

Laminex®

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Forecast 2020



# OUR CONTRIBUTORS

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Surveying interior design from around the world is a key part of what Laminex does to ensure that it delivers the contemporary surface materials you need. And once a year, the Laminex Forecast brings these insights together to help you anticipate future movements in colour and texture.



**Catherine Valente**  
Laminex Design Consultant

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Catherine has been an interior designer for more than 20 years and is the founder and creative director of Uneath Interiors. In developing *Beneath the Surface*, Catherine drew on this depth of knowledge and experience, as well as intensive research and monitoring of design movements around the world. The palettes of Laminex decors she curated to support the forecast reflect our desire for connection to nature and a balanced life.



**Mark Scruby**  
Editorial Consultant

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Mark is the Director of Infinite Shapes, a content consultancy specialising in architecture and design. He has 15 years' experience in architectural publishing and is a former editor of *Houses*. For the past 10 years, he's been helping brands translate their insight into engaging stories for their customers. Mark collaborated with Laminex to bring together the conceptual and practical aspects of the trends forecast, for print and digital communications platforms.



**Natalie Turnbull**  
Stylist & Art Director

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Natalie is a Melbourne-based stylist and art director. Inspired by the ways that form and function can be used to communicate an idea, her approach combines spatial awareness with an innate understanding of material and form. Her work is notable for a crisp, minimal aesthetic that allows its subject to speak for itself. Natalie worked closely with Laminex to bring the concepts and decors of *Beneath the Surface* to life.



**Lillie Thompson**  
Photographer

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Lillie is a Melbourne-based photographer specialising in still life and interior photography. She is known for creating particularly emotive imagery, with a deceptively simplistic approach and natural affinity for light. Lillie worked with Natalie and the Laminex team to capture the essence of each of the trends and showcase featured Laminex decors. She used varying lighting techniques and applied her distinctive style to deliver photography that creates genuine emotional connection.

# BENEATH THE SURFACE

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The annual forecast from Laminex presents a beautiful palette of emerging colours and textures that promise to bring us closer to nature.

As the pace of modern life gets faster, our yearning to connect with nature grows. We see it in the rise of the wellness industry and the increasing emphasis on spiritual and mental health. We see it in the push to make technology more intuitive and human. Through this we look for colours, textures and shapes that celebrate the energising spirit of the natural world. Beneath the Surface finds them in our planet's vast oceans, and the places where land meets sea.

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Arch wall Laminex Alpine Mist, rear wall Laminex Peruvian Clay, foreground Laminex Pearl Grey & arch feature Dulux Gold Pheasant.

The 2020 forecast has been built around the theme, Beneath the Surface, with emerging colour trends curated into four palettes of

Laminex decors – Calm, In the Shallows, Deep Below and See the Light – that evoke the hues and shades of the ocean.

## CALM

The colours of quiet serenity.

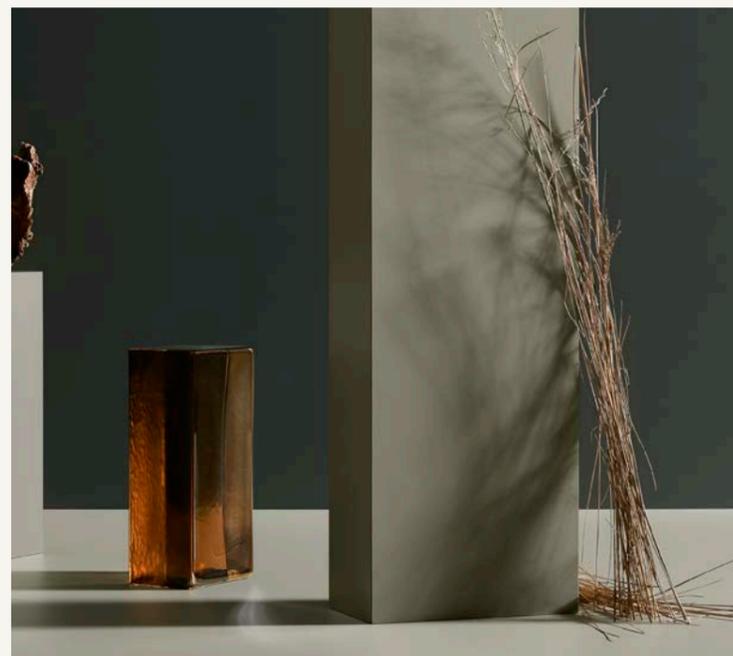
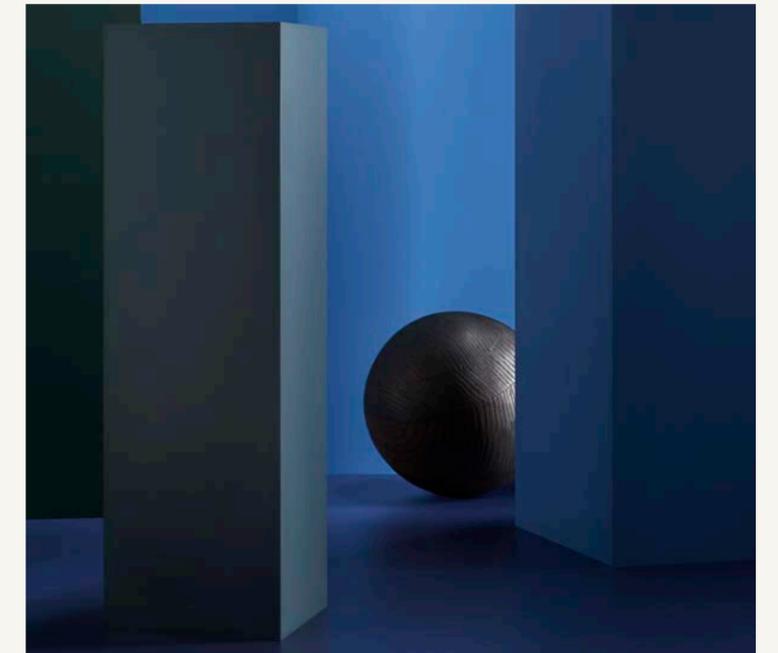
- INTRO >
- PALETTE >
- THEMES >
- HIGHLIGHTS >



## DEEP BELOW

The strength of dark colours.

