

This year we asked our team of designers and experts to share their thoughts on what they believe will be the biggest trends in this part of the world – those that most affect our lives and work here in Central and Eastern Europe. They came back to us with trends influenced by a number of macro-factors including changing lifestyles, new technologies, and global influences in design and branding. The recession also continues to be a key influencer and driver of trends.

For your information (and entertainment) we've put 11 of these trends together in this document, which we gladly share\* with interested parties, clients, and friends.

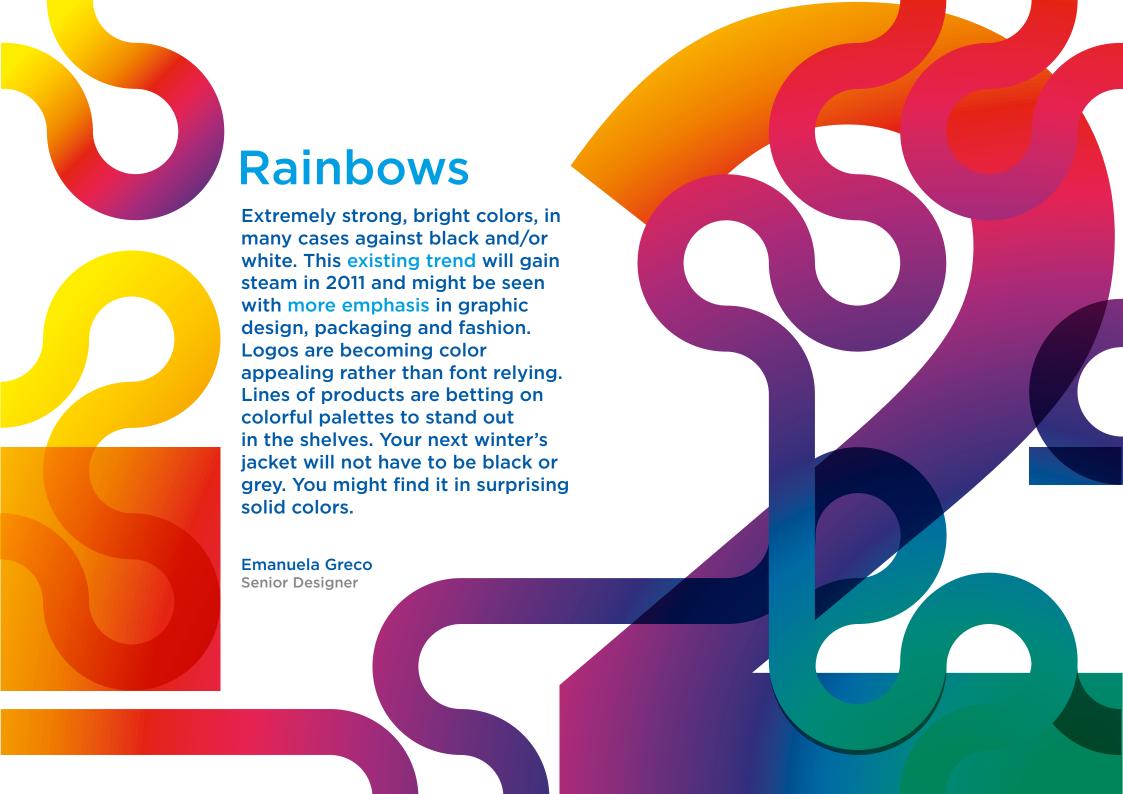
Please enjoy and have a great 2011!

\*We ask only that, if you do make millions based on any of the trends we mention, you will seek out Cocoon Group when it comes time to brand your big ideas.



The fascination with print patterns is back and will be seen this year in a wide array of themes, such as flora, animalism, geometry, retro and typical patterns. It might have stronger manifestations in interior design, fashion and even branding.

Helena Černá Senior Designer



Still reeling from the recession, luxury brands are beginning to get the picture that conspicuous consumption and shameless self-indulgence is not high on anyone's agenda at the moment. Smart brands have already made the switch from indulging to rewarding. If you can convince consumers that yours is the one little indulgence they deserve as a reward for sacrificing in other aspects of their lives, you will likely do well over the next couple of years.

Douglas Kaufman Head of Brand Strategies





## Farmers Market Reckoning Farmers markets are what results when the locally produced and organic

Farmers markets are what results when the locally produced and organic living trends collide. These agricultural happenings have recently begun sprouting up on weekends in cities throughout Central and Eastern Europe. However, there is currently a disconnection between the products that consumers expect (food that is organic and locally produced) and the produce found at these farmers' markets (often the same as on the shelves of the local supermarket.)

You can't fault a farmer for seeing an opportunity and taking advantage, but this should be the year that consumers begin to get wise and demand some sort of proof that farmers markets are living up to the standards of local, clean, sustainable production that consumers expect.

Danilo da Costa

Knowledge and Resources Manager



It already feels old-school just typing this onto a keyboard!

Stas Sipovich Senior Designer







## Zumba!

With its appealing mix of fun, aerobics and simple Latin Dance steps, Zumba recently crossed the ocean from the US and is becoming one of the most sought after classes in the majority of the dance schools and fitness centers in the region. With its own work-out routines, dance numbers, musical scores, videos, and clothing lines -Zumba comes pre-packaged with all of the necessary requirements to become central Europe's next great lifestyle brand.

Ana Maselli, Senior Designer

## Retail Renaissance

As land becomes scarce and consumers seek a more convenient way to do their everyday shopping we should see a retail boom in city centers. Those huge boxes at outskirts of town will keep their position in our shopping habits, however, retailers are looking for somewhere to expand, and some chains such as Tesco have already announced opening of new small to middle size stores, Tesco Express, Expert, and Zabka, in the center of Czech and Polish towns. It will be interesting to see if large chains will be able to make inroads against the local, family-owned markets and gas stations which currently dominate this retail category. Expect that this year we may see some major innovations in local markets to attract customers and keep them coming back for more.

Jakub Plášek Consultant



The current trend of greener living means acceptance and desire for new nature-friendly materials that are further accentuated by organic shape and styles.

With wider knowledge of different technologies and innovations, designers look for inspiration in nature. Graphic design, structural design and architecture will be more and more influenced by the logic of nature. Not merely organic shapes - but the idea of living, growing, and moving can all be visualized and created now thanks to new technologies.

Tanguy Prevot senior industrial designer

**DNA Design** 



Cubism

In stark contrast to DNA design, we see the design pendulum in some swinging back from a decade-long affair with curves, bubbles, and smoothness in general. We will begsee the reintroduction of angles into automotive, product, logo, and packaging design. In the Czech Republic, home of the Cubistic movement, we will see renewed interest in this design style. The 2012 London Olympics is probably one of the most prominent examples of this trend in action.

Jaroslav Jurica industrial designer



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## **Imagery list**

| 5 http://www.flickr.com/photos/oneworld\_mjensen/4755504827 | 6 http://www.globacore.com/images/project-page/Aldar-10ft-multitouch-project-images4.jpg | 7 desk with necessary ephemera, Daedalus42, http://www.flickr.com/photos/daedalus42/5362622523/lightbox/ | 8 201011210075, mski67, http://www.flickr.com/photos/canon\_shots/5210772363/lightbox/ | 10 Beijing | Soho Galaxy | Zaha Hadid | 11 Crystal-shaped ceramic jars from 1911 by Pavel Janák.