



## RETAIL

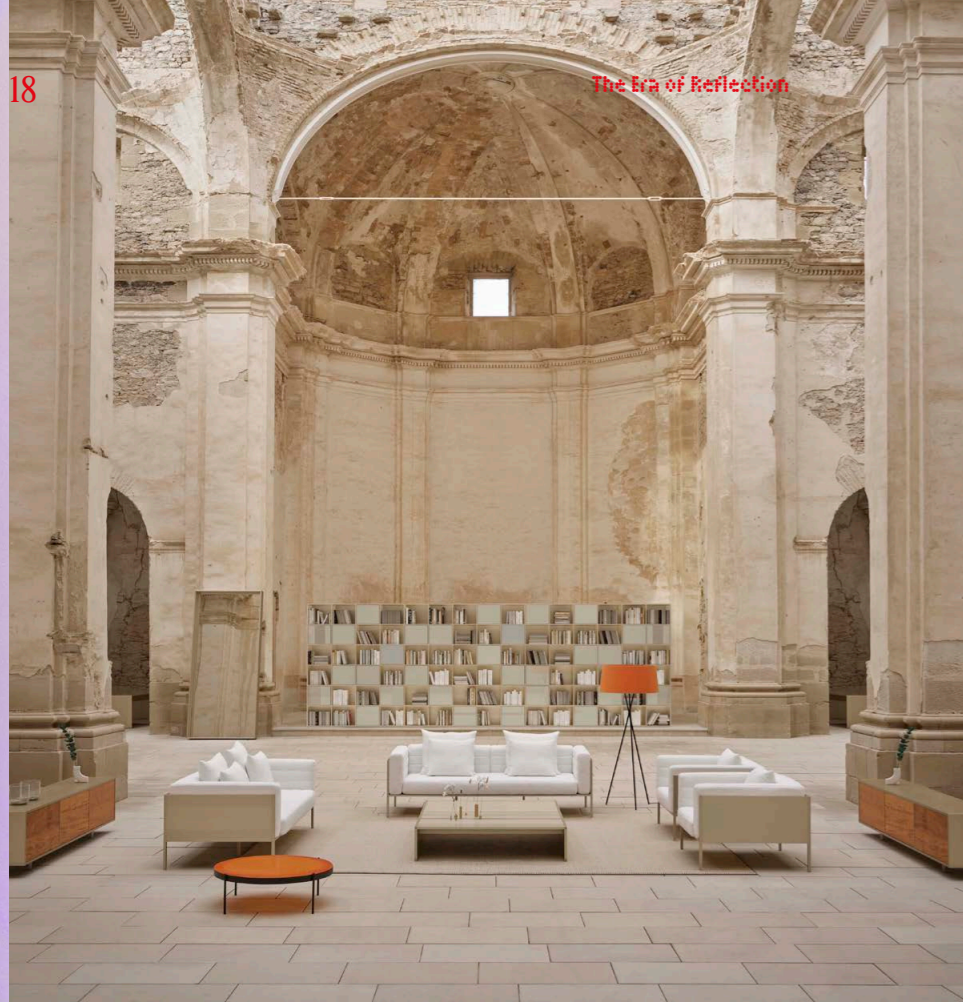
# Aesop

Architect: Nicolas Schuybroek  
Office: Nicolas Schuybroek Architects

—Lyon, France

INTERIOR  
INSPECTION

1 Belgian architect Nicolas Schuybroek designed the latest Aesop Store on Place de La République in the southern French city of Lyon. The design draws inspiration from the city and the architectural shell of the site. The historical surroundings and polished exterior create an intriguing contrast with the raw modernity inside, where a delicate touch was applied. Only essential layers of contemporary materials were added, introducing unexpected textural variations. 2 A series of freestanding elements evoke Lyon's numerous fountains: a small sink for intimate consultations and wood-veneered counters. 3 The centerpiece in the middle of the space, where staff test products with customers, was custom-made in tin and will develop its own patina over time, much like the walls. 4 The room is lined with wool felt, providing softness and sound-absorbing qualities that add warmth and domesticity to the otherwise cool-toned space. These walls will undergo subtle changes over the store's life, with tufted surfaces inevitably acquiring slight scratches, blemishes, and other marks of the passage of time. 5 In contrast to the warm walls and texture-rich ceiling, minimalist stainless-steel shelves were created to display beauty products. 6 The high ceiling is covered in untouched fire-resistant foam – a cloud-like mass rarely visible in retail settings, but kept intact for both practicality and as a nod to past functions.



Spanish brand Gandia Blasco pushes the boundaries of outdoor furniture by using anodised aluminum in gold and black for the recent 'Gbmodular' collection. While aluminum has been used outdoors before, designer José A. Gandia-Blasco Canales consistently uses it as the main player in tables, benches, lounges, and chairs. This is truly innovative. Thanks to the thinness of the material, this has become a very stylish and high-quality collection, demonstrating that aluminum is omnipresent.

GANDIABLASCO.COM



Belgian architect Nicolas Schuybroeck created a 'Signature Kitchen' for Obumex in tin: a material that develops its own patina over time. As a starting point for this design, Nicolas Schuybroeck rethought the block-like typology of a kitchen island and transformed it into a dynamic shape, resulting in carefully proportioned shifts between the sculptural blocks.

NS-ARCHITECTS.COM

OBUMEX.BE

PHOTO CREDITS: ERIC PETSCHER, THOMAS DE BRUYNE & STÉPHANIE MATHIAS





Even in wallpapers, the silver trend is evident, such as this 'Eri dessin' from the Textura collection by the brand Arte.

ARTE-INTERNATIONAL.COM

For the new Aesop Store in the heart of Lyon, architect Nicolas Schuybroeck used local tin to shape the central island in the store. Here too, the material will develop its own patina over time.

NS-ARCHITECTS.COM

AESOP.COM



Chrome and stainless steel are fundamental design elements for the bathroom. This shower head from high-end brand Cristina Rubinetteria provides solid evidence.

CRISTINARUBINETTERIE.COM



Single seat in chrome, graduation project during the Dutch Design Week in late 2023.

DDW.NL



In Belgium, Mercedes-Benz and Moncler presented a limited edition car during the prestigious Zoute Grand-Prix in the coastal town of Knokke.

Both wheels and roof were executed in chrome evoking the style of the Moncler puffer jacket.

MERCEDES-BENZ.COM