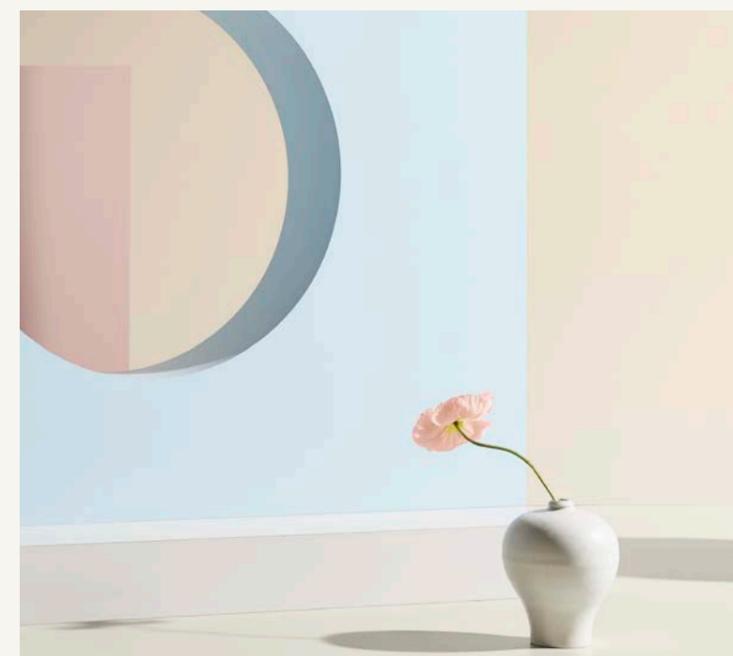
- INTRO >
- PALETTE >
- THEMES >
- HIGHLIGHTS >



## IN THE SHALLOWS

A direct connection with nature.

- INTRO >
- PALETTE >
- THEMES >
- HIGHLIGHTS >



## SEE THE LIGHT

A fresh burst of positivity.

- INTRO >
- PALETTE >
- THEMES >
- HIGHLIGHTS >



# CALM

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Calm brings a sense of serenity. It's a place to pause, take a breath and let the pace of modern life slow to the rhythm of the natural world. The palette evokes the serenity of a perfect beach, with warm neutrals, muted pastels, soft veins and subtle metallic accents that challenges traditional colour pairings.

Arch wall Laminex Pearl Grey, arch feature Laminex Brushed Titanium, rear wall Laminex Silver Grey, foreground Laminex Peruvian Clay, pillar Laminex Alpine Mist, disc Laminex Brushed Titanium & plinth Dulux Fantan.

