



MILAN

D.LAB

Singaporean design brand D.LAB's Objects Around the Table had all the simple forms we associate with Japanese design, but with an extra kick. Combined with bright strokes of colour and a kind of cuteness, these products act on your wallet as MSG does on your tastebuds. The commercial output of research lab The Design Incubation Centre, our favourite of the products was this desk light (13) with an arm shaped like a platypus beak.

POUR LES ALPES

Swiss design duo Annina Gähwiler and Tina Stieger work with craftspeople in the Swiss Alps to design and make their products, showing exactly the kind of entrepreneurial spirit that the industry needs right now. While it's not easy – the designers said they spent a lot of time establishing a working relationship with these traditional artisans – the time paid off as they have produced a very original collection of furniture (14).

CRAFT PUNK

Design Miami's Craft Punk at Spazio Fendi (15) was the most energetic happening of the week, but the concept of watching designers making things seems a little dated. It was still a well-curated event, made better by soft lighting and a free bar. Tomas Libertiny greeted visitors at the entrance in full Fendi leathers that kept him protected from his welding machine as he created a sculpture from solder. Inside, Nacho Carbonell made his Beasts from scraps of leather attached to metal structures, Peter Marigold tried out a new table design created from bisected squares and Raw-Edges made a chair from folded paper injected with foam.