## Earth Anthology



Journeys through the world of *Clay* 



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## Earth Anthology

**SALONE 2022** AGAZINE

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It has now been 3 years- since our latest exhibition at Salone in 2019. The world has changed. A pandemic has brought people back to their homes, their closest friends and relatives: a War in Europe has pushed trade markets to unseen soaring costs of prime materials. The world has changed and so do we. Where in 2019 our intentions to make a quicker shift to a durable and green economy were honorable, they have become necessary and definitive in 2022. At Atelier Vierkant, the switch from natural gas as prime source for heating the ovens, to wind and solar energy in combination with bio steam generated electricity has come into an accelerated process.

This year, our theme focuses on the Earth Anthology: we make a journey though the world of Clay with its particular finishes, forms and shapes. At Salone we launch the Facet Series in which sharp lined patterns constitute the DNA of the Form; subtle Engobe accents put into vigor the lined constellation of the sides of the vessels. Furthermore, we present the RVB and RVC collection from designer Roel Vandebeek. Lightweight, these planters, half wire, half clay, are easily moved around and therefor particularly convenient for apartments, limited spaces or anywhere with a specific need for flexibility. The transparency of the wire leaves room for light to shine through, provides airiness and spaciousness to an extent where even the ground underneath the pot is take into consideration. As an extent of the Ricarda collection - the Clay Laboratories present the Empain Series with CLG, TW, SP and LR/LRC with golden and silver lining accents. Finally, the Embrace Seat and Bench are the expression of a perfect marriage between two natural components - massive Douglas Fir wood blocks and natural Clay.

Through all the 30 years of existence, it has been our aim to bring to the fore the people we work with every day, as well as the clients we strive for, project after project; in this review we are pleased to present the work of a couple of Ambassadors, and the ways they translate our work on the field. Green Wise has been a longlasting Japanese partner who brings the clay works into new modern concepts of ancient practices like gardening and arranging flowers; the development of the Maruta bench is exemplary for the way they seek the New. On the other hand, the Italo-French landscape architect Michele Michelizzi brings colour and life inside the private sphere of the interior of different Haussmannian settings in the centre of Paris. Finally, London and Utrecht based landscaper Stefano Marinaz plays with new colour and textures finishes in his designs. Durability has been at the core the business ethics ever since founder Willy Janssens started to produce the Flemish Sewing

pots in the early '90's. The idea was to reinvent a tradition that dates from the 18th and 19th century. The focus lays into the manual production of durable products that make the bridge between generations. Well before sustainability and durability became a marketing issue -Willy produced items that give a longlasting pleasure. Instead of investing into 'greenwashing' which has become a major problem in the whole manufacturing industry, we strive to make products that withstand the test of time. We encourage our clients to buy less - but to spend wisely in architectural beauty.

## Alexander Place — *London*

Stefano Marinaz already designed a number of muchloved gardens for clients in South Kensington, a collection of little gems in London's museum quarter. With its clean lines and lavish planting, this project is no exception.



Photography: Alister thorpe

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A brick wall already enclosed one side of the site, and the architects installed an attractive red cedar fencing to complete the sense of privacy and enclosure. The fence at the garden's far end screens a useful storage area reached by a door concealed within the structure of the fence.

