



Let there be... LED

An integral part of interior design, lighting has taken a new turn with the technological development of LEDs.

Atmosphere, mood and ambience are arguably the most influential aspects of hospitality spaces. A great atmosphere can change an average space into one to remember, for all of the right reasons. With the overall experience hinging on these factors, the logical step is to look at what creates ambience, positive mood and atmosphere? Lighting.

Trends in lighting are evolving faster than those in interior design, with further technological developments being the driving force behind such advances. LEDs have developed a life of their own, and are now an essential light source in many hospitality spaces and guestrooms as sustainability moves to the forefront of the minds of developers and designers alike.

“There has been a distinct shift in the style of hotel lighting schemes over the past twelve months,” comments Robert Chelsom, Managing Director at Chelsom. “There is definitely a lot more individuality

when it comes to design, with a more eclectic mix in terms of both styles and fittings.” 2013 saw an increase in the use of industrial-style lighting out of context, a theme that uses design classics as a reference to the past. This functional look has carried over into the shades and materials used, as Chelsom explains: “There has been a much more industrial look and feel to products lately, think exposed mechanical joints and oversized switches with visible engineering. Also, colours are bold with textured fabrics such as linens, weaves and naturals seeing a surge in popularity.”

Continuing the theme of alternative materials, Nikki Tanara, National Sales Manager at Alger-Tritron speaks of their use in custom lighting: “It’s exciting to be consistently finding innovative uses of metal, glass, crystal and natural quartz to manufacture artistic illuminated pieces, keeping us at the forefront.”

With trends ever-changing, the pressure to create unique and memorable interior schemes remains strong. “Designers are starting to push the boundaries much more, and as a result, lighting is becoming more image centric and fashion focused,” continues Chelsom. “I think we will see more in the way of alternative finishes, such as antique, distressed and satin, with mixed finishes on the same product to create feature pieces.”

According to John Fearon, Managing Director at Astro, materials such as coloured glass, porcelain, bronze and copper are becoming more mainstream, “while appreciation of texture to simple materials is increasingly used to add interest”. Lasvit demonstrated their take on the glass lighting trend at Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan, with an exhibition showcasing multiple breathtaking designs, including Ice by Daniel Libeskind (pictured). The one-of-a-kind geometric chandelier is made up of glass “cells”, blown into angular moulds. Like icicles, the glass forms capture light, refracting it into prisms so that each column glows in unpredictable ways.

Another driving trend, comments Fearon, is the emergence of mid-power LEDs, which has unlocked a new world of design possibilities for lighting manufacturers. “With a great choice of LED retro fit lamps now available, a whole new lease of life has been given to older, more conventionally-designed products including wall lights with shades which suit most hotel design schemes,” illustrates Fearon. In agreement, Chelsom believes that blending cutting edge style with the latest technological developments is more important than ever.

“As we all know, LED is certainly the new illumination standard,” exclaims Tanara. Not only does the option of LEDs offer increased design possibilities, but the elimination of incandescent lamping is also reducing energy costs. “Integrating this technology into our fixtures is essential for future energy savings,” predicts Tanara. “The trick is making sure the correct products and colour temperature are used in order to simulate incandescent lamping, and to achieve the most natural looking light.”

In response to increased demand, Alger-Tritron has developed Q-Lite, an LED division specifically for hospitality which offers superior Colour Rendering Index. “There are many different styles in the range,” explains Tanara. “This means that LED cove strip lighting, downlights and candelabra light bulbs will have the same colour throughout the entire space.”

According to Alger-Tritron, use of their new Q-Lite line will see hotels achieve a return of their investment after approximately 12 months. “Sustainable products are the wave of the future, and we encourage many designers, purchasers and owners to start converting immediately over to LED due to energy savings from the second the product is installed,” concludes Tanara.

The recognition from clients that sustainable products are the future has resonated with Astro, as Fearon notes: “For many, the starting point is “it must be LED” and they are not interested in considering older, possibly better alternatives. As a company, we have had to respond by converting successful fluorescent to LED.”

