2016 DESIGN TRENDS
COMMERCIAL ARCHITECTURE

IMAGE COURTESY OF MANIFESTO ARCHITECTURE; PHOTOGRAPHY © KYUNGSUB SHIN
INSPIRATION

Embrace new **DESIGN SOFTWARE** to foster creativity and innovation.

Articulate materials in **MOTION**.

Blur the boundary between **DIGITAL** and **PHYSICAL** realities.

Promote an **INTERACTIVE** and more **CREATIVE** approach to design.

APPLICATION

Design interiors with undulating surfaces.

Use lightweight facade material to create dynamic forms.
The use of 3D computer programs to assist in the creation of architectural designs has transformed commercial interiors, allowing for more creative, dynamic space.

The **SND Fashion Store**, designed by 3GATTI and located in Chongqing, China, features 10,000 hovering elements resulting in a dreamlike, undulating landscape. Using a software that simulates the physics of real materials, the designers imagined an elastic ceiling that was pulled down by the weight of the various objects sold in the store. The material used to sculpt the suspended ceiling was determined by fire regulations: a very thin white translucent fiberglass. Although this was chosen for its fire resistance rather than its visual impact, it enhances the design with its reflective quality.
EXTERIOR FACADE

Architects’ innovative use of lightweight materials at the facade of commercial buildings allows for flexibility in construction and formation of sculptural forms.

The **Zhong Huan Plaza Art Center**, located in Shi Jiazhuan city, China, boasts twisting perforated metal paneling wrapping a glass box. The facade has the appearance of being in continuous motion, relating back to speeding vehicles on the adjacent highway. The design celebrates the moments where the interior and exterior connect, and the texture and visual interest created by the architects’ innovative use of materials also helps to weave a very large building into its surrounding urban fabric.

*Images courtesy of CAA*
INSPIRATION
Connect to the earth’s NATURAL ELEMENTS.

BLUR the lines between interior and exterior spaces.

CHANGE the way we work within our cities

APPLICATION
Construct office and meeting space within city parks and green space.

Design a hybrid landscape where the natural and the built cohabit.
Designers are beginning to build office spaces within urban parks, not only providing an area where people can work, but also allowing interaction with the natural environment.

TREExOFFICE, designed by London architecture studio Tate Harmer, takes integration with the outdoors to another level. Wrapped around a tree trunk in east London’s Hoxton Square, this translucent pod provides a temporary office space intended to encourage workers to visit the borough’s parks. The raised pavilion is anchored to the ground by stilts and encircles the trunk of a tree, made from compressed paper and timber and is enclosed by rows of translucent plastic and polycarbonate slats that provide views into the surrounding greenery.

Images courtesy of Tate Harmer
INTERIOR

Incorporating trees and vegetation within office interiors increases workers’ quality of life and productivity, while providing cleaner air and cooling space with natural shading.

Located in Mexico City, the Antara I Corporate Building boasts an array of trees along each south corridor while harnessing abundant natural daylight. The office program was designed in the simplest way possible given its function, with the central core containing the building services, and the thirteen levels of office space having wall to wall windows and access to vegetation. Since completion the exposure to natural elements have impacted employees, with significant productivity gains, less absenteeism, less health problems, and a better sense of well-being.
INSPIRATION
Connect back to a city’s CULTURE, HISTORY, and COMMUNITY.

Provide buildings that CHANGE FROM DAY TO NIGHT.

Design to ENERGIZE and ACTIVATE surroundings.

Embrace ILLUMINATION as an ARCHITECTURAL ELEMENT

APPLICATION
Use perforated screens on commercial facades.

Integrate a lighting design that transform the buildings appearance at night.
PERFORATION

Use of perforated screens are an adaptable and durable way of creating a distinctive visual identity or dramatic design element.

This McDonald’s restaurant featuring a perforated golden facade and a grand spiral staircase was designed by Dutch firm Mei Architects to replace “the ugliest building in Rotterdam, Netherlands”. The former kiosk in the famous Coolsingel neighborhood is now a glowing pavilion, with a majority of exterior glazed and providing views through the structure. Like the historical buildings in the area, the pavilion features a richly articulated façade, carried out in one single material: gold anodized aluminum. With the application of various degrees of perforation, the façade depicts a crowd of people on Coolsingel, representing the community in which it is built. The structure therefore transforms from day to night, glowing to showcase the perforated image.
LED LIGHTING

Architects are beginning to integrate LED lighting into facade designs, allowing for unique imagery while meeting high requirements on energy efficiency.

The Mondeal Square Building in Ahmedabad, India, designed by Blocher Blocher India Pvt. Ltd, boasts the largest LED media façade in the entire country. During the day, the striking structure of the curtain façade defines the two buildings, conveying a sense of minimalistic elegance and transparency. At night, LED bands dominate the facade, displaying abstract dynamic patterns. The bands can be lit completely individually, in color sequences or silhouettes of moving figures. The differently sized, large square openings of the rear façade also illuminate, along with furniture, staircases and vegetation, energizing the urban space.
INSPIRATION

Embrace **Simplicity** in design.

**Activate** and shape sidewalk experience.

Increase **Visual Excitement** by introducing rhythm and repetition.

Apply **Texture** to material finishes.

APPLICATION

Incorporate geometric patterns into interior commercial design.

Enhance plaza spaces with patterns incorporated into the facade.

IMAGE COURTESY OF FILD DESIGN THINKING COMPANY
INTERIOR

Minimalist geometric patterning is a growing trend in retail design, providing a subdued backdrop to showcase merchandise while still being aesthetically interesting.

This **PODOLYAN Store** located in Kyiv, Ukraine combines intricate patterns with a monochromatic color scheme. The color pallet is directly taken from the branding color of the PODOLYAN brand: black with light and dark shadows of gray. The floor and wall tiling mirror each other, each composed of a simple diamond geometric pattern. The minimalistic and subtle lines of the delicate furniture are in contrast with dark interior finishes, while the rack design reflects the geometrical arrangement of the tiling.

IMAGES COURTESY OF FILD DESIGN THINKING COMPANY
EXTERIOR

INTEGRATING PATTERNS AND REPETITIVE ELEMENTS INTO FACADE DESIGN HELPS TO NOT ONLY DEFINE SPACE, BUT CREATE A UNIQUE CHARACTER TO ANY BUILDING.

THE NEWLY DESIGNED M PLAZA, LOCATED IN SEOUL SOUTH KOREA AND DESIGNED BY MANIFESTO ARCHITECTS, FEATURES A FACADE CONSTRUCTED OF DYNAMIC VOLUMES AND CONTRASTING ELEMENTS. THE GLASS CURTAIN WALL PORTIONS ARE ETCHED WITH A CERAMIC FRET PATTERN INSPIRED BY STACKED CUBES, WHILE A GRID OF VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL EXTRUDED FRAMES AND WINDOWS DIVIDE THE FACADE INTO A SET OF PUZZLE PIECES EACH 500MM DEEP. THESE TWO ARCHITECTURAL LANGUAGES GIVE THE FACADE A GREATER LEVEL OF DEPTH AND DYNAMISM, WHILE PROVIDING AN EXCITING BACKDROP FOR THE PLAza BELOW.

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THANK YOU
CREDITS

ALL PHOTOS AND CONTENT USED WITH PERMISSION

DESIGNERS FEATURED:

- 3GATTI
- CAA
- Tate Harmer
- Sordo Madaleno Arquitectos
- MEI Architects
- Blocher Blocher India Pvt. Ltd.
- FILD design thinking company
- Manifesto Architecture