

THE DISC AND SPHERE IN EVOLUTION

the material

In 2010 we had recently started working with brass. We had been interested in the material for a while; the warm soft glow was very appealing. We started exploring working with cast brass as well as polished brass plates.

Polishing larger brass surfaces and coating them with a protective layer turned out to be more challenging than we thought. It took us over a year of testing until every step along the way was perfected.

It begins with the selection of the raw material – there are different qualities of brass alloys, with different ‘shades’ of gold. Then comes the polishing part – large surfaces such as the 65 cm discs of our **Plate and Sphere** – are physically very difficult to work on for the polisher, and many polishers shy away from this work.

Finally, the protective coating must be applied correctly: type of coating, amount, humidity and other conditions during the operation all influence the final outcome.

The perfect disc is the result of several skilled artisans, each having perfected every step.

Our **Disc and Sphere** and **Plate and Sphere** series are made exclusively of solid polished brass, rather than commonly used gold-colored coatings over standard sheet metal.

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Fig.01 - PROJECT: Lausanne House, by xy-ar.ch Fumeaux & Poncety architectes ©Alan Hasoo
LIGHTS: 179OL Epic Two pendant, 173OL Plate and Sphere ceiling

the form

The sculptural part of the design is based on two perfect geometric shapes: a round flat disc and a smaller sphere.

The purity of the composition, combined with the richness and contrast of the two materials - warm reflective gold + matt radiating white - made for a piece that works well in different contexts. It adds richness to a simple interior, and calmness to a busy one.

The purest version of this light is the wall and ceiling light, where mainly the disc and sphere are visible.

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Fig.02 - 173OL Plate and Sphere ceiling light (2015)

the evolution

The series was quickly appreciated, and along with the joy of seeing it used in many beautiful interiors, came the downside of seeing numerous copies.

After a period of reflection, we decided to use this experience as a source of motivation and creative force. While it was not within our control what some companies did with our designs, it was within our control to create new ones.

We did not want the story of our **Disc and Sphere** to end there, and we decided to think of the existing **Disc and Sphere Collection** as 'part 1', with a continuation that should be equally interesting.

We were still fascinated by the strength of the simple composition of a perfect matt sphere and a flat plate.

We began transforming the disc through a variety of operations, many of which did not result in a convincing design.

Some however led to interpretations that we felt were unique, novel and strong.

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Fig.03 - PROJECT: Greta Cevenini LIGHTS: 140OL Disc and Sphere wall



Fig.04 - PROJECT: Colombe Studio LIGHT: 1400L Disc and Sphere wall



Fig.05 - PROJECT: Teorema Milanese by Marcante Testa ©Ripamonti LIGHT: 1400L Disc and Sphere wall

the interactions

We bent - **Disc and Sphere Bent**,
added to - **Disc and Sphere Addition**,
subtracted from - **Disc and Sphere Subtraction**,
intersected shapes - **Disc and Sphere Intersecting Tubes**,
perforated - **Disc and Sphere Perforation**,
sliced - **Disc and Sphere Sliver**,
colored - **Disc and Sphere Semi-color**,
intersected two discs - **Disc and Sphere Intersecting Discs**.

We created sequences and spatial sculptures with the **Line, Globes and Discs - Line, Globes and Discs**.

We experimented with materials, other than metal for the disc, introducing glass - **Disc and Sphere Glass**.

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Those are the pieces presented here; selected iterations of our reinterpretation of the **Disc and Sphere**, since its initial creation 10 years ago.



Fig.06 - PROJECT: Hotel Barceló Torre de Madrid by Jaime Hayon ©KlunderBie LIGHT: 140OL Disc and Sphere floor



Fig.07 - 140OL Disc and Sphere Vertical 2 pendant light (2010)



Fig.08 - 140OL Disc and Sphere Asymmetrical wall light (2010)



Fig.09 - PROJECT: Private Residence by 2LG Studio LIGHTS: 173OL Plate and Sphere ceiling, 180OL Epic Three pendant



Fig.10 - 490OL Disc and Sphere Sliver wall light in black (2019)

In the **Disc and Sphere Sliver** (fig. 10), small cuts intersect the surface of the main disc.

