

# AZURE

DESIGN | ARCHITECTURE | INTERIORS | CURIOSITY



## TRENDS 2018

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Inflatable theatres, bioplastic furniture,  
energy from algae, and more

Studio Swine's  
eco-friendly  
Ebonite chair

**A LIBRARY IN INDONESIA TURNS  
ICE-CREAM BUCKETS INTO CLADDING**

For all its dynamism, the neighbourhood of Taman Bima in Bandung, Indonesia, struggles with illiteracy and a lack of reading facilities. In an effort to bring reading to the area, the government asked Dutch firm SHAU, which has a local office, to build a 160-square-metre micro-library that would be visually striking enough to lure people in, and that could be realized on a micro-budget. To provide both shade and cross-ventilation, SHAU conceived a latticed facade and, after scouring the neighbourhood, came up with an ideal, if unlikely, material: used ice-cream buckets. Roughly 2,000 of them, tilted to keep rainwater out, cover the box-like library, which perches on stilts. Whole tubs are arrayed with ones that have had their bottoms cut, spelling out a message from the mayor in binary code: "Books are the windows to the world." *shau.nl*



**USING 3-D KNITTING TECHNOLOGY,  
BENJAMIN HUBERT MAKES  
A CHAIR THAT'S LIGHT AS AIR**

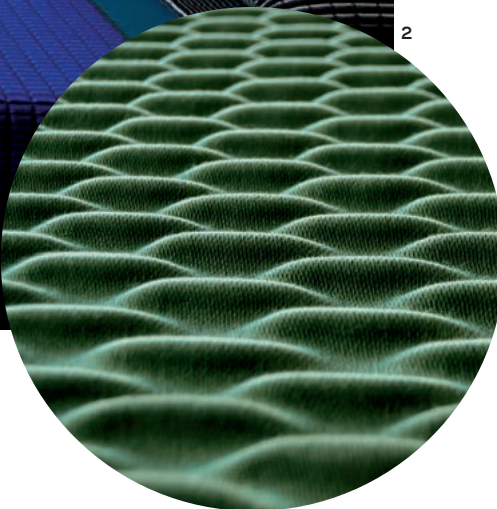
Less than a decade after Nike's Flyknit trainers introduced 3-D knitting to the mainstream, the digital technology is now poised to transform the world of furniture. Chairs with 3-D-knit backs began appearing last year, but it took Layer's Benjamin Hubert to deliver Tent, a chair prototype that boasts a unified, 3-D-knitted seat, back and sides. Rather than stitch the upholstery of these components together, Hubert worked with Moroso to weave 50,000 metres of recyclable nylon into a single, seamless piece with virtually no material wasted – even the padding is woven directly into the seat and back. The resulting garment slips like a sock over a flat-pack steel frame, its sides tensioned by loops of high-performance sailing rope. *layerdesign.com, moroso.it*



# COVERING THE BASES

Sound-absorbing, textured, 3-D: The latest fabrics are as innovative as they are attractive

BY KENDRA JACKSON



## ACOUSTIC CONTROL

### 1. CURTAIN BY VESCOM

Ultra-lightweight and available in an array of translucent hues, these curtains instill a soft counterpoint in environments heavy on concrete, glass and steel. [vescom.com](http://vescom.com)

### 2. ONDO BY CASALIS

Dutch designer Aleksandra Gaca's 3-D fabric is offered as finished panels and by the bolt for on-site installations or upholstery. The woven blend of elasthane and Trevira CS polyester comes in 14 colourways and can be backed with foam for extra acoustic absorption. [casalis.be](http://casalis.be)

### 3. ENTRADA BY CREATION BAUMANN FOR CARNEGIE

Part privacy panel, part noise control, this polyester weave feels like wool to the touch. It can also be used as window covering. In six colours. [carnegiefabrics.com](http://carnegiefabrics.com)

### 4. GLACE BY DESIGNTEX

One of three patterns that combines sound absorption with light transmission, this drapery is made of polyester with a subdued texture. Available in five neutral tones. [designtex.com](http://designtex.com)