



**Radio Activity by Gemma Roper,
London, UK**

Amid the increasing popularity of online music streaming services accessed via a cool computer screen, an imaginative new device with an invitingly tactile interface gets users to engage with technology on an instinctive level. With Radio Activity, designed by Gemma Roper, the experience of consuming music becomes physical again. The internet-enabled radio communicates with music streaming service Spotify to play music selected by tempo, measured in beats per minute. Users move the single dial up or down the stick to select a slow or fast tempo, much as they would a metronome; the radio responds by playing a random selection of slower or faster songs. Working to bridge the gap between emotion and electronics? A sound idea indeed.

gemmaropcer.com

**ELEMENTARY
ELECTRONICS**



THE EDIT

Away from multifunctional products and user interfaces that boast a host of accessories and extra features, new designs in consumer electronics simplify and pare down while retaining future-facing functionality. Hardware is hidden away; embellishments, if they exist, prioritise performance and ease-of-use. The result is thoughtful technology that proves less is more.



**MP 01 mobile phone by Jasper
Morrison for Punkt, Lugano,
Switzerland**

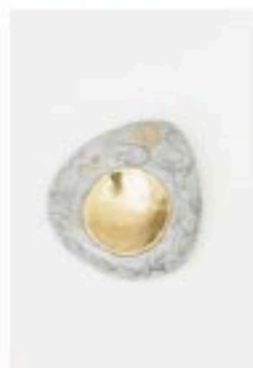
Its functions stylishly reduced to the bare minimum, the MP 01 mobile phone proves that simple is smart. There are no Twitter alerts, no Instagram likes, no Facebook status updates or invitations. Instead, the device limits communication to talking and texting, essentially stemming the flow of constant interruption in which most smartphone users are swept along. With its stripped-back interface, there is also no need for a confusing series of navigation keys or menu systems. That sound you hear? It's simplicity calling.

jaspermorrison.com — punkt.ch

**Mineral Potential by Yixing Fang,
London, UK**

Industrially manufactured materials pair with traditional craft techniques in a collection of modern pottery by Central Saint Martins graduate Yixing Fang. Fang takes inspiration from Tongling in eastern China, a city known as the country's ancient bronze capital. Famed for its prolific deposits of mineral ore, and its history of mining, smelting and processing copper and bronze, the city has seen incredible growth in mining and industry, Fang explains. However, this growth has been accompanied by a decline in ancient metal handicrafts and artisan metalworkers. With Mineral Potential, Fang uses Tongling's industrially produced minerals and metals to create platters and vessels that imitate traditional forms of Chinese pottery, such as double-handled vases and octagonal dishes. The collection's pieces are future artefacts that marry the city's industrial present with its rich cultural heritage, shaping new traditions for generations to come.

fangyixing.com

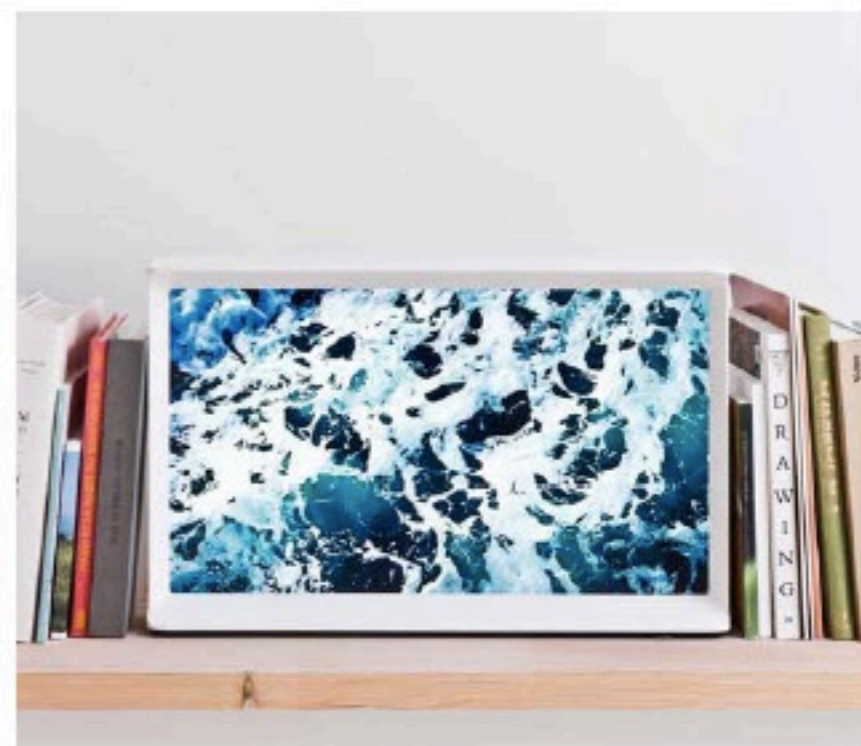


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**Serif TV by Ronan and Erwan
Bouroullec for Samsung,
Paris, France**

Resembling a piece of furniture rather than the now-common ultra-flat, ultra-anonymous black TV screen, the Serif television set reclaims its place in the household. The screen is encased in a slim structure that flares out at the top and bottom to form an uppershell and a stable base; a fabric panel on the back hides ports and wires, keeping things neat. Four removable tubular legs easily attach to the unit when required. In 'curtain mode', the televised image disappears behind an electronic veil so users can break through the visual noise.

bouroullec.com — samsung.com



Edit

The creative industry round-up featuring the new design, retail, lifestyle, material and technology stories that you need to get up on

Words: M Astella Saw