The **Disc and Sphere Semi-color** (fig. 11 and fig.12) plays with new geometries by introducing color on one half of the circle.

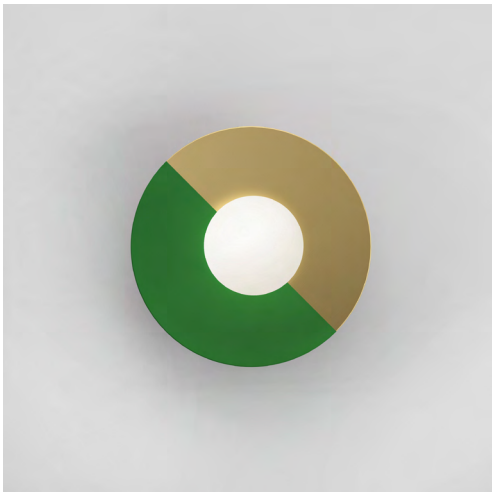


Fig.11 - 460OL Disc and Sphere Semi-color wall light in brass + color (2019)

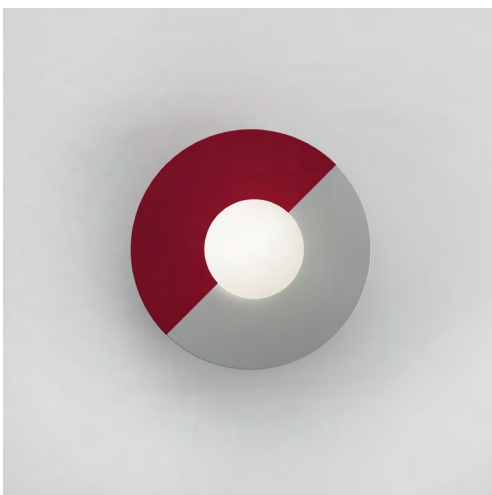


Fig.12 - 460OL Disc and Sphere Semi-color wall light in nickel + color (2019)

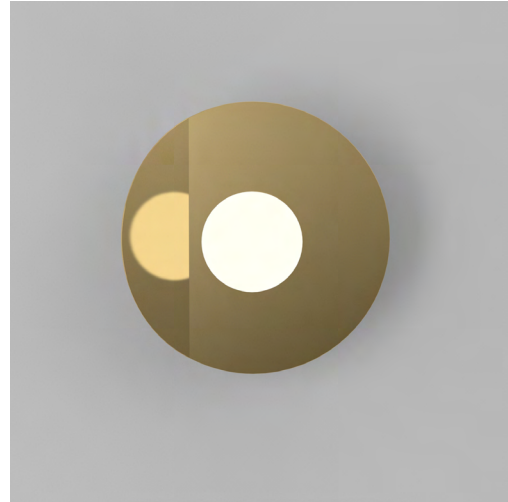


Fig.13 - 518OL Disc and Sphere Bent wall light (2020)

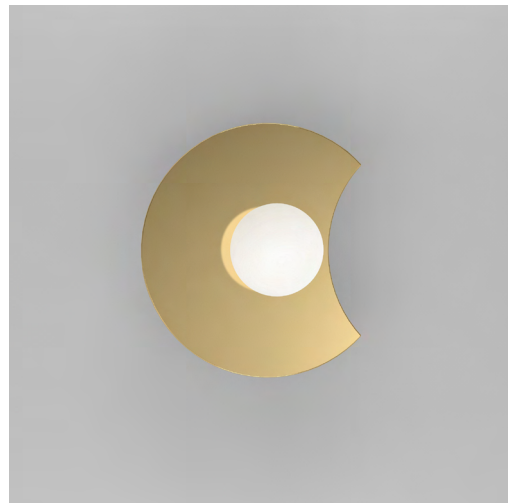


Fig.14 - 518OL Disc and Sphere Intersecting Discs wall light (2020)

The **Disc and Sphere Bent** (fig. 13) introduces a bent on one side of the brass disc. This creates an asymmetrical reflection of the globe.

