

OFFICE

INTERNATIONAL
MAGAZINE
OF OFFICE DESIGN
AND ARCHITECTURE

OFFICE SYSTEMS
SPECIAL ISSUE 2006

DL 350/2000 (Decreto L. 27/02/2000 art. 1, comma 1)
DCB Milano (TAVOLA RESOUSA)



9 771120 975017

INTERIORS

THE SURGERY CLINIC IN TAIWAN

Txt: Paolo Rinaldi

Project: Michael Young with
Katrin Pétursdóttir

Vetro stratificato, gradienti di colore e superfici solide in Corian® per la clinica di chirurgia plastica di Taiwan. Una ristrutturazione interna che grazie a tecnologia, estetica e igiene è riuscita a creare un ambiente ospedaliero all'avanguardia

Stratified glass, graduated color and solid surfaces in Corian® for the clinical of plastic surgery in Taiwan. Thanks to technology, esthetics and hygiene, the internal restructuring program has produced an avant garde hospital environment

L'elegante e innovativa ristrutturazione degli interni di una tra le più importanti cliniche di chirurgia plastica di Taiwan si è avvalsa delle prestazioni del designer inglese Michael Young e di sua moglie, l'artista Katrin Pétursdóttir, nonché del loro team con sedi locali. Protagonisti dell'operazione "chirurgica" di ringiovanimento globale, anche due materiali della Du Pont: il vetro stratificato decorativo SentryGlas e le superfici solide Corian®.

Un disegno nei toni del viola e del blu, creato da Katrin Pétursdóttir, è stato adottato come base per costruire, grazie a un vetro stratificato di sicurezza con inestrateo decorativo, un pavimento di 95 mq, oltre alle porte, le pareti e le partizioni autoportanti della reception. Alcune partizioni in vetro hanno un gradiente color viola sul supporto a specchio: l'uso di gradienti di colore e specchi, insieme alla tecnologia del vetro stratificato decorativo, rappresenta una novità. Le mattonelle in vetro, applicate nella pavimentazione, misurano un metro e mezzo di lato e richiedono un significativo ingrandimento del disegno originale. "Non conosco altre tecnologie in grado di offrire le stesse possibilità di riproduzione su grandi superfici in vetro" - ha commentato Katrin Pétursdóttir. Il vetro stratificato è stato usato anche per le partizioni e le porte della clinica. Differenti tonalità di colori morbidi sono state applicate su uno sfondo a specchio per rendere più discrete le partizioni che separano le sale riunione. Le superfici decorate tonalità blu e porpora da Katrin Pétursdóttir dialogano con le pareti in Corian® bianco ghiaccio, un materiale che è stato usato per le strutture di queste porte, come di molte altre, con moduli che comprendono una retro illuminazione con interessanti effetti luminosi. "L'abbiamo usato anche per gli armadi della clinica, nei pannelli della sala operatoria, nelle cucine e nei bagni" - aggiunge Michel Young. Nella clinica di Taiwan, l'igiene viaggia su binari paralleli all'estetica, grazie a materiali non porosi ed estremamente facili da pulire, ideali per ambienti ospedalieri di avanguardia.



The elegant and innovative restructuring plans for one of the most important clinics of plastic surgery in Taiwan called on the creative skills of British designer Michael Young, his wife, artist Katrin Pétursdóttir, and their local team. The protagonists of the 'rejuvenation' procedure can be summarized in two materials by Du Pont: decorative stratified glass SentryGlas and the solid surface Corian®. A design in lilac and blue created by Katrin Pétursdóttir, was adopted as the base for creating astonishing floors of 95 sq.m., the doors, the walls and the self-supporting partitions of the reception. The wonderful esthetic effect is due to stratified safety glass with a decorative insert. Some of the glass partitions have the graduated lilac shades on a mirror support: the use of graduated color and mirrors, along with the technology of decorative stratified glass, is something completely new. The glass bricks, inserted in the floor, measure 1.5 sq.m. and necessitate considerable

magnification of the original design. "I am not aware of other forms of technology that can offer the same reproduction possibilities on large glass surfaces" – commented Katrin Pétursdóttir. Stratified glass has also been used in the partitions and in the doors for the clinic. Different shades of soft colors have been applied to a mirror support to make the partitions that separate the meeting rooms more discrete. The surfaces in shades of blue and lilac decorated by Katrin Pétursdóttir contrast beautifully with the ice-white walls in Corian®. This material was used in the frames of these and many other doors with fittings that include retro-illumination which produces interesting luminous effects. "We also used this for the cupboards in the clinic, in the panels in the operating room, in the kitchens and in the bathrooms" – added Michael Young. In this particular clinic in Taiwan, hygiene travels on tracks that are parallel to esthetics, thanks to the use of non-porous materials that are extremely easy to clean, ideal for the avant-garde hospital environment.



