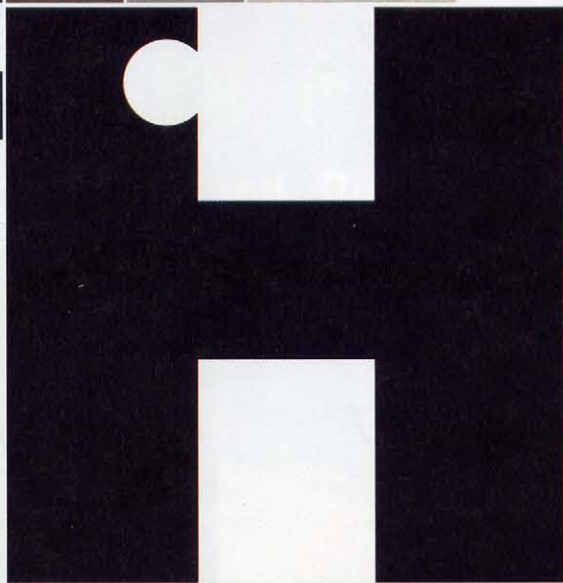


trends gossip observations

coneye



ippe Starck is so famous he doesn't even need to be nice to his anymore. At the recent launch of his new building and a range for Duravit and Hansgrohe he spent most of his attention likening the company heads to the grumpy old critics on the TV Appet Show. He reserved special ridicule for Duravit head Mr Kook, saying, "Mr Kook is very straight - he wants his trousers red, like a child," and slugged off his shoes. But perhaps the best laugh at poor Mr Kook's expense is his shiny new building - Starck designed a giant toilet into the front facade.



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cheesy Italian outfit Gumdesign was one of the winners at the recent Swiss in Cheese + International Creativity Competition. Organised by Swiss Tourism and the Emmentaler cheese company, Gumdesign was a winner in the graphics section with its Helvetica Emmentaler typeface. The Swiss in Cheese competition awarded prize money totalling €20,000 and also had categories for short films, web animation and photography. They obviously take their cheese very seriously in Switzerland.

TECTURE

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I've Belated thanks to The newspaper for recommending a mention to icon as the ideal Christmas arts desk included us in their list of about ideal pressies. The only other mention under architecture was the Phaidon World Architecture, which costs £19.95 whereas an icon subscription only £9.92. For details, see the insert at the end of this issue, visit our website icon-magazine.co.uk or email subscriptions@icon-magazine.co.uk



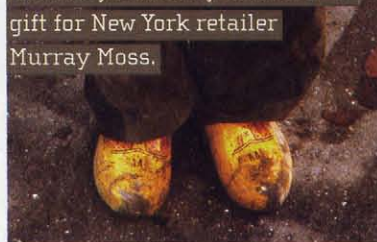
rats All-female Swedish design group Front seem to be suffering from rodent confusion. According to our in-house vermin expert, the photo of their "rat-gnawed" wallpaper in preview [icon 017] actually features a gerbil.

Apparently rats have hairless tails.

cracker Thomas Heatherwick always makes the best Christmas cards. This year's is 28 1p stamps (the value of first-class delivery) glued together into a pine cone shape and dipped in resin.



clogged Bas den Herder, who helps Maarten Baas set fire to other people's furniture (see pages 54-60), swears by his traditional wooden clogs. "They keep your feet dry, so they stay warm," he says. We asked Baas and den Herder whether they'd consider smoking a pair and they said they'd already done it as a gift for New York retailer Murray Moss.



plink Daniel Libeskind is getting over being sidelined at Ground Zero by designing a piano. Schimmel Pianos is producing a Libeskind-designed grand piano of black lacquered timber inlaid with titanium. It's 19 feet long, and both Prince and Sting have ordered one. The \$300,000 price tag hasn't put off Danny from getting one himself - it's just too big for his Manhattan flat.

deadline extension You now have an extra month to enter our business card competition (see the December issue). Entries should be in by February 1. Details at www.icon-magazine.co.uk

design and decoration awards 2005 last call for entries This year, our parent company, Media 10, is organising the D & D awards. Judges include Times journalist Lucia van der Post, House & Garden editor Sue Crewe and Jerwood Prize winners Barber Osgerby. Entrants can register on the website (www.designanddecorationawards.co.uk) where full details of the judging criteria can also be found. Alternatively, email sarah@media-ten.com or phone 01992 570 030. Deadline for entries is March 18. Good luck!