In **Disc and Sphere Intersecting Discs**, one disc intersects with its neighbor. The two discs can be displayed together (fig.15) or separately (fig.14).



Fig.15 - 140OL Disc and Sphere custom wall light (2010), 518OL Disc and Sphere Intersecting Discs wall light (2020)

In the **Disc and Sphere Subtraction** (fig. 16), smaller circles are subtracted from the circumference of the main disc.

The **Disc and Sphere Addition** (fig. 17) overlaps smaller circles onto the main disc.

In the **Disc and Sphere Intersecting Tubes** (fig. 18), two tubes intersect the surface of the main disc.

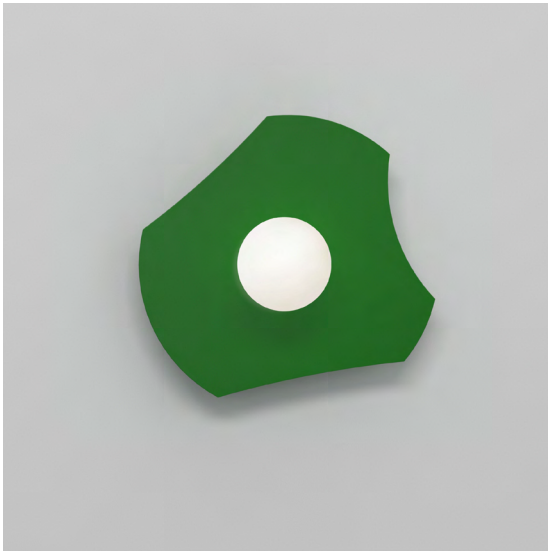


Fig.16 - 501OL Disc and Sphere Subtraction wall light in color (2019)



Fig.17 - 501OL Disc and Sphere Addition wall light in black (2019)



Fig.18 - 518OL Disc and Sphere Intersecting Tubes wall light (2020)



Fig.19 - 320OL Line, Globes and Discs - customization wall light (2018)





Fig.20 - 320OL Line, Globes and Discs ceiling light (2018)

The **Line, Globes and Discs** (fig. 19 and fig. 20) collection is a versatile series based on the concept of discs and globes being aligned on a tube. This tube can be short or long, it can be straight or bend around walls, it can bend from a wall to a ceiling.

It is both a geometric exploration and a practical response to specific spatial needs. Sometimes a space has an electric outlet in one specific spot in the wall or ceiling, but the light is mainly needed elsewhere.

The **Line, Globes and Discs** series connects the outlet with the desired light location. While solving a practical problem, a surprising geometry might emerge, such as the light going around corners or from a wall to a ceiling.

In the end, the practical problem was the starting point for a concept that ended up having a design character of its own and thus a value and purpose that freed itself from the initial 'raison d'être'.



Fig.21 - 514OL Disc and Sphere Glass wall light W02 (2020)

With the **Disc and Sphere Glass** (fig. 21, fig. 22 and fig. 23) we explored the initial simple shape of a perfect round disc and a white sphere, but the disc would have an animated, irregular pattern created by handmade glass plates.

We have roughly 200 glass samples in our studio, and selected and initial 12 patterns for this first collection.

Each glass is handmade and unique.



Fig.22 - 514OL Disc and Sphere Glass wall light W03 (2020)



Fig.23 - 514OL Disc and Sphere Glass wall light W03 (2020)



Fig.24 - 514OL Disc and Sphere Glass ceiling light C03 (2020)

Through our designs, consciously and unconsciously we explore moods and emotions. The shapes, spaces, play with light and shadow are all relevant only to the degree that they are perceived by someone, that they touch someone, that they are able to provoke a sincere reaction.

We are able to experience a wide range of emotions, we go through a variety of moods, throughout a day, a week, a season, a year, a lifetime.

Throughout our work we have been drawn to exploring this multiplicity. We think our built environment should be able to reflect the complex moods and emotions we experience and seek. Some of our pieces are stoic and solid, some are delicate and filigrane, some are playful, some are abstract and others are figurative, some are warm and vibrant and others more elusive and distant.