In queste pagine, alcune immagini della ristrutturazione e decorazione di una clinica chirurgica a Taiwan, eseguita dal designer inglese Michael Young e sua moglie, l'artista Katrin Pétursdóttir. Sono stati usati due materiali della Du Pont, il vetro stratificato decorativo SentryGlas e le superfici solide Corian®. Un disegno nei toni del viola e del blu è stato adottato come base per costruire un pavimento di 95 metri quadrati. Alcune partizioni in vetro hanno un gradiente color viola sul supporto a specchio.

On these pages: some pictures of the restoration and decoration works for a surgery clinic in Taiwan carried out by the English designer Michael Young and his wife, the artist Katrin Pétursdóttir. They used two Du Pont materials, the SentryGlas stratified decorative glass and the Corian® solid surface. A design in lilac and blue was adopted as a base for a 95-square-metre flooring. Some of the glass partitions have the graduated lilac shades on a mirror support.





In queste pagine, altre immagini della clinica. Il vetro stratificato è stato applicato anche per le partizioni e le porte, mentre il Corlan® è stato usato per le pareti, con moduli che comprendono una retro illuminazione, nonché per gli armadi e altri arredi, per i pannelli della sala operatoria, nelle cucine e nei bagni.

On these pages: other pictures of the clinic. Stratified glass was used even for partitions and doors, while Corlan® was used for walls with back-lit modules, cupboards and furniture, for the panels in the operating room, in the kitchens and bathrooms.





a bestseller). The move to Hong Kong is partly to be nearer the factories that manufacture such products.

"I don't think it's anything to be ashamed of you know," he says, as we realise the prosecco was a mistake and both begin to feel queasy. "Any way of making money out of design is good news. I can make more doing this myself than if Seiko phoned me up and asked me to design a watch. I've got really good relationships with the manufacturers. I wouldn't get that in Italy."

Young, 35, studied furniture and product design at Kingston University in London and then worked for Tom Dixon for a few years, whose salvaged metal creations had inspired Young to study design in the first place. "Tom was really laid back and really philanthropic," he recalls. "He liked helping young people even though he was quite young himself at the time."

He later set up his own London studio and got his big break when he began working with E&Y. "I was so broke in those days I was living on people's floors," he says. **"Sitting on an aircraft for 13 hours getting free beer and peanuts became a form of survival."**

Appropriately, the resulting Magazine range was championed by newly launched style magazine Wallpaper, and Young found himself

touted as the design world's brightest young star. "It was on every page of Wallpaper; it was in every magazine; every shop. I equated that level of publicity with being wealthy but I was actually getting poorer at the time. It was very confusing."

Magazine gave Young his first experience of seeing his work copied by others – something that still bugs him. "It caused this whole wave across London of people doing lounge design, doing things with rounded corners. It became so fashionable that the whole of London started doing it and my work just started to lose value. The second object I did was Cappellini's Smartie – it was a round disc object, it was a revolution, the new bean-bag of the 90s. Then of course it got copied by about 30 different companies. It's like the Tree (a tree-shaped coat stand) we did for Swedese – it's copied so much now the original idea just fades into insignificance."

He recently had a similarly bitter experience when a well-known American technology brand produced a product remarkably similar to his USB Bracelet – a digital storage device that doubles as jewellery. "I read some chats on the internet and it's like, who copied who? There's this confusion, which is a shame."

Young's globetrotting life changed dramatically when he moved to Reykjavik in 1998 after falling in love with Icelandic artist and designer Katrin ↗

above: Dr James Cook, 1848, 2005
this picture: Crown Steel light, 1992