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# THE PALETTE

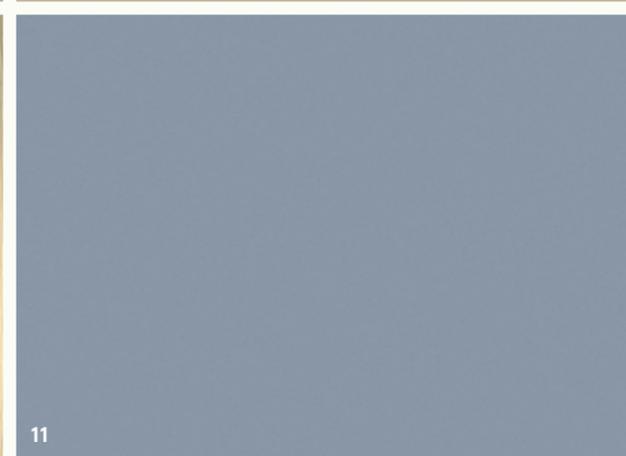
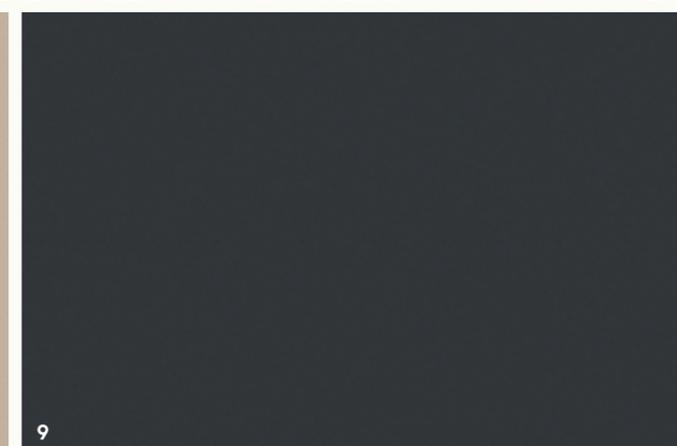
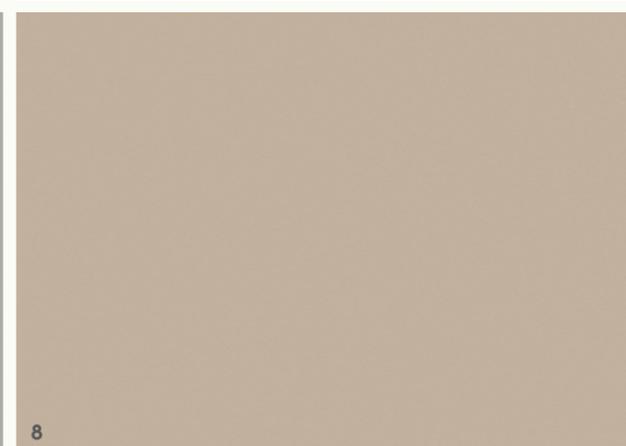
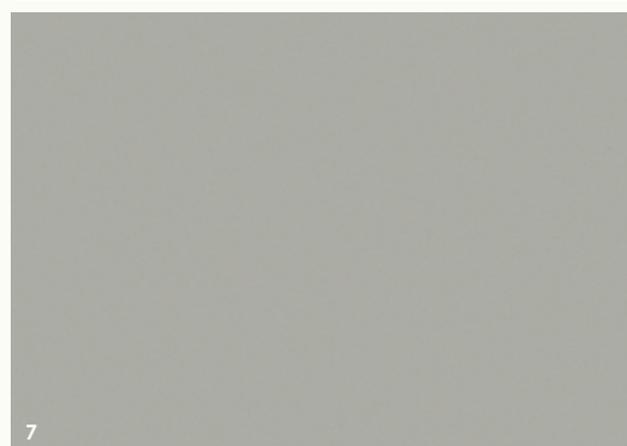
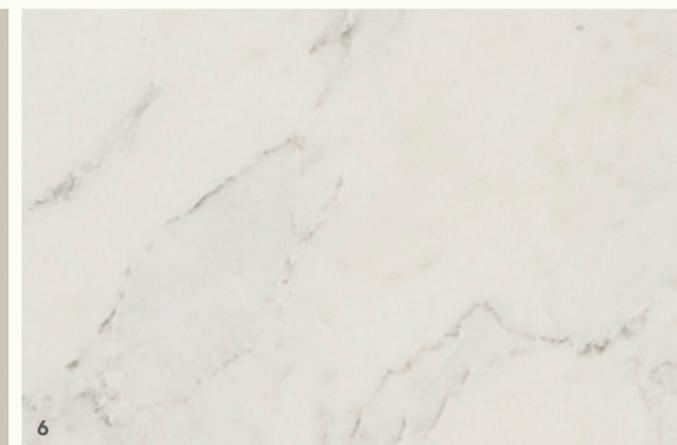
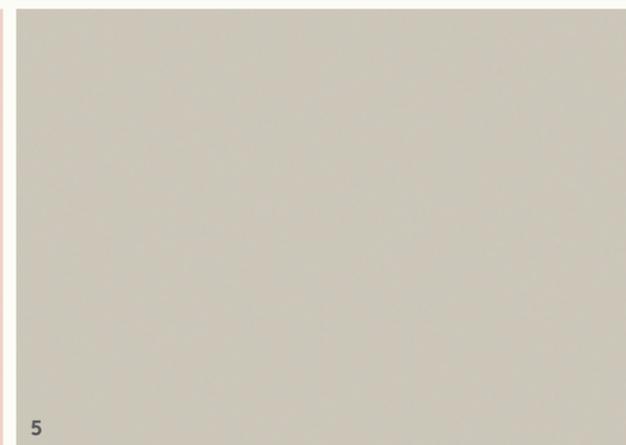
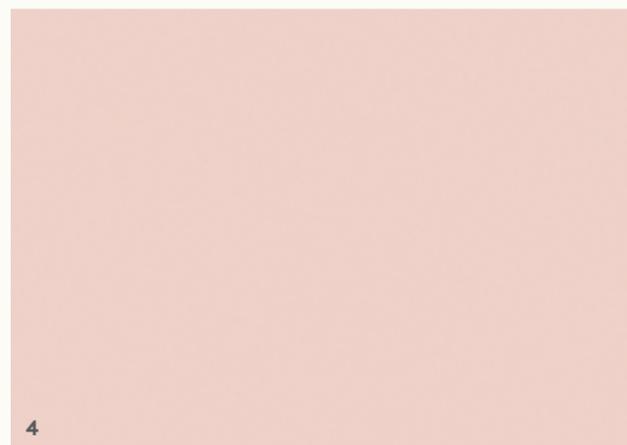
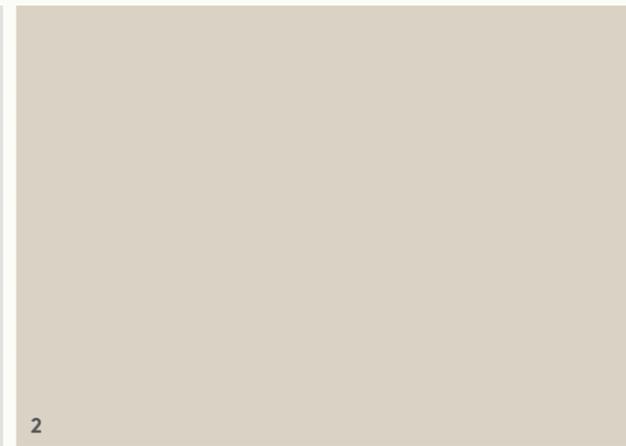
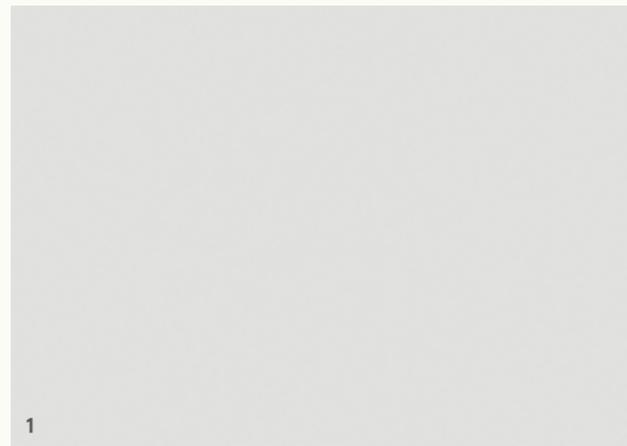
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The colours have a faded quality to them, with grey undertones providing a muting influence. Gentle shifts in tone evoke the transient blues, greens and pinks we see in the sea and on the horizon. They're anchored by warm enriching neutrals, with low-sheen metallics creating subtle points of light.