We are attracted to the idea that by placing a certain piece of lighting or furniture within a space, one could add a layer of complexity to the existing space, one could insert a certain mood, create a certain atmosphere around that piece. The **Disc and Sphere** pieces explore a variety of such moods.

Some are abstract and have an aura of mystery and elusiveness, which they transfer to the space they are placed in.

Some have warm brass colors and round shapes evoking an aura of femininity and warmth. Others have cool silver surfaces and straight lines and angles; they appear more restraint and technical.

Some are more figurative and symbolic, elusive yet familiar at the same time. Yet other glass pieces are reminiscent of landscapes, with dreamlike flowing contours. Each piece creates an aura; by placing two or three pieces within a space, the different moods begin to interact thus creating the complexity and variety that we believe enriches us because it speaks to the breadth of emotions we are capable of and experience throughout our life.

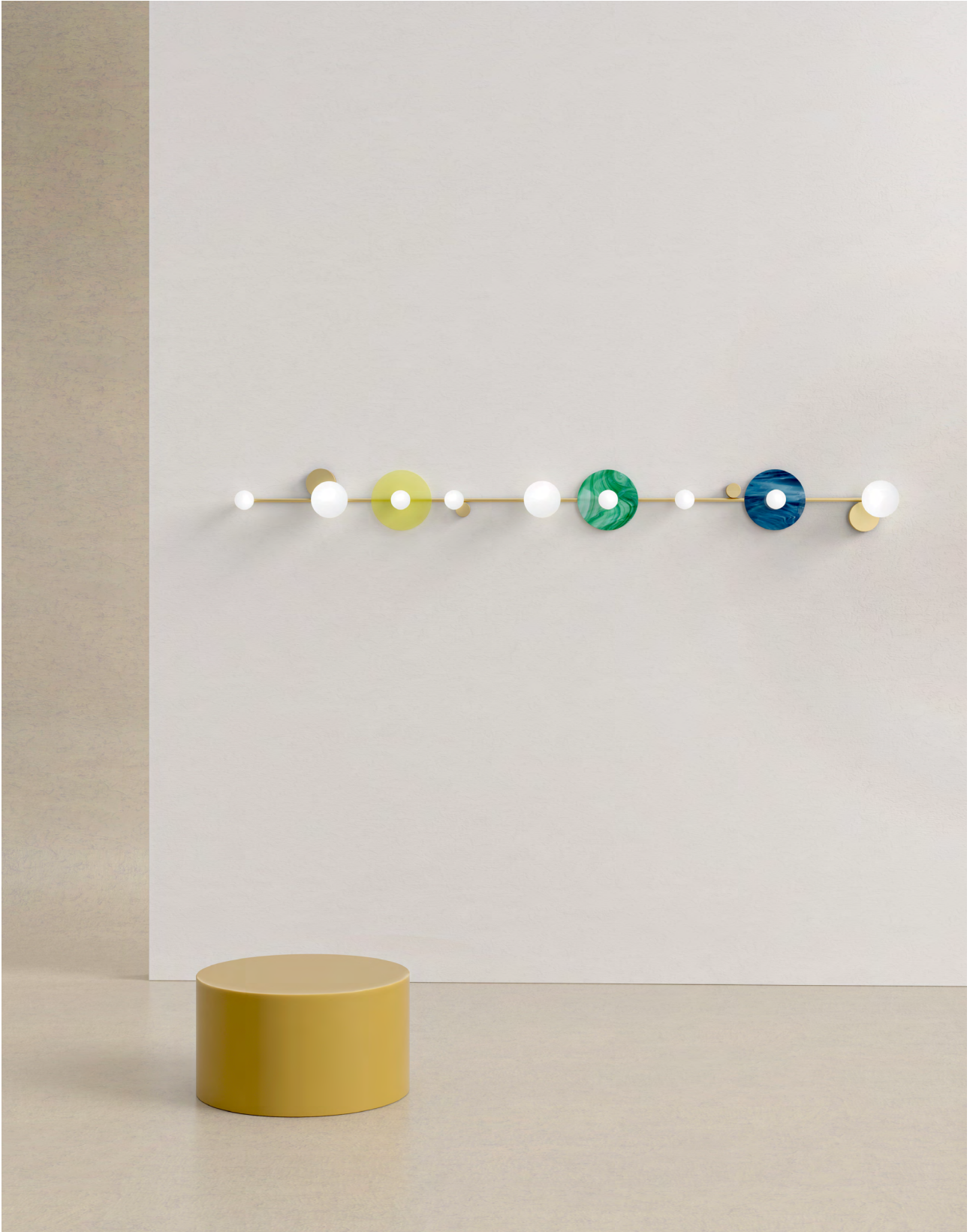
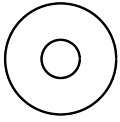
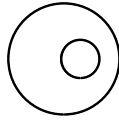


