

# IMAGICASA

INTERIOR DESIGN

ARCHITECTURE - INTERIOR - DECORATION - ART - DESIGN - TRAVEL - CARS - LIFESTYLE / **SUMMER 2024** / BE-NL €16 / UK £14



# HARMONIOUS HOLISM





IN 2017, EMMANUELLE SIMON FOUNDED HER OWN AGENCY IN PARIS, WHERE SHE BROUGHT HER PASSION FOR INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN TO LIFE.

ONE OF HER FIRST MASTERPIECES WAS HER OWN PRIVATE APARTMENT IN THE HEART OF THE CITY. AS WITH ALL HER PROJECTS, SHE APPROACHED THIS SPACE WITH A HOLISTIC VISION, HARMONIOUSLY BRINGING TOGETHER ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND SENSORY EXPERIENCES.

French interior designer Emmanuelle Simon is known for her aesthetic that is raw yet refined, infused with timeless elegance. Her recent project, an apartment in dreamy Paris, is a very fine example of her unique style. She combines soft, sensual shapes with raw materials, resulting in an unusual and intriguing interior. Her work is often inspired by art deco style and wabi-sabi philosophy, focusing on the beauty of imperfection. The interior

designer likes to add an irregular touch to her controlled architectural designs, adding a human and organic dimension. Looking at her projects, you notice the frequent presence of arches. These elements create a sense of continuity and fluid movement in her designs. Simon prefers light, natural colours and combines them with handmade pieces and natural materials. This results in interiors where artisanal quality and irregularity are visible, making each piece unique. Since founding her agency, she has worked on a wide range of projects around the world, ranging from apartments and holiday homes to spas and boutiques. She also develops her own collection of exceptional furniture and lighting. The raw nature of materials adds an authentic dimension to the clean lines of her designs.





Simon designs her projects with a global vision, from the architectural elements to each individual piece of furniture. Each project is distinguished by a strong identity and a unique style. Her designs are invitations to an immersive experience, where every detail contributes to a sense of serenity and elegance. Leveraging the expertise of artisans, she creates custom-made furniture that reflects the highest standards of craftsmanship. Her designs are subtly accentuated by light, giving different perspectives to the composition of each volume. These subtle transitions play on the notion of experience, an essential part of her approach. Her aesthetic is never achieved at the expense of attention to detail, creating a balance that stands out for its uniqueness. With a penchant for neutral colours and materials such as solid wood, natural stone, patinated metals and Rakù-Yaki ceramics, Emmanuelle Simon manages to create perfectly harmonious combinations. These materials contribute to a timeless elegance and a serene ambience in her designs. Her impressive work constantly reveals new perspectives and experiences, giving each project a unique and personal touch.

One of her recent creations, which we would like to share, once again shows her attention to detail within the walls of a Parisian home. Simon sees her projects as an overall experience, from the architecture to each individual object. Each place is designed as a unique showcase with a strong identity, creating bespoke furniture in collaboration with talented artisans.



#### PLAYING WITH LIGHT AND SPACE

In the heart of Paris, where history and modernity embrace, Emmanuelle Simon has unveiled her latest masterpiece: an impressive project that perfectly embodies her signature style of raw elegance and timeless sophistication. This project reflects her profound vision of interior design, where architecture and design come together in a harmonious set of sensory experiences. From the moment you enter the apartment, you are immersed in an atmosphere of pure, natural beauty. She has created a clean and raw aesthetic, with each space designed with meticulous attention to detail. The materials chosen – from raku and chamotte plaster to frosted glass and bush hammered wood – add rich texture to the interior. These materials, combined with the subdued colour palette, create a subtle play of

**Not only a showcase of Simon's design skills, but also a reflection of her personal travels and collections**

shadows and light that dances throughout the whole. The project is not only a showcase of Simon's design skills, but also a reflection of her personal travels and collections. Throughout the space, you will find pieces of furniture from her own collection, each telling a unique story. These pieces are complemented by items she collected during her travels, as well as artworks by her favourite artists. This gives the apartment a unique, personal touch that makes it a real home.

A special highlight of the apartment is the library, which reflects her passion for ceramics. This space has been designed with a careful selection of ceramic objects, which together form a fascinating whole.

The interplay of textures and materials, such as brushed wood and striped stone reliefs, creates a dynamic and inviting atmosphere. The interior designer worked closely with various craftsmen and artists in this project, resulting in an interior of unparalleled quality. Delphine Messmer designed a beautiful mosaic floor, while Romain Guillon created a breathtaking mural of raw earth. There is also a dreamlike artwork by artist Hermentaire, created especially for this space. These collaborations highlight her dedication to craftsmanship and her ability to bring together different art forms into a harmonious design. In short, Emmanuelle Simon's approach to interior design is a celebration of the beauty in simplicity, the power of subtle details, and the creation of spaces that are more than just functional – they are works of art that radiate life and inspiration.

