January | February 2023 -DESIGN NEWS 603 8 OF LEADERSHIP The leading business, design and product resource for the kitcher & bath trade

COLOR TRENDS • 46 CHANGING MOODS

2023 FORECAST • 42 **Uncertainty Prevails**

STYLEWATCH • 54 **Biophilic Design**

KBIS PREVIEW •72 **Products on Display** YEARS

PRODUCT TREND REPORT









Designed by Vincent Van Duysen, the Icona Classic collection from Fantini is a timeless reinterpretation of the classic tap, playing with proportions in a modern way, notes the firm. Fantini's six new PVD finishes add a tactile quality to the faucets. fantini it

Ruvati's epiStage kitchen sinks are crafted in Italy, constructed of 80% crushed granite with proprietary resins to form a durable, nonporous surface. Available in midnight black, espresso brown and urban gray, the sinks feature integrated ledges to accommodate included accessories, such as a cutting board and drying rack. ruvati.com

Sonoma Forge has launched a line of point-of-use faucets that complement the company's kitchen taps. The POU faucets are compatible with all major brands of hot water dispensers, chillers and filtration systems, says the company. Options including hot only, cold only, and hot-and-cold models in elbow and gooseneck spouts. sonomaforge.com

Available from Stone Forest are workstation farmhouse sinks with either wave front or basket weave front textures. The sinks are available with a range of accessories, including a cutting board. Carved from a single block of stone, the Wave Front is made of basalt with a honed finish while the Basketweave is crafted of Papiro cream marble. stoneforest.com









The quartz workstation farmhouse sink by Karran offers an extra-large single bowl that works well for baking sheets and large dishes, states the firm. The quartz composite sink, available in six colors, is shown here with the company's Tumba faucet, standing 27" tall with a stainless steel finish. karran.com

The Montay kitchen faucet from Pfister Faucets is sleek and statuesque with a taste of raw-edged industrial design, notes the firm. The ergonomic piece incorporates a pull-down spray head at the right height for no-reach cleanup. pfisterfaucets.com

Workstation kitchen sinks by Moen feature a built-in ledge for securing and sliding accessories to make food prep, clean up and hosting easier by allowing users to prepare ingredients and dry kitchenware right over the sink. Models are available in stainless steel as a single-bowl undermount. double-bowl undermount and single-bowl apron-front undermount. moen.com

California Faucets offers a new line of bar faucets featuring two available sizes, a simplified single-hole design and a side handle with 25 handle options to choose from. The solid brass bar faucets are available in over 25 artisan finishes, including 12 PVD finishes that come with a lifetime warranty against tarnishing. calfaucets.com

SOFTNESS AND WARMTH

On the flip side of bold choices, some manufacturers say that softer, warmer tones are increasing, shades that build a sense of personal wellness and peacefulness in the kitchen space.

"We are seeing a lot of water and botanical-inspired blues and greens - warm neutrals that feel calming and create a sense of relaxation, with a focus on personal wellness, but also wellness for the world," stresses Yacavone. "There are a lot of biophilic materials being used in this space, like tactile woods and dynamic composites."

"Designers and clients continue to be drawn to warmer color palettes that include earth tones and neutrals," McBroom says. "We continue to see the trend for matte black finishes, but on more traditional architectures."

"Kitchen finishes tend to adhere more closely to the cabinet hardware finishes, so we see a lot of matte black and warmer brass or gold finishes," concurs Zimmer. "Sometimes we'll be asked to do a bold color on a faucet handle - but that's usually for bathrooms."

COHESIVE DESIGN

With open floor plans, the kitchen sink workstation is in full view and must fit into the overall design of the space. This also allows for an opportunity for this area to stand out, manufacturers say.

"The open plan kitchen and ones with darker hues create the perfect dramatic stage for the kitchen faucet to become the centerpiece of the design – show stopping – especially with the pop of color," stresses Meli.

"We're seeing consumers put more consideration into their faucet and sink pairing," remarks Drutis. "There is more emphasis on having a unit that seamlessly works together, both physically and visually. Homeowners are seeking a more cohesive, coordinated look when it comes to the water place so that it better complements the overall design of their space."

"A more modern, open layout often requires strong focal points in the kitchen to help visually separate spaces," Drutis adds. "A taller faucet or apron-front sink can provide a visual anchor within the kitchen. Additional prep zones, like a butler's pantry or home bar, allow separate space for a supporting sink and faucet to aid with entertaining and meal prep, while keeping people out of the main kitchen action."

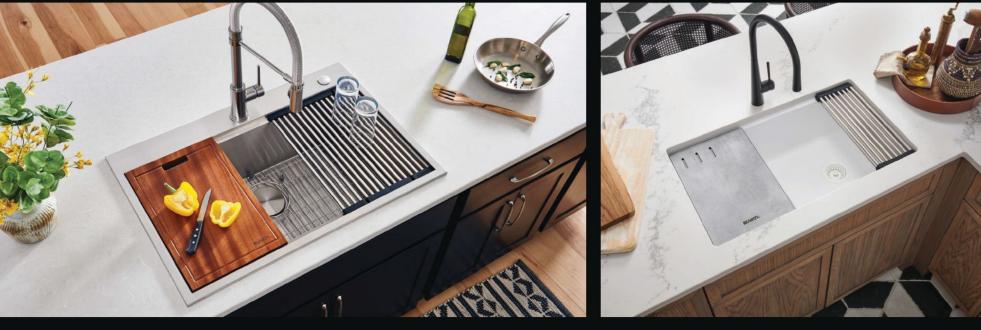
"Kitchen design trends tend to shape trends for faucets and sinks as people look for cohesive spaces," says Silverstein. "The sink is typically the heart of the kitchen - from meal prep to clean up - so integrating it seamlessly into the aesthetic of the space, while maintaining functionality, is key."

ENHANCED FUNCTION

People want sinks and faucets that not only work well together aesthetically, but do more, manufacturers say.

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