

Design



Left, Mauricio Obarrio and Juan Peralta in their Palma de Mallorca studio, with, in the background, one of their 'Núvol' table lamps

Below, table tops and lamp bases in progress. The duo are working on a series of exclusive terrazzo patterns

Mallorca has a longstanding connection with stonework, including terrazzo, used as flooring in its palazzos and traditional homes. Taking this as a point of departure, Contain began collaborating with local tile manufacturer Huguet, a heritage company founded on the island in 1933, to design a series of exclusive terrazzo patterns for tables and lamp bases. Different colours, spacing and stone inlays make nearly every final product unique, and clients can request customised designs to fit their needs.

Glass-blowing is another craft that once flourished on the island but has seen a downturn in recent years. For a project with Vila d'Amunt Singular Suites, a hotel due to open this summer in Palma's old town, Contain is working with Gordiola, a glassworks that dates back to the early 1700s, to produce a series of pendant lamps that combine an amber hand-blown glass disc with a brass suspension and an LED rounded bulb.

Also coming up for Contain are two other hotel projects, one in the community of Portitxol, outside Palma, which recently commissioned a batch of the duo's 'Connector' coffee tables, and another in the US, for Spanish hospitality group Riu. ✪
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Contain

○ Mallorca

'Mallorca's natural resources and traditions, such as stone and glass-blowing, are a central inspiration in our designs,' say Juan Peralta and Mauricio Obarrio, who launched Contain, a lighting and design studio, in Palma de Mallorca in 2017. The pair, partners in work and life, moved to the island in 2016 from Argentina, where Peralta had built a career as a creative director in advertising and Obarrio in industrial lighting design. The move has been fruitful – in two years, Contain has made its mark, with steady commissions including hotel projects, restaurants and private homes.

All the duo's products are made in their studio, located in one of the most picturesque alleyways in the heart of Palma's old town. It is also there that they are opening a store, in a loft-like garage space, where they will present work by other Mallorca-based artists and designers, alongside their own line of tables and lighting. Contain's output mixes new technology with the handmade, ranging from lamps that use 3D-printed parts along with natural stone, to terrazzo tables with colourful metal legs and brass fittings, and LED bulbs combined with hand-blown glass fixtures. The elegant lines call to mind art deco design while retaining their own, definitively contemporary Mediterranean style.