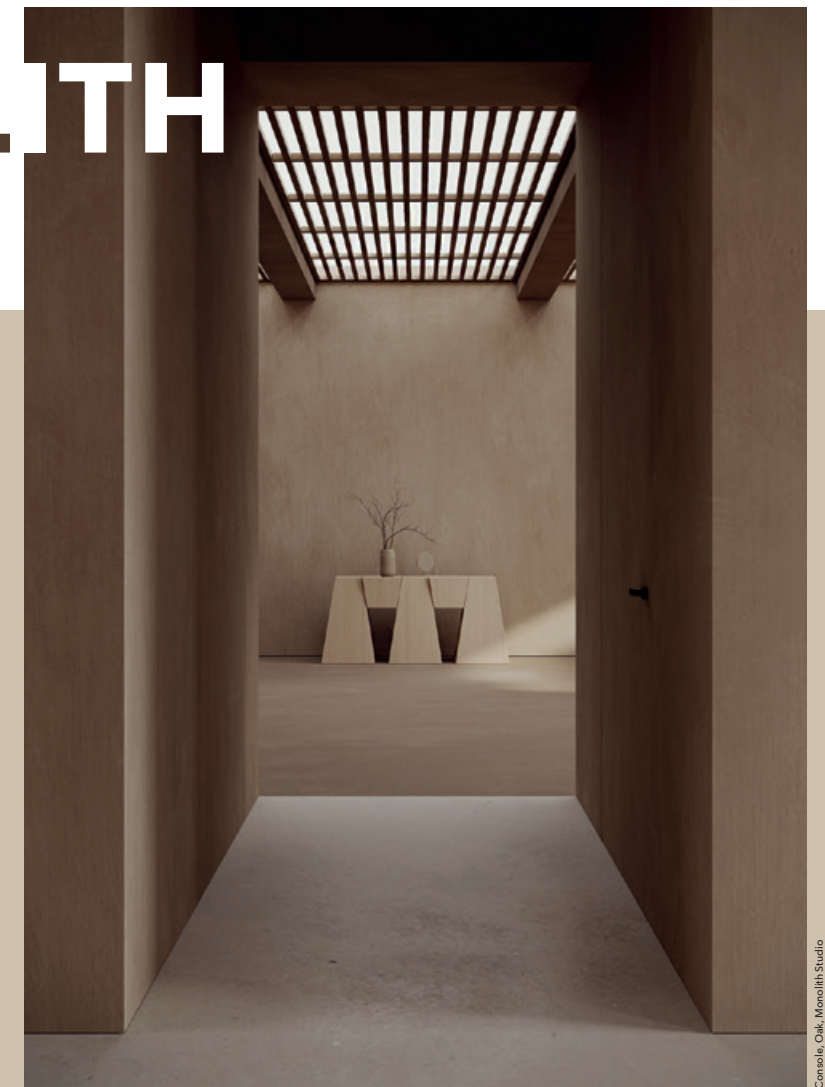
Emmanuelle Simon is known for her holistic approach to interior design. She sees each project as a unique opportunity to create a space with a strong, individual identity. Her custom-designed furniture is made in collaboration with artisans known for their excellence, making each piece not only functional but also artistic. Through clever use of light and subtle transitions, she creates a sense of continuity and fluid movement. This adds to the immersive experience her designs offer. With her keen eye for detail and ability to masterfully use space and light, the interior designer continues to push the boundaries of interior design. Her recent inclusion in the AD100 selections of the world's best architects and designers, as well as IDEAT's 'Best Young Interior Designer' award, confirm her status as a leading figure in the design world. Her latest project in Paris is yet another testament to her talent and vision. The apartment, with its perfect balance of raw materials and refined details, offers a glimpse into the future of interior design. We eagerly await the next realisations of this talented designer, which will undoubtedly be as impressive and inspiring as this stunning project in the French capital. (Text: Elke Aerts)



Photography by Damien De Medeiros

# MONOLITH STUDIO

Simplifying lines and shapes to their absolute core is no half work. Monolith, a studio founded by Marc Personick, kicks off with debut collection Sanctuary, which immediately makes the internal philosophy clear by means of nine design pieces. As is evident, they are thoroughly monolithic. Not only that is characterising for the style, but also the brutalist movement from which the designs have originated. The collection includes, among others, a console, a bench, and a chair, and is available in several materials, such as oak and travertine. Although their production offers various possibilities, their underlying appearance remains unchanged. Before Personick started his own initiative in the design industry, he had already for a long time been admiring furniture pieces of others in this style. Made from only one material and sketched with two primary movements at most: he can do it too, and how. Yet he aims for more than only visual praise with his collection. He explains that most pieces in Sanctuary were given a multi-functional use and are a lot more than a piece to



Console, Oak, Monolith Studio

merely look at. Furthermore, they are handmade in Guadalajara, in an atelier of talented craftspeople. From beginning to end, the creations transcend the visual. They are the product of a shared fascination for the design profession and a patient and precise making process. With the

title of the collection, Personick refers to the ritualistic hint that envelops the furniture. Since the materiality ranges freely in the pieces and is unlimitedly at the fore, the designs develop an almost extraterrestrial or futuristic look. Lovers of brutalism see the style being united with a valuable finesse. Each line responds to the next, and the complexity hides in the presumed evident cohesion of the end result. With this impressive achievement as debut, we can only be excited about the studio's future.



Bench, Oak, Monolith Studio



Console, Travertine, Benni Allen for Monolith Studio



Chair, Oak, Monolith Studio