## Palette Key

- |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Silver Grey | 2. Alpine Mist       |
| 3. Spinifex    | 4. Just Rose         |
| 5. Pearl Grey  | 6. Avenza Bianco     |
| 7. Pewter      | 8. Peruvian Clay     |
| 9. Terril      | 10. Brushed Titanium |
| 11. Steel Blue | 12. Weathered Ash    |

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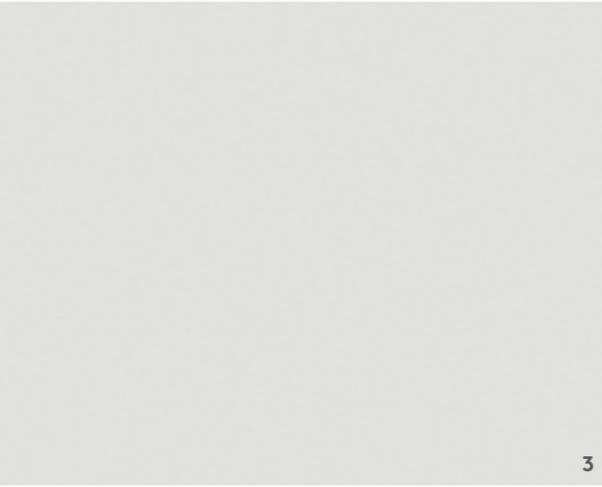
# CALM 1

Creamy neutrals bring warmth but also provide opportunities for contrast. Chalky layers of colour and mixed silhouettes give a dreamy feel.

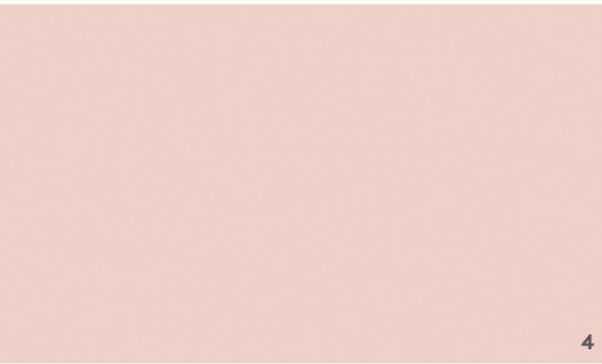
1



2



3



4



5

## Palette Key

1. Laminex Pewter
2. Laminex Avenza Bianco
3. Laminex Silver Grey
4. Laminex Just Rose
5. Dulux Gold Pheasant

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Image features Laminex Pewter & Laminex Avenza Bianco.

# CALM 2

The textures are shaped by nature, with fibrous fabrics and cracked and peeling surfaces bringing a handcrafted, warming character.

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## Palette Key

1. Laminex Peruvian Clay
2. Laminex Alpine Mist
3. Laminex Pearl Grey
4. Laminex Brushed Titanium
5. Dulux Fantan

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Image features Laminex Peruvian Clay.

# CALM 3

Calm challenges traditional pairings, combining warm neutrals with cooler tones, mixing them with muted pastels, to create a palette of warm and cool expressions.

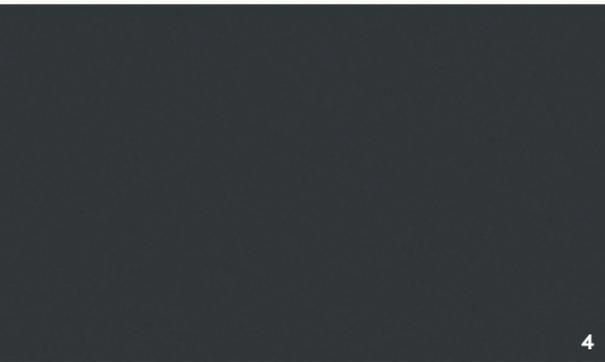
1



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3



4



5

## Palette Key

1. Laminex Steel Blue
2. Laminex Weathered Ash
3. Laminex Spinifex
4. Laminex Terril
5. Dulux Hint Of Lavender

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Image features Laminex Steel Blue & Laminex Spinifex.

# PALETTE HIGHLIGHTS

This palette reflects both contemporary and classic interiors and is uplifted by texture and tactile surfaces with the influence of natural stone, sustainable items or fabrics.



Laminex Peruvian Clay & Laminex Alpine Mist Bianco.



Cabinetry and benchtop Laminex Spinifex, Island base Laminex Carrara Marble. Tiento Tiles splashback, Linear Standard handles.



Laminex Pearl Grey.



Laminex Silver Grey.

# IN THE SHALLOWS

—

We feel an increased desire to reconnect with nature, a responsibility to care for the environment, as an innate response to the constant presence of technology in our lives. In the Shallows gives expression to this feeling through a rich and raw palette of greens, browns and dark woodgrains inspired by the natural world.



Wall features Laminex Green Slate, foreground & small plinth Laminex Seed & large plinth Laminex Possum.

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# THE PALETTE

The colours are dominated by greens and browns – the stunning graduated shades of seaweed and algae, and the textured soils that lie at the ocean’s edge. Some may find these organic colours dirty and confronting, but they represent a perfect balance of water and land. They are the background colours of life on earth and bring a new expression of neutrality.

## Palette Key

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Seed          | 2. Stipple Hemp  |
| 3. Paper Bark    | 4. Possum        |
| 5. Bayleaf       | 6. Pearl Grey    |
| 7. Green Slate   | 8. Espresso      |
| 9. Fossil        | 10. Natural Teak |
| 11. Jarrah Legno | 12. Plex Cupro   |

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# IN THE SHALLOWS 1

These are truly nature-inspired tones, perfect for either an organic or urban feel interior. This combination anticipates another key trend - the contrast of cool and warm decors.