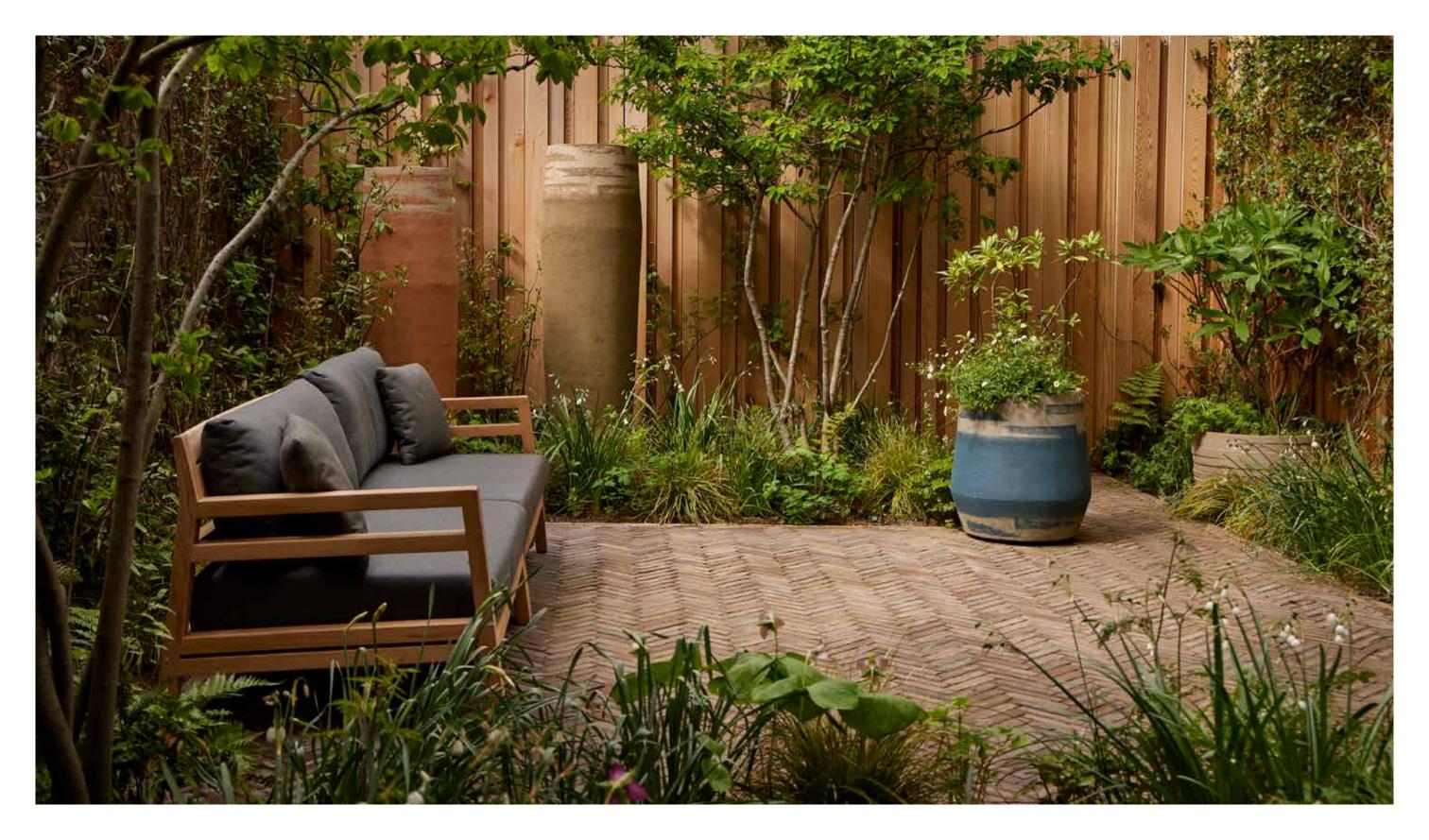
Stefano mirrored the mellow tone of the garden wall in handmade bricks from Vande de Mortel in Belgium, laying them in a herringbone pattern to create a path leading to a terrace at the garden's far end. He made this terrace into a generous seating area by installing an L-shaped Ethimo sofa. The greys and blues of its upholstery and cushions marry with the colours of Gigi, an Atelier Vierkant pot placed like a punctuation mark at the sofa's end. Planted with dwarf irises, Geranium 'Rozanne' and sweet-scented Daphne, Gigi resonates in its turn with the blues of a favourite painting hanging in the kitchen overlooking the garden.

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Pots by the same maker stand tall behind the sofa, and against the fence in one of the beds. Unplanted, their flowing contours draw the eye like sculptures in the garden. Marinaz converted a fifth Atelier Vierkant pot into a simple fountain, to fill the area immediately below the steps from the house with flashes of reflected light and gentle sounds.

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The architects gave a lot of thought to a planting plan that would guarantee

colour and scent throughout the year on this north-facing site. Amerlanchier lamarkii is a hard-working tree, and three multistem specimens bring ethereal blossom to the garden in spring, and vivid colour in autumn. They also planted a Clerodendron trichotomum in a pot by the garden door. Its vanilla scented flowers will be followed by showy blue berries in autumn. As it matures, the summer jasmine scrambling over



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the fences and the wall will grow dense, filling the air with another layer of scent. The beds are packed with a lush medley of perennials, from sweet-scented violets in spring to ghostly Japanese anemones in late summer. Evergreen grasses such as Luzula nivea, and semi-evergreen ferns will ensure that the garden looks lush throughout the winter.

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