

Decorex 2010: and Fab Interior Decor and Design Ideas

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Yesterday, I went to Decorex in Cape Town. I wandered around for about three hours - it was really interesting and there was loads of stuff - you should go - It's on at the CTICC (Cape Town International Convention Centre) until 27 April, 2010. While there, I spotted quite a few things that caught my eye in terms of interior decor, and, none more so, than these beautiful tables and stools made by Willard of Feeling African. They are powder coated and really just beautiful. I chatted with Willard for a while who is the owner of Feeling African and he told me that he makes corporate gifts and promotional items to order, as well as one-off commissions, art pieces and decor items. He also arranges wire and bead art skills training workshops.

These tables are sturdy and strong - they sell for R650 and the stools for R350 each - I think they're really cool.

"The most important thing for me is to make useful innovative products that create employment opportunities for township-based artists. I would describe my work as contemporary, but with a traditional slant. I am an African, after all."

Willard Musarurwa
Feeling African
Owner and Principal Artist

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Further on my travels around the CTICC (Cape Town International Convention Centre) I spotted Fundi, who also create innovative and exclusive decor products using local employment. They make the most extraordinary lamps shades, lamp bases and woven products.

You can also find their website at www.fundidesigns.com.

You cannot pass by the Cobra stand as their shower display and shower fittings are awesome.

"Cobra's Aurora and Vivanno Chromotherapy shower roses transform a simple shower into a visual delight of light and colour. An infra red remote control panel mounted on the shower wall allows you to change the glow of the rain spray to nine colour effects - cool, relaxing hues that fade from one colour to another - all of which help to energise or relax the body."

You really have to see this. It's out of this world.

Another favourite stand of mine was the Western Cape Furniture Initiative (WCFI). Here you will find young students and professionals showcasing their designs. These are some of the eye-catching furniture designs on display. I love these small stepladders - really clever - I so need one while I'm decorating my little house. Who needs to keep falling over a big industrial stepladder in the house. These are funky and clever - and make for interesting pieces of furniture you can actually display.

I also really liked Sandrine Henry's "Remember Chair" and Mark Bain's "Marshall Pod" Sofa System (www.sofa-studio.co.za).

There were heaps of people hovering around the G*Grass stand at this eye-catching kitchen. G*Grass design and manufacture easy to open, gentle and silent closing drawer systems. Literally, you finger touch the draw and it opens or closes. The kitchen was fabulous if you like this type of super modern living.

Then Greenstuff had an absolutely awesome stand which showcases various companies' eco-friendly and "green" products, designs and green living ideas. I spent ages on this stand and spotted some great ideas for "living harmlessly" on our beautiful world. I loved these lights and wire things by Heath Nash. He is so talented they way he creates art from our everyday throwaway things into cool recycled stuff for the home. This is stuff that would end up as landfill! Heath says: "People are generally quite shocked that those things are made from rubbish, which I find really pleasing. That shows that I'm obviously doing it right and that's exactly the point I am trying to make! It is possible to re-use this of plastic straight away and take it to a sophisticated level."

You can see all the suppliers and what they offer on the Greenstuff website at www.greenstuff.co.za.

I am also a fan of Haldane Martin's interior design products since I first showed his Zulu Mama chair on my website a couple of years ago. You will also find Haldane Martin's designs on the Greenstuff stand - I am crazy about this Ostrich feather and stainless steel lampstand and lampshade.

Â Decorex is a really fantastic event to go to if you're looking for design ideas and interior decor for your new house or even if you're renovating your old house and looking for great ideas for your decks, hardwood floors, flooring systems, carpets, rugs, granite and quartz worktops for your kitchen, paint, tiling, luxury fabrics, oh and I love the Plantation Shutters as well.Â There is even fine art stuff you can drool over.Â A lot of it is really high-end though that some of us can only dream about - but mixed in between you'll find those affordable gems.Â Â Â