Fig.25 - 514OL Disc and Sphere Glass - ceiling / wall light C01 (2020)

DISC AND SPHERE
wall light
versions:
140OL-W01
140OL-W02
140OL-W03
140OL-W04



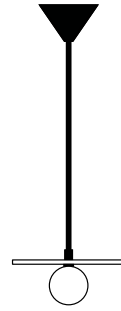
DISC AND SPHERE
ASYMMETRIC
wall light
versions:
140OL-W05
140OL-W06
140OL-W07
140OL-W08



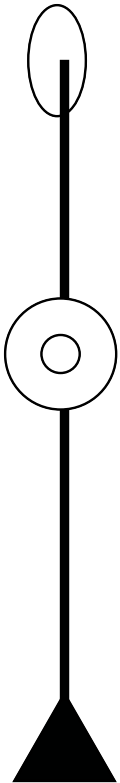
DISC AND SPHERE
pendant light with fabric cable
versions:
140OL-P01
140OL-P03
140OL-P04



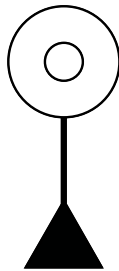
DISC AND SPHERE
pendant light with metal rod
versions:
140OL-P05
140OL-P06
140OL-P07
140OL-P08



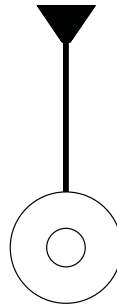
DISC AND SPHERE
floor light
140OL-F01



DISC AND SPHERE
desk light
140OL-D01



DISC AND SPHERE
vertical pendant light
versions:
140OL-P09
140OL-P10
140OL-P11
140OL-P12



DISC AND SPHERE
vertical pendant light 2 discs
versions:
140OL-P13
140OL-P14
140OL-P15
140OL-P16

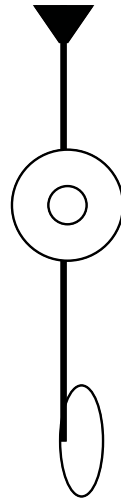


PLATE AND SPHERE
ceiling light - large
173OL-C01

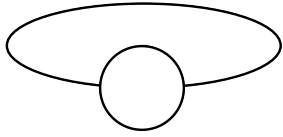


PLATE AND SPHERE
ceiling light with stem - large
173OL-C03

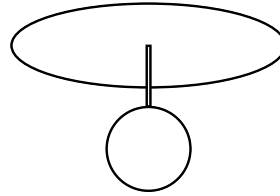


PLATE AND SPHERE
ceiling light - small
173OL-C02

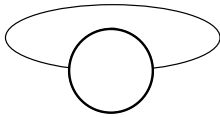
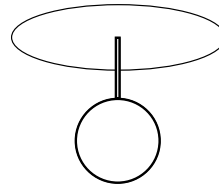
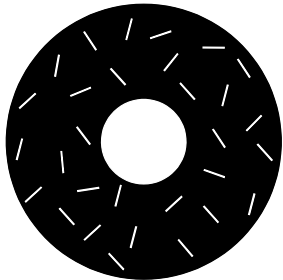


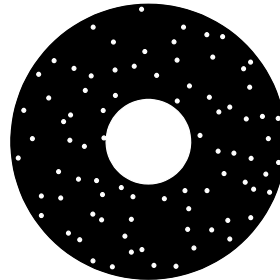
PLATE AND SPHERE
ceiling light with stem - small
173OL-C04



