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076 NPG Often wrongfully eschewed in favour of its more well-known cousin, the National Portrait Gallery has undergone a massive renovation and has flung open its doors to visitors once more

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FLOS

With the Skynest pendant, Marcel Wanders revisited the suspended dome. His Skygarden, which some years ago inverted and subverted the ornate ceiling with its interior plaster decoration, has become a perennial best-seller.

Skynest is a lighter affair, and features two new variants, Skynest Motion and Skynest Ceiling. A typical pendant light shape, the luminaire features a central core and what initially looks like a lampshade. However, the illumination is not emitted by a central source but the elements that form the structure of the lampshade: LED strips covered in fabric – what Wanders describes as 'weaving streaks of light'.

The luminaire comprises 24 LED light sticks covered with a two-tone, recycled polyester textile. The light is emitted from one side only, the white one, while the colour of the fabric remains visible on the outside. The intersection of the various light elements with 48 other coloured rods on both sides creates the overall effect.

'Delicate textile tubes, integrated with LED lights, are woven like threads along the structure of the lamp creating a unique surprise element that challenges the archetype of bulb lighting,' says Wanders.

There are now three variants and four colours: anthracite, replacing the classic black; almond, replacing the traditional white; brick, and tourmaline blue. The Motion variant is designed to appear to float in the air, supported by a stem that matches the colours of the lampshades. The stem, attached to the ceiling and stretched towards the floor by a counterweight, is almost invisible due to its minimal thickness.



> LOUIS XIV

DAVIDE GROPPI

Even the most devout minimalist likes a crack at a chandelier, but Groppi nevertheless keeps it deconstructed and sparse. The central pendant light source is clean lined – a polished gold stem holding a simple black diffuser – uplighting the seemingly random crystal drops, but also providing an element of downlight.

Again available in 2700K (228lm down, 616lm up) and 3000K (245lm down, 716lm up), the 14W LEDs have a high colour rendering of CR90.

'A small light machine, with direct and indirect light, multiplies the glass reflections to create a wonderful effect of magnificence, the contemporary transposition of Versailles,' says Groppi.



ASINTOTO

DAVIDE GROPPI

Asintoto is Groppi at his characteristically minimal and graphic. A metal interior pendant which, in its Gravity Black finish, plays with the idea of a black hole. It emits



only indirect light using 18W LEDs, in two warm white colour temperatures 2700K (output 2610lm) and 3000K (2680 lm). Also available in slightly more obtrusive Blue Fluo and Orange Fluo finishes, it has a diameter of 400m and depth of 300mm. davidegroppi.com