip-cast pottery in her garden shed. These pieces, fired in a kiln just across the road, bear slightly irregular lips, distinct shapes and are adorned with uneven and distinctive drizzles of indigo glaze. The adorably rag-tag collection ranges from larger bowls and vases to bijou cups. — [CP lapetitefabriquedebrunswick.com](#)

**12 Mosquito repellent**  
**Roullier-White**  
During a research trip to India, Lawrence Roullier-White was dismayed to discover that his run-of-the-mill bug spray was caustic enough to dissolve a watchstrap, an incident that inspired him to conjure up his own: Mrs White's Unstung Hero. The organic lemon-and-tea-scented mosquito repellent is a safe alternative to the typically noxious cocktail in most bottles and its old-school look, jovial name and zebra-striped bottle are inspired touches. — [GS roullierwhite.com](#)

**13 Vase**  
**Kimu Design Studios**  
Made from Taiwanese beech and bronze-coated iron, this Pinocchio vase is designed by Kimu Design Studios in Taipei. Originally a stationery brand, its interest eventually turned to homeware, focusing on lighting and vases that draw on traditional eastern shapes such as Chinese lanterns. — [JSD kimudesign.com](#)

**14 Casserole dish**  
**Borough Furnace**  
John Truex and Liz Seru have been molding scrap metal into cast-iron cookware in Syracuse, upstate New York, since 2011. The pair produce pots and skillets from discarded items such as car brakes, and fuel their furnace with recycled vegetable oil. The made-to-order cast-iron Dutch oven is coated in glossy enamel for efficient cleaning; the raised grooves on the underside of its lid catch and recondense rising steam. — [CP boroughfurnace.com](#)

**15 Book**  
**Simon Phipps**  
Written and shot by photographer Simon Phipps, this artful 190-page edition celebrates the best buildings in London's inner boroughs in monochromatic majesty – with attention paid to a few lesser-known exemplars. At last, a book that tackles brutalism with a delicate touch. — [JAF septemberpublishing.org](#)

**16 Wooden toys**  
**Maison Deux**  
Husband and wife Woes and Pia Weiberg started Maison Deux in 2016 after the birth of their twins. These wooden blocks are made of French oak and, with rounded corners nattily printed with letters and numbers, they have a refined feel, so you won't mind your toddlers leaving them around. — [ZZ maisondeux.com](#)

**17 Plant pots**  
**Camilla Engdahl**  
Swedish designer Camilla Engdahl started making ceramics in her Gothenburg flat 20 years ago. Today she fashions everything from teapots to planters in Skövde. These clay herb pots boast a pleasantly grooved texture and will sit pretty on a well-lit windowsill. — [MCH camillashop.se](#)

**18 Dog shampoo**  
**Pure Light Botanicals**  
UK beauty brand Pure Light Botanicals's dog-grooming range uses natural ingredients that won't upset your – or your pooch's – delicate sense of smell. Ingredients include aloe vera and peppermint-leaf oil for pups with sensitive skin; disappointingly there are no bark extracts to be found. — [ZZ purelightbotanicals.com](#)

**19 Tray set**  
**Meike Langer**  
For her ash-and-ceramic Assemblage tray set, Berlin-based furniture designer Meike Langer took inspiration from tight-fitting homes built in medieval Italy. Cast, sanded and veneered in Germany, Langer sees her set as a collaboration between her low-key taste and the clients' needs. — [GS meikelanger.com](#)

**21 Shoe polish**  
**Tangent GC**  
Beneath the modest tubs and simple typeface is an organic concoction of carnauba wax sourced from Brazilian palms and natural turpentine oil. The minimalist look is a reflection of Tangent's commitment to both a small ecological footprint and a polished brand identity. — [JFS tangentgc.com](#)

