

GALENA “One with nature ...”

Autumn 2014



People have bequeathed many things of beauty throughout history. Palaces, cathedrals, pyramids, aqueducts, ... to name but a few. Many of them have stood the test of time over the centuries. Yet the fight against ‘the elements’ is usually an unequal one. There is little to be done to fight against the force of nature. And it is exactly this Tour de force that constitutes the fundamentals of this collection.

The latest ‘Galena’ collection is inspired by a deserted city*. A city where nature has overgrown the apparently indelible footsteps of the people. The seemingly indestructible constructions of steel and concrete appear to melt with the organic apparitions of nature. The result is a pleasant and surprising mix in which the landscape looks to have undergone a metamorphosis. The cool and geometric has moved aside to make way for warmth and colour.

Extensive collection

Accordingly, this extensive collection is exceptionally varied. It includes no fewer than eight different patterns, each with its own distinct colour palette.

One of the basic patterns is Unit, a concrete tile pattern in which you can clearly see the joints. There are 11 different colour references, and typical of this print is that (irrespective of the colour) each time you experience the weathered look so characteristic of concrete.

Impress has the same concept, with the concrete tile displaying an organic ornament. There is a sometimes daring hue, but softened by its almost twilight appearance. Impress is available in five different colours.

The same concrete tile appears again in this collection, but with small abstract bloom patterns growing over the tiles. The total effect is almost plain because of the fullness of the pattern. Certainly if you view from a distance. Ivy is the name of this pattern consisting of six different colours.

Living concrete

Cresta is extremely attractive, possibly due to its sobriety. A clearly identifiable and even tactile concrete print. The rough relief is clear to see. You can just see a subtle line in a striking colour, but very modest and with a hint of gloss. All the options are open with this choice. You also have a wide choice from no less than 11 colours.

The following three patterns from the collection all have very distinctive designs.

A variation of the Cresta concrete print is the striped Picta. Coarse lines run over the rough relief. The lines have a natural course. A little nonchalant, just like nature. The subtle gloss of the lines gives you a feeling of depth. Picta is available in five colours.

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Traditional, or maybe not?

Difficult to describe but highly attractive is Element. The starting point is still the rough ribbed concrete pattern suggesting a diamond shape. The play of lines continues everywhere, but is highlighted here and there so the diamond form becomes visible. There are no hard contours, true enough. You must view Element in a sufficiently large format, that's when the print comes into its own. Five colour combinations are available.

The initially most traditional pattern in the whole collection is the combination of the ribbed concrete motif with a figurative print of branches, leaves and flowers. The leaves also have the appearance of concealing tropical birds. The print and the relief attractively blend together. It is particularly the Eden colour palette that is daring and loud, but remains chic. A traditional and modern wallcovering. Modern or classic, it's how you see it.

Artistic 'blurring'

The most frivolous and colourful reference in the collection Galena is Bloom. Through the now familiar ribbed concrete pattern appears a rich flower meadow. No recognisable traditional flowers, but a 'blurred' image. The suggestion of a multi-coloured flower bed. It's as if you deliberately left the lens unfocused.

** Galena is the largest mining town in the south-east of Kansas (Illinois). It was initially inhabited by native American Indians, until largely French immigrants arrived to prosper from the natural riches in the ground. They built lead mines and excavated 'Galena', after which the town was named. This is a natural mineral and an important constituent of silver. Even the Romans and Babylonians knew of this type of crystal, and the Egyptians used it to make beads. Today Galena is particularly popular among tourists because of its rich history, authentic architecture and beautiful natural surroundings.*