

Press release - For immediate release



Cenote and **Cenote Lava**. Patricia Urquiola's new textured washbasins for Agape. In fireclay or lava stone, a magnetic presence in the bathroom.

Governolo di Roncoferraro (MN), February 2023 - **Agape's** well-being space is enriched with the surprising textural vibrations of two new circular countertop washbasins, **Cenote** and **Cenote Lava**, designed by **Patricia Urquiola**. A new magnetic presence in the bathroom, which Agape envisions as an architecture of the senses modeled on the desires of its inhabitants.



An ancient natural cave and source of fresh water, for pre-Columbian cultures **the cenote was a place of mystical significance. Now, Urquiola draws inspiration from it for an evocative interpretation of the wash basin.** The two product series experiments with natural materials - **fireclay for Cenote and lava stone for Cenote Lava** - and different manual processes that make each piece a unique, distinctive, and precious object. **The unpredictable small imperfections in craft and material** speak a language deliberately at odds with the homogeneity and perfection that often define contemporary aesthetics. Deeply attuned to Agape's vision, Urquiola's design celebrates that human component in a synthesis of thought and skilled craftsmanship, generating an object of living, timeless beauty.

Cenote

Made of natural or dark refractory clay molded by hand on the potter's wheel, this is a washbasin that expresses itself outside the usual decorative paradigms. The craftsmanship of the refractory leaves the outer surface deliberately rough: in a play of contrasts, it then reveals a polished and glazed interior in **striking colors that evoke the transparent, warm white and blue shades of Mexican water basins.**

Cenote's formal composition draws on an architectural vocabulary: a 4-centimeter-high collar, reminiscent of skirting or crown molding, emphasizes a division between the geometries of the base below and the basin above.



Cenote Lava

This is a monolith of Sicilian lava stone, worked with a CNC system and then fired at 1100°C, which conveys a rough and powerful appeal. The contours of the basin evoke visual and tactile emotions, further highlighted by the almost sculptural craftsmanship that brings the circular shape out of the stone. The basin recalls **an essential architectural composition**, characterized by a truncated-conical base that detaches the basin from the countertop, emphasizing its volumes.

The dimensions

Cenote and *Cenote Lava* come in two sizes: 420 millimeters in diameter by 182 millimeters in height and 450 millimeters in diameter by 124 millimeters in height.



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Press Release
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Notes for editors

Agape

Agape has been synonymous with design culture for 50 years. The brand, founded by the Benedini family, offers hundreds of products that meet every functional need in the bathroom. Washbasins, faucets, furniture, bathtubs, lights, and accessories designed by masters of contemporary design and architecture. Timeless objects that naturally develop an intense dialogue with any space, becoming elements of Agape's architectural vocabulary. International by nature, Agape also has deep ties to Mantua, the Renaissance city and extraordinary architectural workshop where its headquarters are located.
agapedesign.it

Patricia Urquiola

Patricia Urquiola studied architecture and design at the Polytechnic University of Madrid and at Milan Polytechnic, where she earned her degree as a student of Achille Castiglioni. She founded her own studio in 2001, specializing in industrial design, architecture, art direction and strategic consulting. She serves on the Advisory Board of Milan Polytechnic and the Scientific Committee of Triennale Milano, and is an honorary member of Altagamma.
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