However, this insistence has not been true for Chelsom, as he notes: “Sustainability is a consideration, but it is definitely not at the top of most people’s list versus design and price.” It appears that specifiers are recognising the need to go green, however not at the expense of design. “Overall design is the key driver in terms of change, followed by function.” That said, almost every product in Chelsom’s new catalogue is available with LED light sources, demonstrating their commitment to taking sustainability seriously.

Companies are evolving, progressing designs to incorporate environmentally-friendly options that will not only reduce energy use, but also costs, without compromising on design.

See overleaf for the latest product launches and case studies from international lighting suppliers.

1 INSPIRED BY DESIGN CHINESE DRAGON

Inspired by Design has created a pair of delicately handcrafted crystal Chinese Dragons. The dramatic lighting installations were developed by Simon Shick of IBD, and destined for Buddha-Bar in Knightsbridge, London. Suspended over two levels of the restaurant, the dragons are animated only by the coloured RGB LED projectors located within the base of the structure, preventing glare.
www.inspired-by-design.co.uk



2 LIGHTS OF VIENNA CRYSTAL

Custom made illuminated crystal bead mesh creates the shape of waves with this bespoke piece by Lights of Vienna. Random size waves are spread and suspended from steel wires, attached to the ceiling. Each of the waves are made with solid metal rods, polished in nickel finish, as thousands of crystal beads maximise the LED illumination.
www.lightsofvienna.com

3 TOM DIXON GREY BEAT

Marking a debut at Milan Design Week, Tom Dixon has showcased new lighting products under the theme of the Club. The instantly recognisable Beat pendants range has been expanded to include the Grey Beat, showing expressive minimalism. The internal silver plate creates a warm shimmering glow to create a haven where work and pleasure collide, similar to that of the conventional Gentleman's club.
www.tomdixon.net



4 BEADLIGHT BEADLIGHT COLLECTIONS

British LED lighting specialist Beadlight designs, engineers and manufactures reading lights using a diffusion system originally created for the aerospace industry. The new range of task lights are distinctive and elegant, offering a uniform, glare-free light created by the use of tiny, optically pure glass beads. Designed with an equal focus on form and function, light diffusers are housed in a beautifully machined aluminium head attached to a flexible, hand stitched leather arm with 360 degree rotation, ensuring a precise pool of light where required. The lights are available in a choice of gold or nickel-plated, anodised bronze, aluminium or titanium finish with a chocolate brown, beige, off-white, mushroom or black leather arm.
www.beadlight-collections.com



5 BOCCI

21
Epitomising the company's innovative, experimental approach, this lighting system can be used in single pendants, or in larger clusters. 21 is a low voltage system, with the diffusers themselves formed from thin sheets of porcelain, draped over a special trumpet-shaped piece of sand-blasted borosilicate glass. As the flexible porcelain skin is overlaid onto the diffuser it falls naturally, creating an infinite variety of shapes. The finished shell is light and elegant, allowing the light within to shine softly, in contrast to the crisp light that passes through the glass diffuser.

www.bocci.ca



6 SLAMP

ARIA
Designed by Zaha Hadid, Aria combines dramatic architectural features with the intrinsic weightlessness of the materials, creating a sculpture of light and technology that fascinates and enchants observers. The 50 individual layers of Cristalflex work together to make Aria seem as if it is about to take flight, characterised by complex yet harmonic forms that embrace the light source veiled beneath.

www.slamp.it



7 ASTRO

THE EDGE
A sculptural form with a halo of light, The Edge is constructed using advanced materials, technology and the latest mid-power LEDs. Pure white panels appear to float on a mesmerising glow and clean, contemporary lines characterise the simplicity of the design. The Edge is formed from layers of laser-cut acrylic, with an etched finish to the edges through which the light from the body of the product diffuses. Using the LED technology allows the use of a lighter, more delicate structure as it requires minimal heat-sinking. The striking product can be mounted horizontally or vertically.