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## Palette Key

1. Laminex Seed
2. Laminex Possum
3. Laminex Green Slate
4. Laminex Natural Teak
5. Dulux Priory

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Images features Laminex Green Slate and Laminex Seed.

# IN THE SHALLOWS 2

Grey undertones in the neutral decors give this palette a slightly muddy, but beautiful and calming character.

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## Palette Key

1. Laminex Paper Bark
2. Laminex Pearl Grey
3. Laminex Fossil
4. Laminex Plex Cupro
5. Dulux Hancock

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Images features Laminex Paper Bark and Laminex Fossil.

# IN THE SHALLOWS 3

The tonal gradations and contrasts here echo the mutation and movement of living material. Pushing the balance towards the organic tones in this way amplifies the nature-inspired style.

1

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## Palette Key

1. Laminex Espresso
2. Laminex Stipple Hemp
3. Laminex Bayleaf
4. Laminex Jarrah Legno
5. Dulux Warm Woollen

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Images features Laminex Espresso and Laminex Bayleaf.

# PALETTE HIGHLIGHTS

Green hues are the perfect decor for 2020 pushing the balance towards organic tones which amplifies the nature-inspired palette.



Laminex Green Slate.



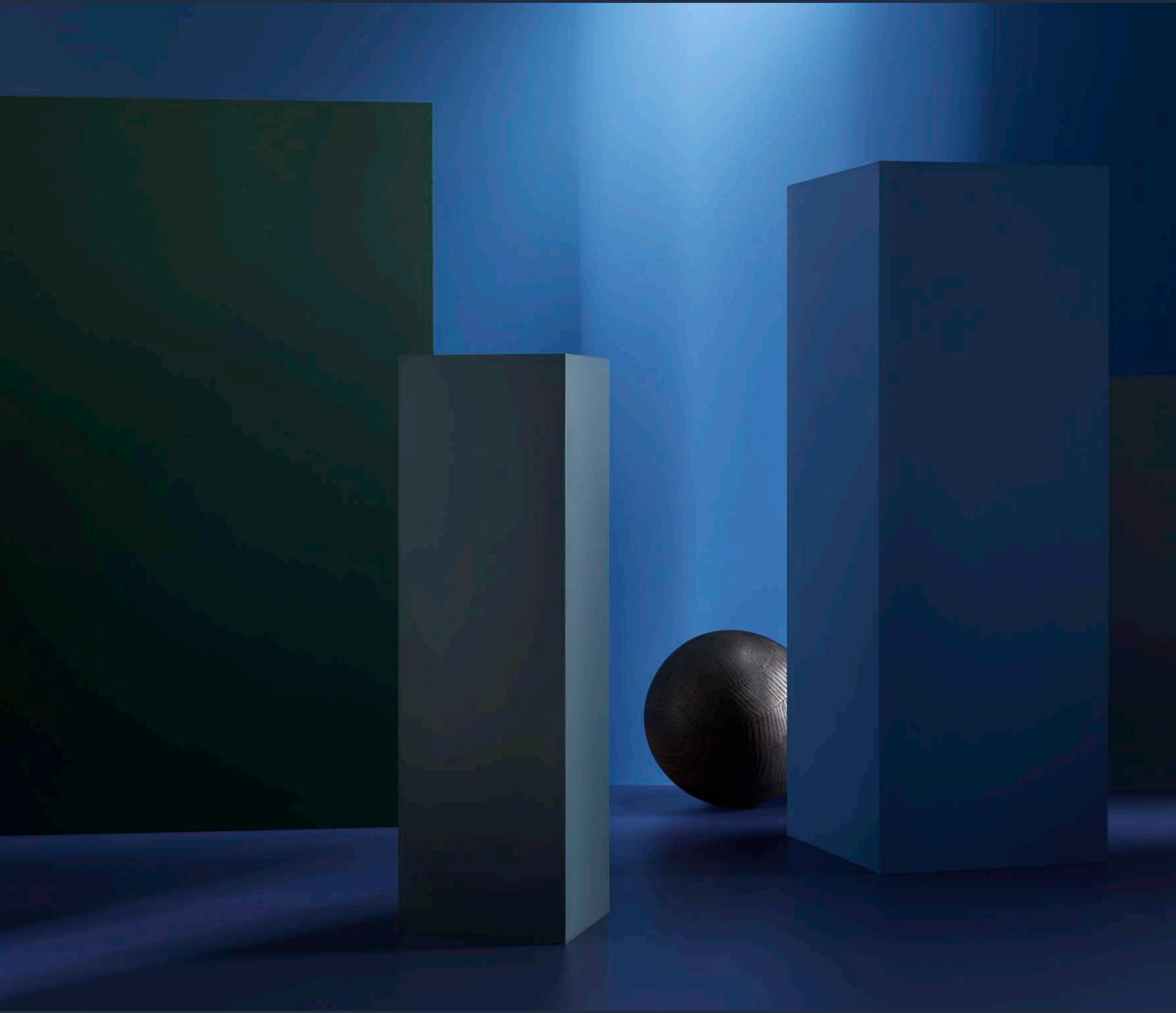
Cabinetry features Laminex Delana Oak and base cabinetry is Laminex Possum. Benchtops and splashback is Laminex Limed Concrete.



Laminex Chalk White.



Laminex Possum & Laminex Green Slate.



## DEEP BELOW

—

Taking a deeper dive beneath the surface, we find our true selves, and a greater sense of strength and resilience can be discovered. At a time when worries about the environment, and social and political unrest can feel overwhelming, this inner strength is more important than ever. Deep Below celebrates resilience and inner strength with confident combinations of deep blues, dark greys and shades of black.

