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Kitchen: Designs on Tea

22 architects to unleash their creativity on the humble coffee-and-tea service

NEWSWEEK INTERNATIONAL

April 21 issue — Coffee, tea or cutting-edge design? Alessi, the upscale Italian housewares manufacturer, has called on 22 architects to unleash their creativity on the humble coffee-and-tea service—the reprise of a successful experiment some 20 years ago. The limited-edition sets, which will cost from \$5,000 to \$50,000 when they become available next month in New York, made their debut at the Milan furniture fair last week

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FAVORITES was the red glass service from Dutch designer Wiel Arets. All four pieces have the same size, to abolish the "hierarchy" between the drinks and what's used to soften them. French architect Jean Nouvel used a rich chocolate color to pay homage to coffee in his slender set. And placid, smooth sea creatures move across a wavelike tray from design duo Ben Van Berkel and Caroline Bos. Happy drinking.

—Nicole Martinelli

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