www.astrolighting.co.uk

8 ZUMTOBEL

PANOS
The Panos range is the most efficient and comprehensive LED downlight line available from Zumtobel. The Panos infinity and Panos evolution LED ranges are now being extended to form a global portfolio, complying with varying requirements in worldwide markets. Initially available in both round and square versions of the downlight, with a diameter of 68mm or 100mm, other versions of the product will be added, making the global portfolio available from A2utumn 2014.

www.zumbotel.com





9 DERNIER & HAMLYN
ROSEWOOD LONDON
 Dernier & Hamlyn manufactured the lighting for the recently opened Holborn Dining Room at Rosewood London. Six blackened steel chandeliers, some seven metres long, were manufactured using mixed machine and hand construction methods. The chandeliers house approximately 500 LED globe lamps, custom made to meet the exacting aesthetic and energy usage brief from Martin Brudnizki Design Studio.
www.dernier-hamlyn.com

10 JIM LAWRENCE
COWLEY PENDANT
 New for 2014, the vintage, industrial style pendant by Jim Lawrence is available in Polished and Matte Black finishes. The jigsaw design at the base of the pendant makes it easy to replace a light bulb, without detracting from its distinctive caged design.
www.jim-lawrence.co.uk



11 ALGER-TRITON
PORTFOLIO
 Alger-Triton International exemplifies a balance between quality product and impeccable design; creating distinctive lighting designs and fabrications for hospitality projects worldwide. Incorporating new materials into the creative process is essential to the art of decorative lighting, and Alger-Triton prides itself on bringing a unique assortment to each project for one-of-a-kind results with a portfolio including Ritz Carlton, Marriott, Hyatt, Hilton, Four Seasons, St. Regis and Westin.
www.alger-triton.com



12 BARONCELLI
FLEXUS
 Launched at Edit by designjunction, the Flexus designs each use a number of satin gold components with cylindrical cristallo rods in a variety of configurations to showcase their versatility. Inspired by the Flexus series, which launched in 2011, Baroncelli has expanded the range to incorporate new features. The pendants are made of intertwining circles and elegant curves, bolted together and suspended. Elements are embedded with a fine tape of LEDs, emitting a soft continuous glow to either engage or inspire.
www.baroncelli.com



13 CHELSOM STUDY

The Study desk lamp is a stand-out piece from the forthcoming Chelsom collection, Edition 24, due to launch Summer 2014. This elegantly designed lamp is finished in English Brass and Black Bronze, one of four alternative finish combinations, and features a weighted base incorporating a heavy-duty toggle switch. The lamp has been teamed with a Stone shade in linen, selected from Chelsom's new range of shades, providing elegant sophistication.

www.chelsom.co.uk

14 HARLEQUIN SHOWROOM

Harlequin London presents 11 illustrious lighting brands including Saint-Louis, Baccarat, Christofle and Venini at its new Chelsea showroom. Offering off-the-shelf lighting, as well as bespoke pieces, clients will be able to customise sizing and finishes, or start from scratch and build an entirely bespoke piece with manufacturers. A complimentary design service will also be on offer, matching lighting finishes with furniture.

www.harlequin-london.com



15 COPPER AND SILK PENCHER

A contemporary industrial swing-arm wall light, made from solid brass with turned joists and a decorative wall plate, Pencher is available in two finishes; Bronze and Satin Brass. Both finishes come with an ES Globe filament lamp. The fixture can either be secured to light a certain area, or allowed to swing into different positions to light different areas of a room. It can be surface mounted, and can be fitted with a decorative braided cable for adaption to concrete and masonry walls.