# THE PALETTE

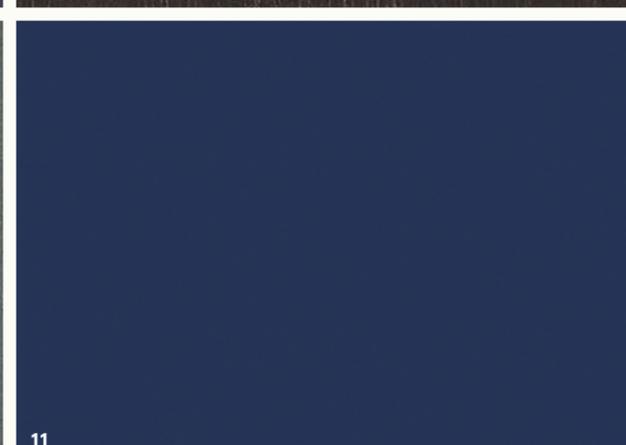
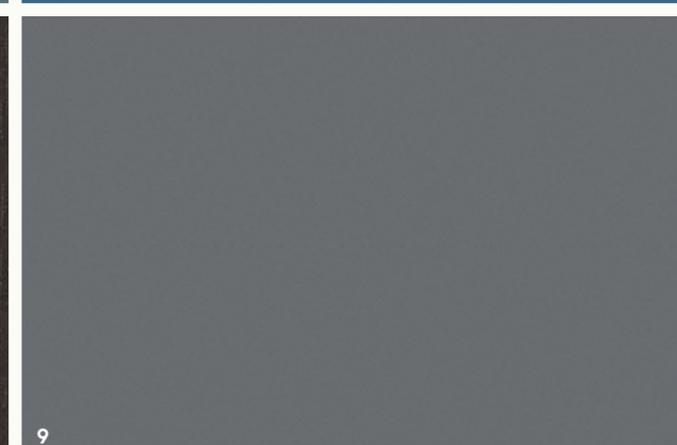
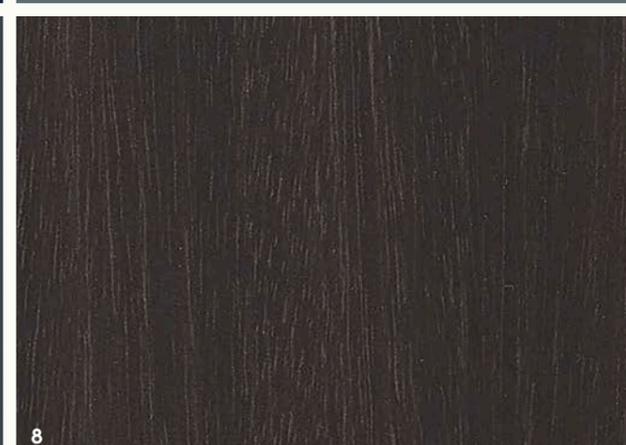
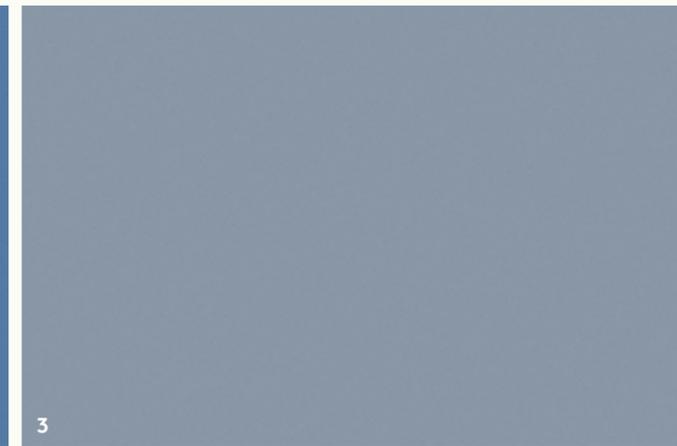
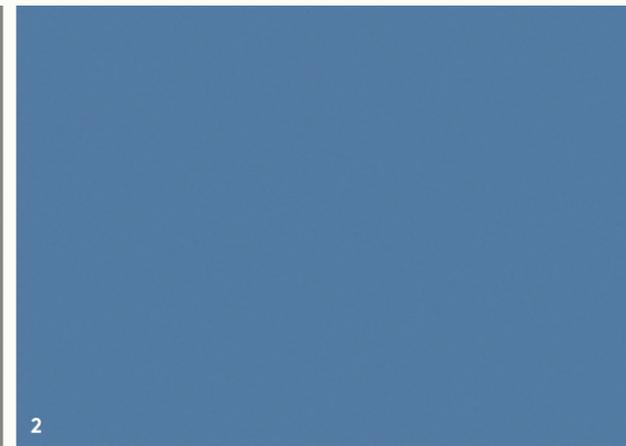
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In Deep Below, we see bold, confident tones and emphatic expressions of deep colour – strong, deep blues supported by smoky tones, flashes of deep green and purple, dark woodgrains and even black. The darkness that connects these decors presents opportunities for an almost monotonal colour scheme.

## Palette Key

- |               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| 1. Lava Grey  | 2. China Blue       |
| 3. Steel Blue | 4. French Navy      |
| 5. Winter Sky | 6. Denim            |
| 7. Charcoal   | 8. Blackened Legno  |
| 9. Gunmetal   | 10. Smoked Birchply |
| 11. Midnight  | 12. Nero Grafite    |

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# DEEP BELOW 1

This is a rich monotonal palette and the detail in Smoked Birchply adds contemporary character.

1

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## Palette Key

1. Laminex Charcoal
2. Laminex Lava Grey
3. Laminex French Navy
4. Laminex Smoked Birchply
5. Dulux Blue Shell

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Images features Laminex Charcoal and Laminex Smoked Birchply.

