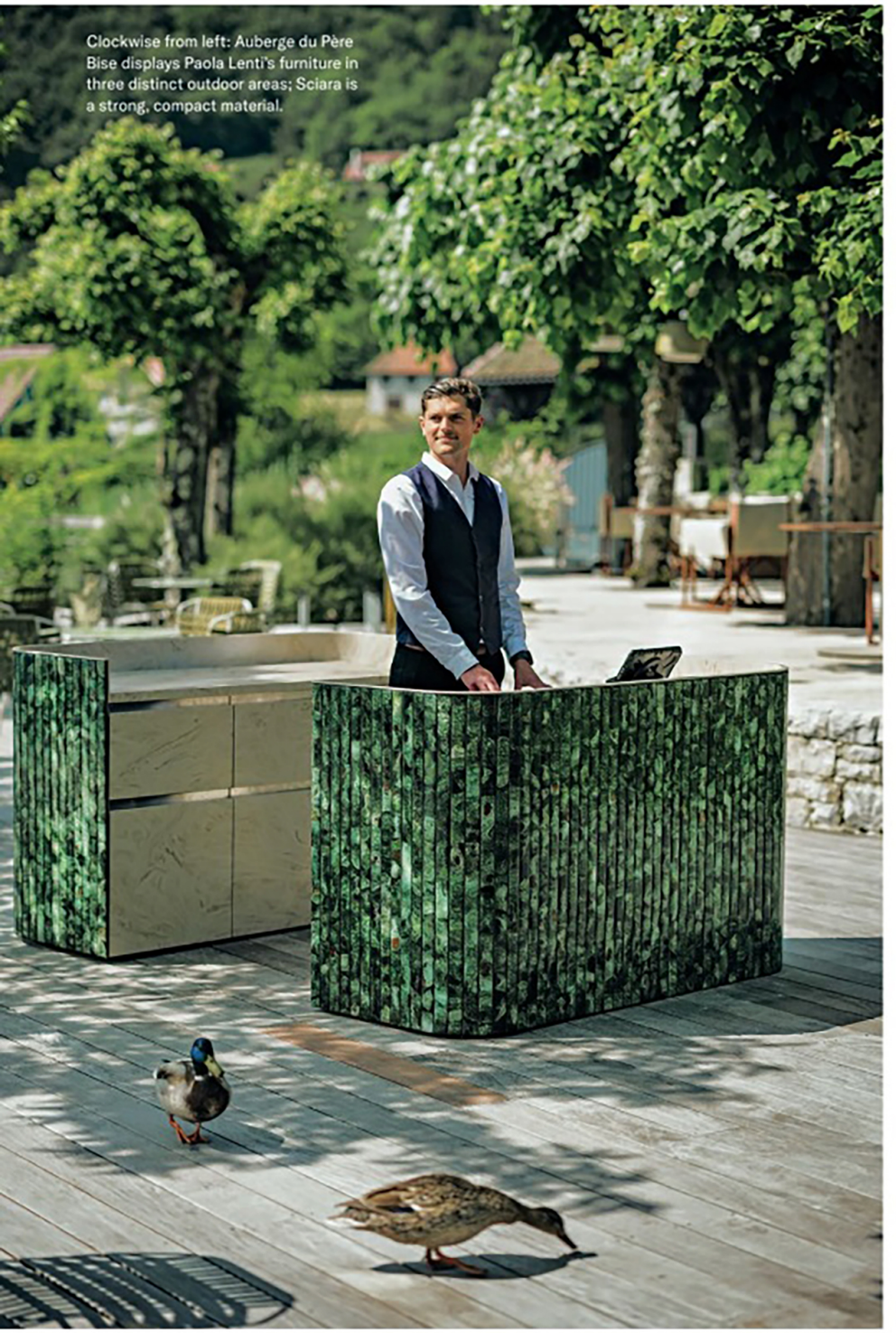
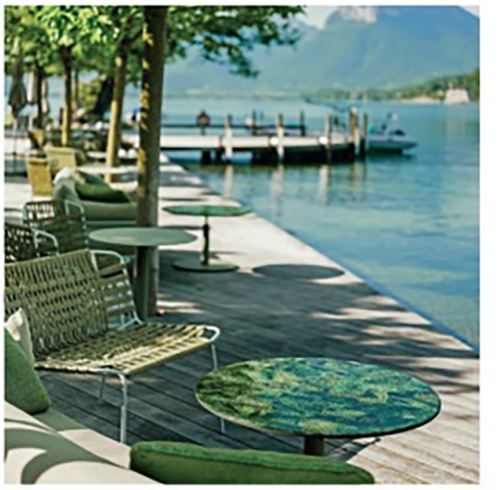


Clockwise from left: Auberge du Père Bise displays Paola Lenti's furniture in three distinct outdoor areas; Sciara is a strong, compact material.



Paola Lenti's Sciara transforms Sicilian lava stone, creating a luminous material that moves effortlessly from furnishings to architecture. *by* CHARLOTTE TRATTNER

On the Surface

There are times when the most insightful creations are born from two minds, a fusion of dynamic and creative thought. Born in 2015 from the minds of Paola Lenti and Sicilian designer Marella Ferrera, Sciara began as an experiment with lava stone, a material deeply connected to Sicily's landscape. Dark, porous and irregular, this handcrafted stone fused with glass, creating a dynamic color that was somehow transparent and luminous, allowing the material's imperfections to remain visible.

Over the past decade, Sciara has been produced in tiles in a range of shapes and sizes, ensuring no two products are alike. What was initially developed as a tabletop has had its versatility amplified, serving as a side table and a console. Over time, the talented team behind Sciara has evolved beyond the scale of furniture to become a true architectural surface, as seen through Paola Lenti's Alfabeto Cromatico. From mineral tones to intense green hues, the fused glass allows colors and unique nuances to create a dynamic composition for a dialogue between furnishings and the surrounding landscape.

Sciara's relationship with its surroundings is evident and visually compelling at Auberge du Père Bise, set on the shores of Lake Annecy. Here, vertical Sciara elements transform a custom-made bar counter, reflecting the waterfront, lake and natural setting. From tabletop to architectural cladding, Sciara thus becomes a design material capable of bringing matter, color and architecture into dialogue. With its elemental character and luminous material, Sciara finds new expression in contemporary interiors. *3026 N. Miami Ave., Miami, paolalenti-miami.com*

PHOTOS BY FRANCK JUERY