www.copperandsilk.com



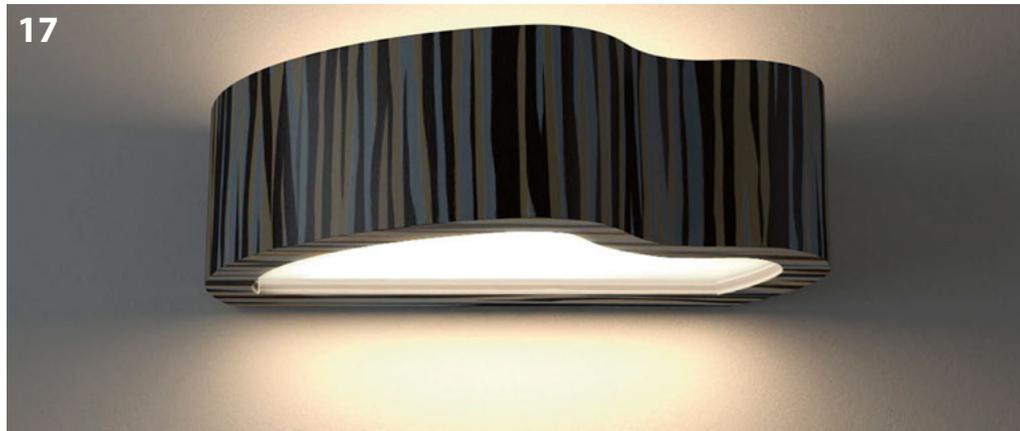
16 NOTE DESIGN STUDIO CROP

Inspired by a piece from Örsjö Belysning's 65-year back catalogue, Crop is a family of lamps designed by Note Design Studio. In a dark corner in one of Örsjö's workshops, an old lamp shade was found. The classic design was made use of, and now has a new modern design. Reworked, the family of floor, table and wall lamps are sleek, elegant and full of personality.

www.notedesignstudio.se

www.orsjo.se

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17 LSE
ATEGO

A new family that forms part of LSE's customised design range, Atego features ergonomic flowing curves and tight detailing, providing simple and relaxing forms. The range is available in a vast variety of sizes with the possibility of bespoke shapes. The whole family is complimented by 21 laminate finishes including many exotic tiger woods.
www.lselighting.com

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18 ARTEMIDE
2014 COLLECTION

The Italian lighting specialist has continued its tradition of collaborating with distinguished names in design and architecture, launching 87 new lights in the 2014 collection. Among them is Jean Nouvel's Equilibrist, where simple geometrics and a delicate yet bold balance meet to create a future icon in lighting design, and David Chipperfield, who joins Artemide for the first time with his minimalistic approach to a simple and refined cone shaped glass pendant, aptly named Conica.
www.artemide.com

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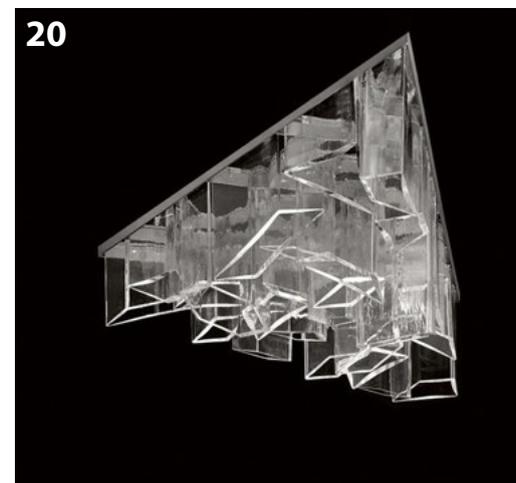
19 MOOOI
BELL

The bell represents a very early and essential form of communication, generating a welcome ring that brings people together. Designed by Marcel Wanders, the Bell Lamp by Moooi is made using mouth blown glass, with a ceramic bow and is available with gold plated or white glazed ceramics.
www.moooi.com