# DEEP BELOW 2

Deep Below shows how a colour palette can be dark yet fresh. The neutrals here will all work beautifully on their own, but can be layered to sensual effect.

1

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## Palette Key

1. Laminex China Blue
2. Laminex Winter Sky
3. Laminex Midnight
4. Laminex Blackened Legno
5. Dulux Amphitrite

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Images features Laminex Midnight and Laminex China Blue.

# DEEP BELOW 3

Placing emphasis on different decors shifts this palette from smoky to slightly cleaner and makes for a highly desirable colour combination.

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3

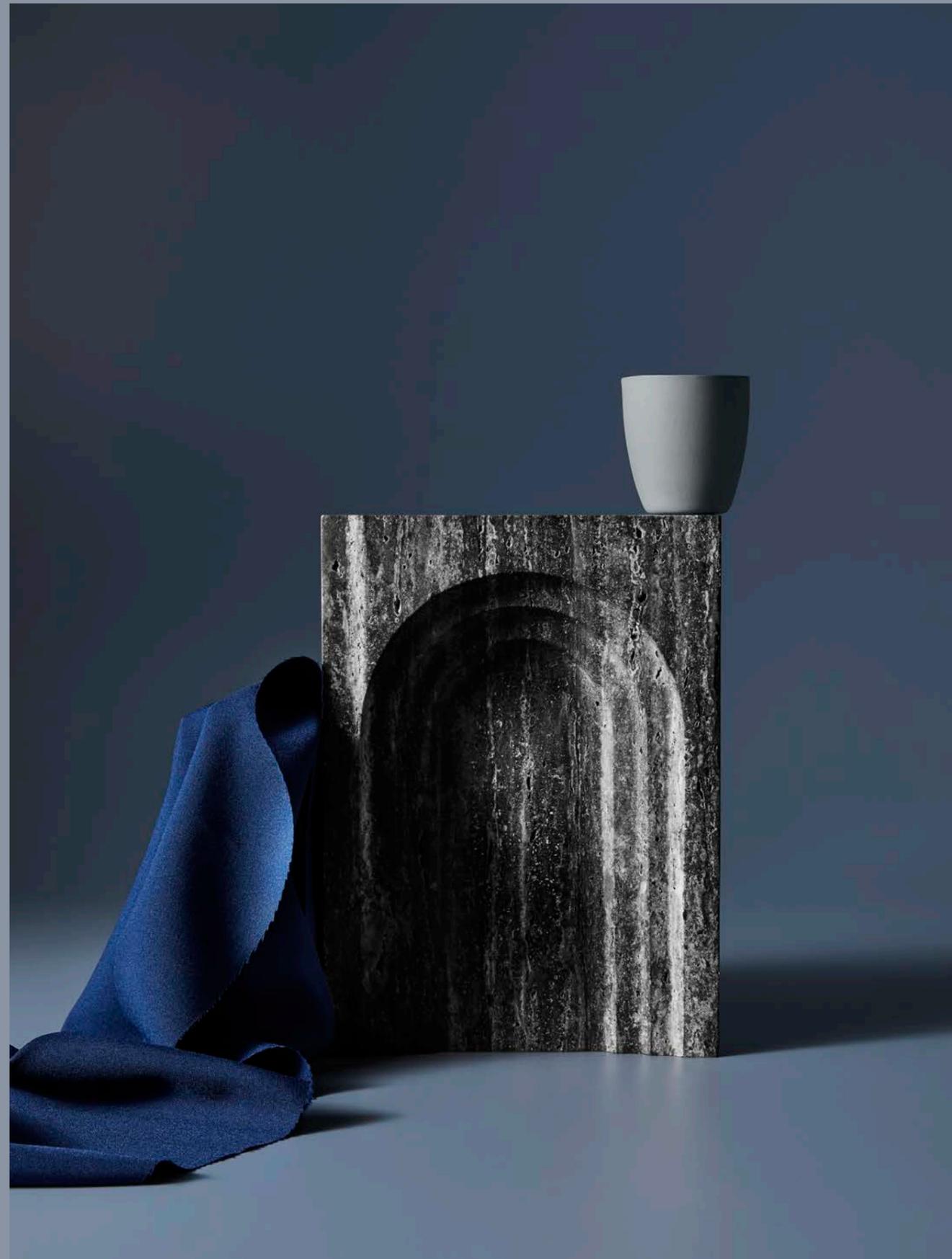
4

5

## Palette Key

1. Laminex Steel Blue
2. Laminex Gunmetal
3. Laminex Nero Grafite
4. Laminex Denim
5. Dulux Master Blue

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Images features Laminex Steel Blue.

# PALETTE HIGHLIGHTS

This is a strong palette,  
clean and architectural,  
and suited to both  
classic and contemporary  
interiors.



Laminex French Navy.



Laminex Charcoal.



Laminex Smoked Birchply.

