

# /PRESS RELEASE - MILAN DESIGN WEEK 2023/

This Milan Design Week, Nature Squared presents REFLECTIONS an installation synthesising pioneering eco-friendly material design, nature and conversations at the Rossana Orlandi Gallery, Milan. from 16-23 April 2023

14 March 2023:

On the occasion of Milan Design Week 2023, Nature Squared is proud to present REFLECTIONS, a custom design installation of three mirrors and stools in responsibly sourced natural waste materials, in the courtyard of the Rossana Orlandi Gallery in Milan.

The outdoor installation, which will be unveiled on 16 April 2023, highlights the pioneering Swiss-based company's evolution from making luxurious sustainable surfaces for interiors, yachts and jets, to creating handmade furnishings and accessories using eco-friendly and responsibly sourced renewable natural waste materials such as eggshell and bamboo.

The three mirrors are a special edition created as part of Nature Squared's KAIROS mirrors collection to mark this year's MDW. KAIROS in Ancient Greek refers to an opportune or timely moment – and the collection takes inspiration from time, reflection and circularity. During MDW, the special edition mirrors, which reflect a forest theme, will be shown in 80 and 100cm diameters (KAIROS mirrors are available in 60/80cm diameters). Each features a different natural surface, paired with a different coloured reflective glass. Two have an inbuilt swivelling mechanism allowing the viewer to adjust the mirror by hand (a stepper motor is also available).





The natural materials used for the mirrors are:

- The white Pearl Shell Callisto, the mother of pearl from the pearl oyster, the nacre that gives pearls their sheen, iridescence and density.
- The fast-growing Alagasi Whitecap, found in the Philippines, high in magnesium content, and known for its medicinal properties.
- The fast-growing dark brown Bamboo Hermipe. Nature Squared work with left-over fragments of bamboo for surfaces after larger pieces have been used in construction and furniture making.



The designs are the work of Nature Squared's in-house design team which works closely with their highly qualified artisans, engineers, designers and chemists, responsible for developing new materials and devising innovative ways to use them. The workshop is based in the Philippines, where the entire design and making processes follow a strict circular approach with sustainable practice at its core. Nature Squared's commitment to the environment extends well beyond recycling and upcycling to include every stage of sourcing, design and fabrication. Fair wages and job security are of prime importance as is the long-term support of craft heritage in developing countries.

"We are known for our practical yet beautiful eco-friendly custom designs for architects and interior designers, and our new KAIROS collection of mirrors adds another creative dimension. Available within 6-8 weeks, the mirrors provide even more choice within a faster turnaround time than our bespoke designs," says Nature Squared co-founder Lay Koon Tan.

In addition to the KAIROS mirrors, Nature Squared will show three stools in a natural palette of indigo and clorophyllin-hued CArrelé eggshell tiles - the world's first eco-friendly, zero CO2 emission tile made of waste eggshell – and TERRAMIQUE, a new mouldable material made of sustainably sourced crushed eggshell that is used to create handcrafted organic surfaces.



During Milan Design Week, Nature Squared will host a series of conversations dedicated to renewable design in collaboration with the Rossana Orlandi Gallery. Each conversation will be moderated by author and design writer Catherine Shaw, who will speak to designers and artists showing at the gallery and elsewhere. The series is intended to create a dialogue through shared material experiences, and highlight different ways in which design, research, science and creativity can come together to enable us to produce more sustainably.

## ADDRESS IN MILAN:

Galleria Rossana Orlandi Via Matteo Bandello 14-16 Milan, Italy

Tel: +39 02 4674471

## PUBLIC OPENING:

16-23 April 2023, 09:00-20:00

Except:

April 16 - open to the public from 12:00 April 20 - closed to the public from 17:30

#### PRESS CONTACT:

Press and Guest Preview (by official invitation only): April 16, 09:00-12:00 Jack Freud IP Publicity jackf@ippublicity.com +44 (0) 203 176 8025

## **ABOUT NATURE SQUARED**

Founded in 2000 by Paul Hoeve and Lay Koon Tan, Nature Squared is a pioneering, Swiss-based, ethical design brand that uses material innovation and artisanal skills to transform abundant natural materials that would normally be considered waste into bespoke, handcrafted and sustainable products and surfaces for yachts, hotels and homes.

Nature Squared has always been a frontrunner in the use of eco-friendly and responsibly sourced natural waste materials such as eggshell, seashells and feathers, employing heritage artisan skills and original technical solutions to create exquisite, handmade, bespoke surfaces for leading architects and designers.







The appointment in 2020 of trailblazing British-Chinese textile designer and weaver Elaine Yan Ling Ng as Nature Squared's Chief Innovator added a further dimension with a new range of original, high-performance, handmade materials including CArrelé wall and floor tiles made of waste eggshell launched at Milan Design Week 2021. Ng graduated from Central Saint Martins in London, where she earned her MA Design in Textile Futures with distinction. She is a TED Fellow, and internationally recognised by multiple design awards, including The Emerging Talent Award by Design Anthology, GGEF's Eco Innovator Award, Swarovski's Designer of the Future Award, and Tatler's Gen T Award. Ng has worked with Nissan Design Europe and Nokia Design Beijing, and been named one of Hong Kong's top 50 brightest connectors, creative visionaries, influential innovators and disruptive talents.

Nature Squared's materials and products are sold worldwide to architects, designers, and stylists looking to add a distinctive touch to their projects, which range from residences to hotels, and yachts to private jets, while meeting the highest standards of environmental and social responsibility. This new KAIROS collection adds to the company's renowned bespoke design service with exclusive, handmade and sustainable mirrors available within 6-8 weeks.

NATURE SQUARE IMAGES

Please download here

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