20 LASVIT
ICE

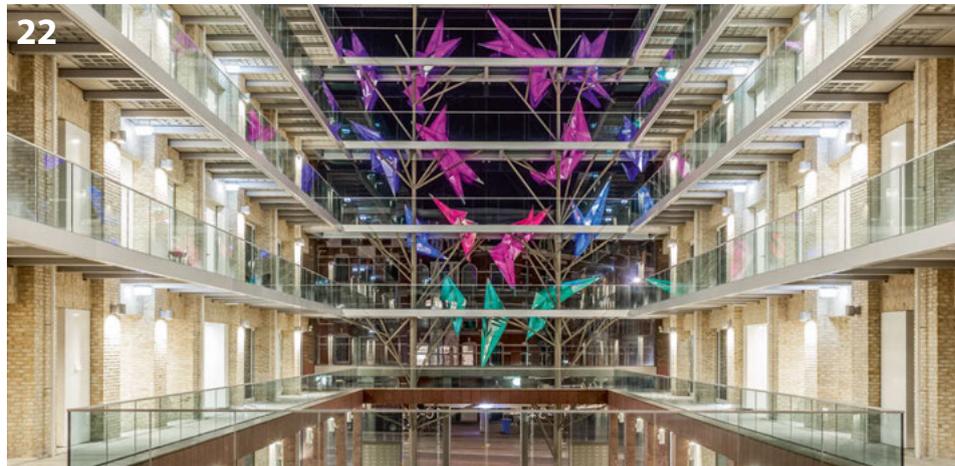
The Ice Chandelier by Daniel Libeskin challenges the traditionally round forms of Czech hand-blown glass with a sharp, angular design. The result is geometric elements that fit together like a puzzle inside an equilateral triangle. Such triangles can be placed together in a modular way to create different compositions horizontally, so can be adapted to a variety of spaces. The glass elements capture light, refracting and splitting it into prisms, so that each column glows differently, and the ensemble looks like a city of glass.
www.lasvit.com

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21 AXO LIGHT LAYERS

Axo Light's Layers collection offers ceiling lamps and suspensions with a metal frame, covered with hand-applied super-smooth fire retardant pongé fabric. Whether fitted individually or in clusters, the lamps are highly choreographic and especially appealing owing to their painstaking care for detail, as well as the extreme lightness that they convey, despite their dimensions.

www.axolight.it

22 KOLECTIV CRYSTAL LIGHTING SYSTEM

Crystal is a variable architectural lighting system developed by Czech glass artisans. The unconventional usage of classic glass-making techniques, in combination with a high-end technical lighting control solution, makes the system exceptional. Developed for interior and exterior usage, CLS can be adjusted to each architectural project.

www.wearekolectiv.com

23 DARK THE BIG BUBBLE

The Big Bubble combines magic, whimsy and style in a single design. Each piece is a unique, artisanal, hand-blown glass bubble fitted with a dimmable LED-lamp. Colours vary from smoke, smoke-green, red and amber to transparent and due to the product being handmade, the shapes often fluctuate.

www.dark.be

24 KALMAR KILO TL EMPERADOR

The design, first offered in a beautifully textured steel base, contrasts a small anchor with an impressive cylindrical shade. The new varieties of marble were carefully considered for their honest material expressions and suitability to contemporary colour palettes. With its expanded material options, Kilo lends beauty and humour to spaces ranging from historic countryside to a sleek city perch.

www.kalmarlighting.com



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25 CRESTRON CLED

Crestron's first range of luminaires comprises LED fittings for a variety of applications; a general purpose downlight, an array of discreet multi-functional recessed spotlights, a surfaced mounted spot option and stainless steel uplight. When combined with Crestron control equipment, each CLED replicates the smooth dimming curve of halogen lamps.

www.crestron.eu

26 LUTRON ECO-SYSTEM 5-SERIES

The EcoSystem 5-Series LED driver provides an affordable solution for smooth, flicker-free dimming from 100% to 5%, as well as guaranteed control system interoperability within Lutron's Ecosystem. The dimming solution is built on 50 years of experience in state-of-the-art light controls. Showcased at Light + Building 2014 in Frankfurt, the product provides third-party integration capabilities.

www.lutron.com

27 COLLINGWOOD CARBIS BAY HOTEL & SPA

Illuminating areas both inside and out at the Carbis Bay Hotel & Spa in St. Ives, Cornwall, Collingwood Lighting has supplied a series of advanced LED solutions to help enhance features and fittings around the hotel. The range of energy efficient, low glare LEDs are used in various locations, including the Spa, Bar and Reception and outside, where a fixed linear waterproof bar was used to create an intriguing colour-changing effect, complementing external features..

www.collingwoodlighting.co.uk

www.orsjo.se



Ibis Styles Dale Street *Liverpool*

Words: Molly Dolan Photography: © ABACApres / Darren Lennon

Steeped in history with more Grade II-listed buildings than can be counted on one hand, Dale Street welcomes the latest addition to the Accor portfolio.