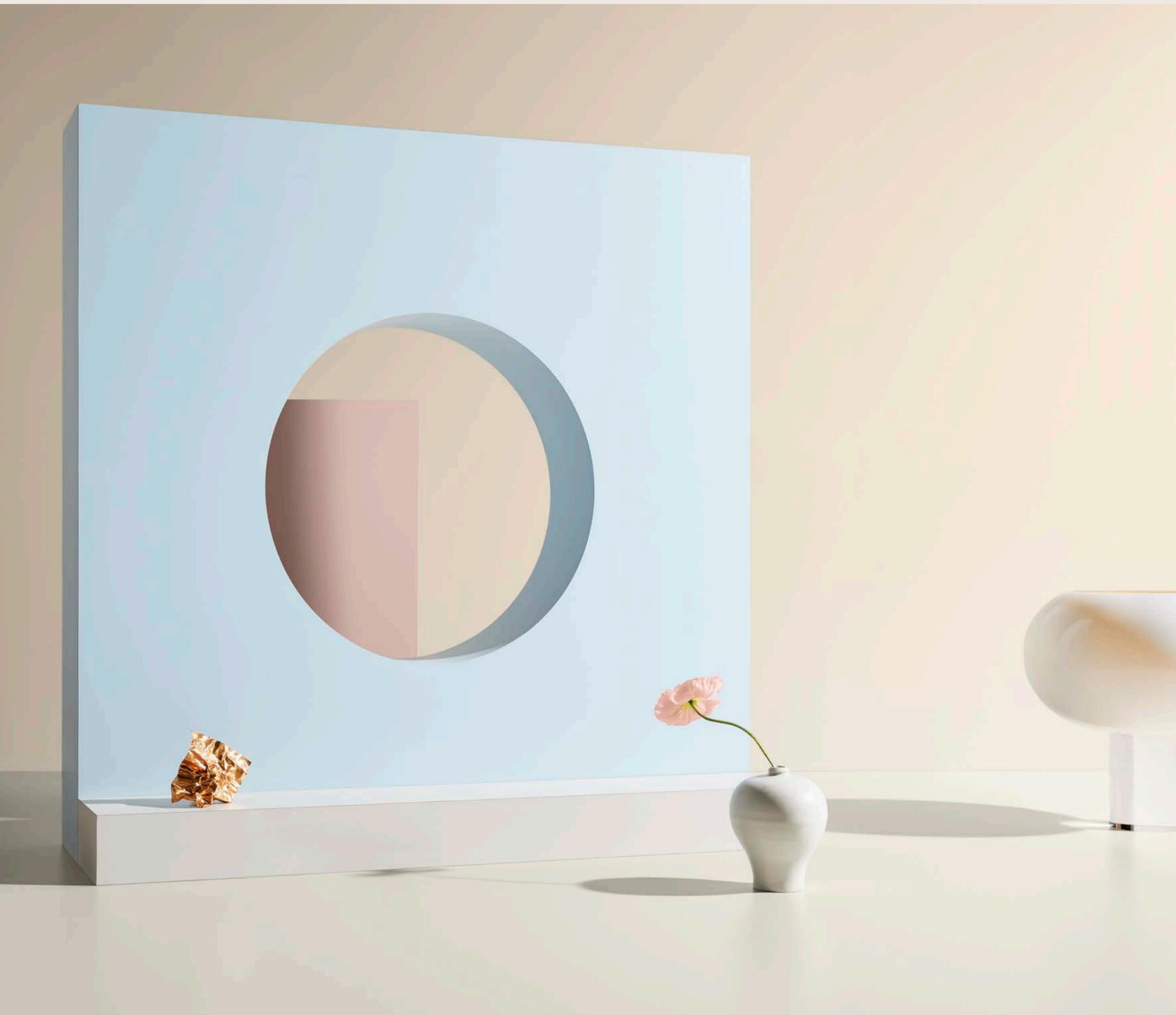


Laminex Nero Grafite.

## SEE THE LIGHT

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Faced with uncertainty about the future, we draw positive energy from self-belief and self-expression. And with this positivity comes hope. This mood can be seen in See the Light, with its fresher, cleaner tones and confident, eclectic use of colour. It offers an energising play on highs and lows, pairing nuanced bright colours with tinted neutrals.



Rear wall Laminex Tenderfoot, foreground and floor plinth Laminex Oyster Grey, circular wall Laminex Fresh Spring & rear wall Laminex Just Rose.

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# THE PALETTE

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The powerful colours protect and give strength to the more delicate colours, and soft tones provide true sensitivity. These combinations suggest a fresh take on colour blocking, but even when applied in solid, flat fields, they retain a soft and tactile quality.

## Palette Key

- |                 |                        |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1. Oyster Grey  | 2. Aquamarine          |
| 3. Raw Cotton   | 4. Tenderfoot          |
| 5. Alpine Mist  | 6. Just Rose           |
| 7. Pewter       | 8. Fresh Spring        |
| 9. Earth        | 10. White Painted Wood |
| 11. Waxed Maple | 12. Matte Rose Gold    |

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# SEE THE LIGHT 1

There's a freshness and versatility to this palette - it would work perfectly in both classic and contemporary interiors.

1

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## Palette Key

1. Laminex Tenderfoot
2. Laminex Pewter
3. Laminex Oyster Grey
4. Laminex White Painted Wood
5. Dulux Lilac Light

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Images features Laminex Tenderfoot and Laminex Oyster Grey.

# SEE THE LIGHT 2

The bright colours here take colour blocking in a fresh new direction. This is a great scheme for commercial spaces looking for a sophisticated but fun feel.

1

2

3

4

5

## Palette Key

1. Laminex Aquamarine
2. Laminex Fresh Spring
3. Laminex Tenderfoot
4. Laminex Waxed Maple
5. Dulux Yolande

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Images features Laminex Aquamarine.

# SEE THE LIGHT 3

This palette is highly appealing with the contrast of fresh neutrals and deep browns pairing perfectly together. The more gentle decors draw strength from their contrast against the deeper tones from deep oranges to dusty pinks.

1

2

3

4

5

## Palette Key

1. Laminex Earth
2. Laminex Just Rose
3. Laminex Raw Cotton
4. Laminex Matte Rose Gold
5. Dulux Orangeade

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Images features Laminex Earth, Laminex Raw Cotton & Laminex Just Rose.

# PALETTE HIGHLIGHTS

The emergence of chalky pastels brings broad appeal in both commercial and residential settings, making it a highly versatile and elegant palette.



Laminex Oyster Grey.



Cabinetry and benchtop Laminex Fresh Spring.



Cabinetry features Laminex Just Rose & benchtop Laminex Crema Venato.

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Laminex  
White Painted Wood.

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