

CARPET HOME

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MILAN DESIGN WEEK 2024

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CARPETS IN THE DESIGN MECCA

MATTEO THUN AND ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ

Recyclable materials are a must

Architecture and design firm Matteo Thun Milano & Partners creates award-winning individual solutions for private homes, hotels, restaurants and offices. Company founder Matteo Thun is the firm's artistic director, who studied architecture in Salzburg and Florence. In the 1980s he founded the famous Memphis group together with Ettore Sottsass and other Milanese designers. Spanish designer Antonio Rodriguez joined Matteo Thun & Partners in 1999, and in 2001 co-founded the industrial design studio MTD-R with partner Matteo Thun.

Carpet Home: Tell us a bit about yourself and your design style, if you would.

Matteo Thun: Our collaboration centres on a design philosophy of aesthetic innovation and intuitive functionality. These principles of timeless simplicity and mindfulness expressed in a clear design language give rise to iconic products and architectural projects that bring something special into everyday life.

Yacht design for Azimut.



PHOTO-AZIMUT

Carpet Home: In the years since you first opened your design studio, what things have changed in carpet design, and about carpet placement in interiors? What is important with carpets in today's interior design culture?

Antonio Rodriguez: The materials, environmental and social responsibility factors, and innovation – these points are more important today than ever before. Using natural and recyclable materials is a must.

Carpet Home: You have worked on many different interior design projects, for private homes, hotels and offices. What kind of challenges are encountered in selecting carpets for these differing interior settings? And what considerations are there regardless of the type of property?

Matteo Thun: Projects in the hotel and catering industries require highly durable carpets, but in many cases a unique carpet serves as anchor point for the room style as well. We usually develop the carpets in collaboration with a partner.

Carpet Home: The indoor/outdoor carpet collection Mediterraneo you designed for Object Carpet was featured in Carpet Home magazine last year. Talk to us if you would about how you deployed these carpets in one of your projects,

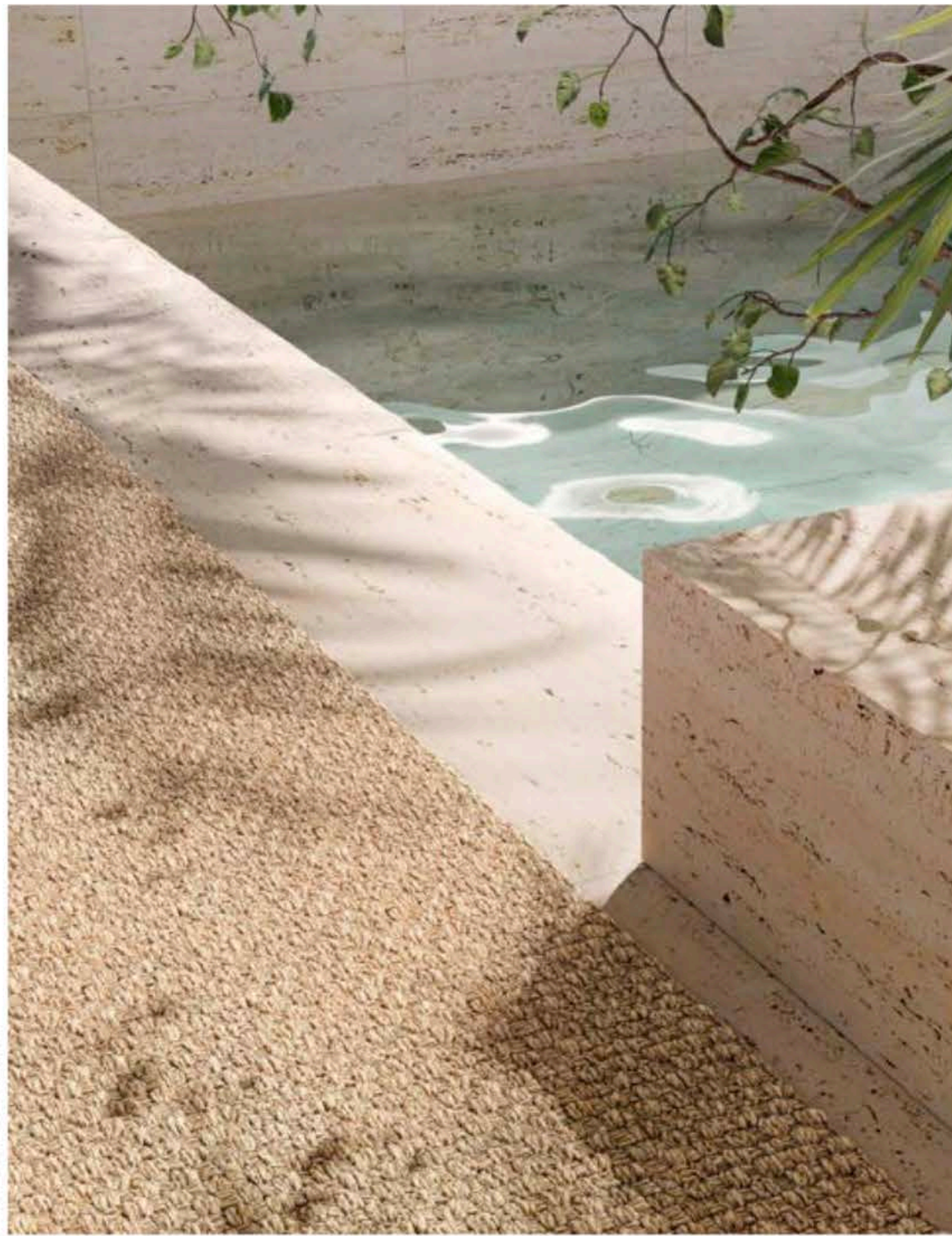


PHOTO: OBJECT CARPET



PHOTO: CRESCENT GROUP

Antonio Rodriguez: “Mediterraneo is a more ecological reinterpretation of ancient Mediterranean weaving tradition.” Mediterraneo. Object Carpet

and why you decided that that was the optimal solution.

Antonio Rodriguez: We will be using Mediterraneo going forward in many interior projects for hotels, resorts, yachts and private homes, for both indoors and outdoors. Right now we are working to finish designing a fully recyclable interior for a series of yachts made by the Italian yacht manufacturer Azimut.

Matteo Thun: “As architects, we have been keen all along on developing a zero-waste, 100% recyclable carpet collection that is usable outdoors as well. We came up with a wonderfully structured and environmentally sound material that you wouldn’t think is regenerated waste.” We use them for outdoors whenever possible.

Antonio Rodriguez: Mediterraneo is a more ecological reinterpretation of ancient Mediterranean weaving tradition. Instead of using natural fibres according to this tradition, which dates back to the ancient Egyptians and lives on all across Mediterranean shorelines today, we are mainly using fibres derived from plastic waste collected from the waters of the Mediterranean.

Carpet Home: *Are you looking forward to any particularly special projects during Milan Design Week 2024?*

Matteo Thun: We will be celebrating our studio’s 40th anniversary, for which we are publishing a book!

Antonio Rodriguez: That’s right, and among lots of new products we will be presenting our first yacht design, for the client Azimut, at the Fuorisalone.