

KYOTO CALLING: WHY JAPAN'S NEW GENERATION OF CREATIVES ARE SETTLING IN THE ANCIENT CAPITAL

# MONOCLE

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## Out on the tiles

Italy [BISAZZA FOUNDATION]

On 8 June a 6,000 sq m cultural space will open at Bisazza's HQ in Montecchio Maggiore near Vicenza. The Bisazza Foundation is a stunning ode to the family mosaic company's creative past, showcasing, under one roof, each of the collaborations that it has commissioned for the Salone del Mobile over the years. The space has been designed by Italian architect Carlo Dal Bianco with subtle references to Palladio, whose villas pepper the local landscape. The Foundation will also host seasonal exhibitions, the first of which is John Pawson's Plain Space and the British architect will design an installation in celebration of the Foundation's ribbon-cutting. — HM [fondazionebisazza.it](http://fondazionebisazza.it)



## Paper village

China [MUSEUM]

Chinese practice Trace Architecture Office (TAO) has recently completed this charming series of slanted roof, single-storey timber huts in the Yunnan province of China. It is in fact a handcrafted paper museum situated next to Xinzhuang village, which has a long tradition of artisanal paper.

The houses in the village where paper is made will also open their doors to visitors so the process can be seen in action and hence the museum was designed as a mini village. Using local materials – volcanic stone, timber and bamboo – TAO also enlisted the help of local craftsmen in the museum's construction. In addition to rooms charting the history and craft of the local tradition, the interconnecting space is home to a small bookstore and café. — HM [t-a-o.cn](http://t-a-o.cn)



## American idols

Portland [SHOP STOCK]

Perhaps best known for its period light fixtures, Schoolhouse Electric has grown to encompass a whole range of household products. Operating from a century-old warehouse in Portland, Oregon (with a new shop in New York), Schoolhouse's iconic lighting and home goods embody a uniquely American aesthetic. Looks aside, the company's founder Brian Faherty sees practicality as a key value in the brand's products. "An object is measured in its use. Beauty is a virtue but not a substitute for functionality." — BA [schoolhouseelectric.com](http://schoolhouseelectric.com)

- 01 White ash basket:** Hand woven from Appalachian white ash harvested in New England.
- 02 Ion lamp:** With its industrial cast-iron base, this porcelain lamp comes with an old-fashioned red twisted cord and an incandescent bulb.
- 03 Hammer screwdriver combination tool:** Five-in-one combination tool crafted for Schoolhouse in Pennsylvania.
- 04 Reclaimed hickory cutting board:** Repurposed from richly grained slabs of American hickory, an ideal serving piece for canapés.