DISC AND SPHERE SLIVER / PERFORATION
Disc and Sphere Sliver
ceiling light - large
490OL-C01



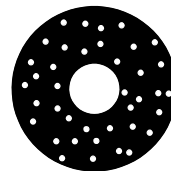
DISC AND SPHERE SLIVER / PERFORATION
Disc and Sphere Perforation
ceiling light - large
490OL-C02



DISC AND SPHERE SLIVER / PERFORATION
Disc and Sphere Sliver
wall light - small
490OL-W01



DISC AND SPHERE SLIVER / PERFORATION
Disc and Sphere Perforation
wall light - small
490OL-W02



DISC AND SPHERE SEMI-COLOR

wall light

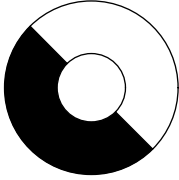
versions:

460OL-W01

460OL-W02

460OL-W03

460OL-W04

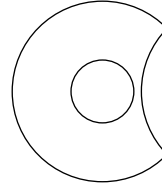


DISC AND SPHERE BENT / INTERSECTING

Disc and Sphere Intersecting Discs

wall light

518OL-W01

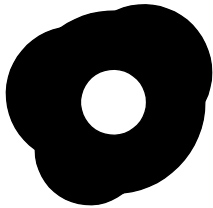


DISC AND SPHERE ADDITION / SUBTRACTION

Disc and Sphere Addition

wall light

501OL-W01

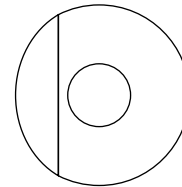


DISC AND SPHERE BENT / INTERSECTING

Disc and Sphere Bent

wall light

518OL-W02

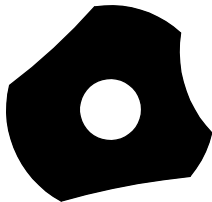


DISC AND SPHERE ADDITION / SUBTRACTION

Disc and Sphere Substraction

wall light

501OL-W02

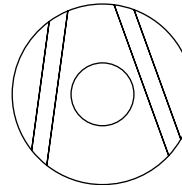


DISC AND SPHERE BENT / INTERSECTING

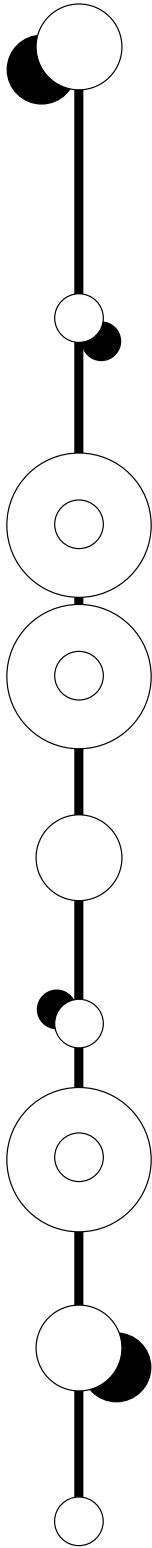
Disc and Sphere Intersecting Tubes

wall light

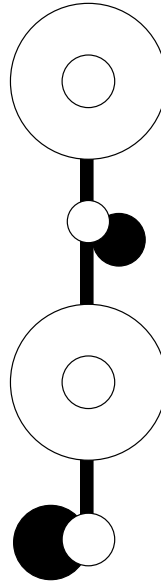
518OL-W03



LINE, GLOBES AND DISCS
ceiling light
320OL-C03



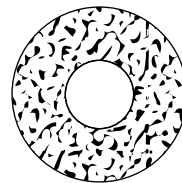
LINE, GLOBES AND DISCS
ceiling light
320OL-C04