Previously branded as All Seasons, Ibis Styles is confidently the most design-led of Accor's reinvented budget offering.

Described as a non-standardised economy and design brand, its properties are situated in the heart of cities, each boasting its own distinct personality reflected through a colourful, bright and energetic spirit with a hint of humour. These elements are incorporated in the latest addition on Dale Street, Liverpool.

Housed in two contrasting buildings, local architects Falconer Chester Hall renovated the Art Deco Eagle Star and neighbouring 19th century Pioneer to create a single, larger space.

Initially slated as an Ibis Budget, the brand's aim of providing a one-size-fits-all room type was unobtainable within the existing architecture. "Every floor is different," comments Nick Birch, Project Architect at Falconer Chester Hall, "the ►



LEFT AND PREVIOUS PAGE: The interior design features bright colours, intricate needlework and modular seating in line with the Ibis Styles brand image of modernity



► hotel has many bespoke rooms, which you wouldn't normally get with an Ibis." As a result, those found in the roof space have notably different qualities thanks to the open ceilings.

Dealing with two contrasting façades built in different eras and with different styles was something of a challenge, but as Birch explains: "The buildings are very eclectic, so it was important that we retained the quality." Restoration of the façades involved incorporating existing features of surrounding properties, such as the Oriel-style Crittall windows on the Eagle Star, which can be seen on other Dale Street buildings nearby.

As a key route down to Liverpool's nearby docks Dale Street is a typically culture-rich environment, which was taken into account by Leach Rhodes Walker ID (LRW ID) when designing the interiors.

The entrance references both locality and the Ibis Styles brand, resulting in a high quality space with a modern and fun composition. "The design tapped into the sensory perception of colour, light and energy," illustrates Jennifer Land, Director at Leach Rhodes Walker ID.

The location acts as inspiration for the interior design, as a diluted theme of Liverpool history is littered throughout the two combined buildings. Continuing the design created by the interiors division of Falconer Chester Hall in ►





ABOVE: Each of the seven guestroom themes have taken inspiration from the world of music and fashion, with the sweeping curved wall acting as a canvas. Lighting is supplied by Chelsom, casegoods by Symphony and loose furniture by Pedrali. In the public spaces, furniture is sourced from Protocol

► the lobby, LRW ID fashioned a number of Beatles-orientated themes for the 123 guestrooms, spanning “the era mania and revolution created by a certain rock group,” says Land.

“Of the seven themes, we have taken inspiration from the locality, famous imagery, how influential the period of time was on the world of music, and even fashion. Some themes link to specific songs, or maybe depict a journey or state of mind in that era,” she adds. Subtle lighting by Chelsom combines with bold, colourful retro carpet patterns to create impact.

Each floor of the hotel occupies a different style of guestroom, from the Strawberry Fields red infusion, to the lyric-inscribed walls of

Ticket to Ride. All offer a light and bright aesthetic in keeping with the brand, as well as fluid lines and a sweeping curved wall which acts as a canvas for the theme.

Subliminal touches extend beyond graphics. For example, textures are used to create intricate patterns on furniture while needlework references key Beatles’ trademarks such as strawberries and John Lennon’s rounded spectacles.

“The brand is fun and has a sense of humour, offering unique and memorable design, with excellent customer interaction,” concludes Land. “This project is pushing hotel design forward by thinking outside the box and offering a variety of styles throughout the hotel.” ■

EXPRESS CHECKOUT

Ibis Styles Dale Street
67 Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2HJ, UK
Tel: +44 (0)151 243 1720
www.ibis.com

🛏 123 guestrooms
🍳 Breakfast buffet
🍸 Lobby bar

Operator: Accor
Architect / Interior Designer: Falconer Chester Hall (public areas, façade) Leach Rhodes Walker ID (guestrooms)
Project Manager: WH Stephens
General Contractor: John Sisk & Son
Fitout Contractor: Indecs Contracts Ltd