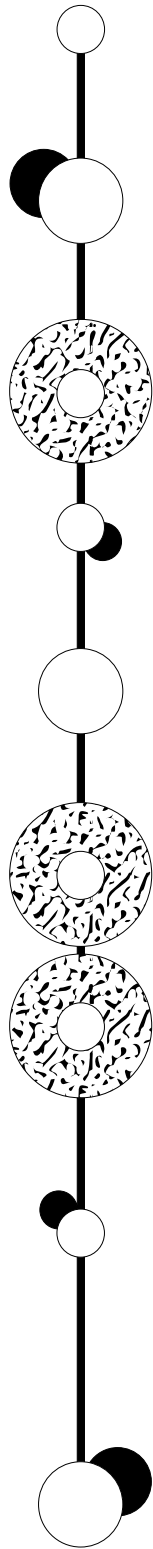
DISC AND SPHERE GLASS
wall light

versions:

514OL-W01	514OL-W05
514OL-W02	514OL-W06
514OL-W03	514OL-W07
514OL-W04	514OL-W08



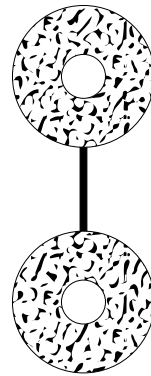
LINE, GLOBES AND DISCS
ceiling light
514OL-C01



LINE, GLOBES AND DISCS
ceiling light
514OL-C02



LINE, GLOBES AND DISCS
ceiling light
514OL-C03



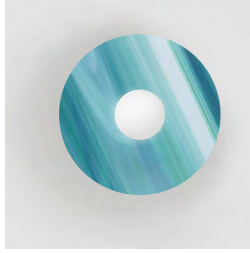
glass 01



glass 02



glass 03



glass 04



glass 05



glass 06



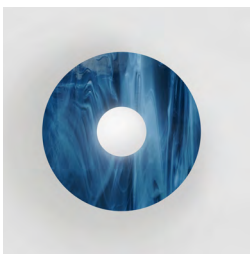
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glass 08



glass 09



glass 10



glass 11



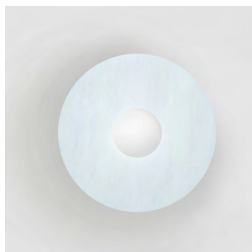
glass 12



glass 13



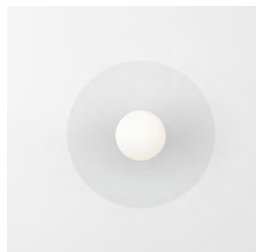
glass 14



glass 15



glass 16



ATELIER ARETI Atelier Areti is an interdisciplinary design studio established by sisters Gwendolyn and Guillane Kerschbaumer.

Gwendolyn and Guillane's background is in visual arts with a focus on drawing and sculpture, architecture and design.

Their work reflects this interest in both the object and space, exploring and existing between the sculptural quality of the object and its spatial dynamic.

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We strive to develop something new and beautiful through our work. We are driven by curiosity and the desire to explore works that touch us on a deeper, direct emotional level as well engage us in a more conscious conceptual way.

These artistic ambitions need to be realized and developed in the actual material product. The material realization gives the design its place in our daily life.

A well done object will be valued for a long time; we aim to create pieces that remain relevant through their beauty, function and quality.



DESIGNERS

Gwendolyn was born in 1976 in Innsbruck, Austria and is Austrian / French.

She received a Bachelor in Visual Arts with a concentration in sculpture from Duke University, NC. She received her Master in Architecture from Harvard University and a Master in Advanced Architectural Studies (sustainable building) from the ETH, Zurich.

Among others, Gwendolyn worked at the architectural offices of Peter Eisenman Architects New York, Kleihues und Kleihues Berlin, MVRDV Rotterdam and Wiel Arets Architects Amsterdam.

Gwendolyn was head of research at 'laba' / EPFL for 3 years, where she researched contemporary developments in the fields of architecture, urban design and planning.

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Guillane was born in 1981 in Innsbruck, Austria and is Austrian / French.

She completed an art foundation program in Paris before studying Art History and Archaeology at the Sorbonne in Paris, receiving a DEUG. She went on to study Product Design at Central Saint Martins where she graduated in 2006.

Guillane worked for several years as an interior designer for B3designers in London before starting Atelier Areti with her sister Gwendolyn.

