

HI-MACS® captures the origins of chef Martín Berasategui, for his new restaurant in Mallorca



Chef Berasategui in front of one of the HI-MACS® murals created for his new restaurant in Palma de Mallorca.

El Txoko de Martín, the first post-pandemic project launched by the chef with the most Michelin stars on the Spanish culinary scene, is opening in Palma de Mallorca with an affordable fine dining experience in a unique 600 m² space with multiple nods to Berasategui's Basque origins.

The **new restaurant El Txoko de Martín** was inaugurated just in time for summer 2021, determined to leave the difficult months of the pandemic behind. This new gastronomic venue features decorations in which wood, iron, stone and ceramic details play an important role. The most striking feature of the restaurant includes **three large murals**, made by the **Mallorcan firm Sublime** using **HI-MACS® solid surface**, which capture a variety of sports disciplines, two of which originated in the Basque Country.

The original concept for this project sought to create a space where diners could revel in **traditional yet innovative cuisine** with the Berasategui stamp, but also where they could enjoy spending time with friends and family in a **close, warm atmosphere**. In Basque, the chef's first language, "txoko" means "nook." In bringing that concept to his new restaurant, Berasategui wanted to **share a little slice of his homeland with Mallorcans**, by establishing a little "nook" in Palma where they could savour a variety of delicacies from the Basque Country and where they could soak up Basque traditions in good company.

Of course, the venue's design had to live up to the quality of products and service offered there, so three murals were devised, to be installed in different parts of the restaurant. The **images capture three sports**: traditional Basque rowing, Basque pelota and soccer, in honour of Berasategui's athletic, multidisciplinary youth in his native land. These murals, which draw visitors' eyes as soon as they step inside, were produced **on HI-MACS® natural acrylic stone**, in Alpine White, by complex, skilful **sublimation work**.



Sublime, the Group Concord company in Mallorca tasked with designing the murals, explains the sublimation process performed on HI-MACS® as a complicated technique, by which **digital prints were transferred in a gaseous state to the solid surface**, by applying controlled pressure and heat in special kilns.

Sublime's vast experience with sublimation techniques ensured that the final images would be **completely incorporated into the material**, making the artwork resistant, durable and **suitable for places with heavy traffic**. HI-MACS® offers a number of additional advantages that provided added value to the end result. It is a completely smooth surface without pores, which guarantees the perfect integration of the dye. The seamless material gives a superbly hygienic finish, as well as simplifying cleaning, along with a high level of resistance and durability when in public areas like a hospitality venue.

"There are very few materials that can be moulded to resemble tiles, and that are capable of receiving the heat transfer of an image within their structure," notes Juan Chito, Sublime's designer, in reference to the properties of HI-MACS®.

Regarding the final rendering and how the technique was combined with the material, he adds that, "the convex sides and the application of a layer of epoxy resins on the face achieved the cracked, distorted effects we were looking for in this decorative project."



With these murals on a par with the quality of Berasategui's cuisine, the restaurant's interior also stands out for its modern yet cosy decorations: the **rustic textures in warm hues** create a comfortable, cosmopolitan ambiance. The location in Santa Catalina, the old fishing district and present-day hot spot, inspired an **interior design that is respectful of the tradition and history** of this iconic neighbourhood.

Berasategui's love of Mallorca with his Basque origins, at El Txoko de Martín, means pride of place is given to the wood used in the ceilings, decorative details in natural colours like greens and blues, and the frames on the walls containing photos of the chef's family and the restaurant where he was born and raised.

With a capacity for **200 guests and a space divided between a main room, a private dining area and pavement seating**, the new restaurant in Mallorca with the Berasategui seal promises to become the ultimate meeting place for food and relaxation, with traditional yet innovative cuisine and a space brimming with tradition and celebrating the chef's origins.



PROJECT INFORMATION

Project: El Txoko de Martín restaurant

Location: Palma, Mallorca, Balearic Islands

HI-MACS® production: Sublime, Group Concord

HI-MACS® distributor: Panelwork

Material: HI-MACS® Alpine White

Mural dimensions:

- Rowing mural: 500 x 160 cm
- Basque pelota mural: 550 x 250 cm
- Soccer mural: 160 x 240 cm

Mural design: Juan Chito

Photo credits: ©David Sandron – Sublime, Group Concord

HI-MACS® Natural Acrylic Stone

www.himacs.eu

HI-MACS® is a solid surface material that can be moulded into any shape. It is widely used for architectural and interior applications, such as sculptural and high performance wall-cladding or kitchen, bathroom and furniture surfaces, in commercial, residential and public space projects. It is composed of minerals, acrylic and natural pigments that come together to provide a smooth, non-porous and visually seamless surface which meets the highest standards for quality, aesthetics, fabrication, functionality and hygiene – offering manifold advantages over conventional materials.

HI-MACS® provides limitless possibilities for surfacing solutions and inspires creative minds from all over the world. **Zaha Hadid, Jean Nouvel, Rafael Moneo, Karim Rashid, Marcel Wanders** and **David Chipperfield**, among others, have completed fabulous projects using HI-MACS®.

At the forefront of innovation as always, LX Hausys recently introduced two new products. First **HI-MACS® Ultra-Thermoforming**, an innovative formula that pushes the boundaries of solid surface shaping to a whole new level, with 30% more thermoplastic capabilities - the biggest innovation for the Solid Surface history since its inception in 1967. Now, **HI-MACS® Intense Ultra**, combining the characteristics from two disparate worlds: **Intense Colour Technology** and **Ultra-Thermoforming**.

HI-MACS® uses a simple heating process to give three-dimensional thermoplastic forming capabilities, allows visually seamless designs, offers a virtually limitless range of colours and – for some shades - exhibits a special translucency when exposed to light. Although HI-MACS® is almost as robust as stone, it can be worked in a similar way as wood: it can be sawn, routed, drilled or sanded.

HI-MACS® is manufactured using a new generation technology, the **thermal cure**. The temperature reached during the manufacturing process sets HI-MACS® apart from other solid surfaces and creates a denser, even more homogeneous, sturdy, durable surface – with a better resistance and superior thermoforming performance.

HI-MACS® does not absorb humidity, is highly resistant to stains, and is easy to clean, maintain and repair.

Countless internationally recognized certificates attest to the quality of HI-MACS® in terms of ecological commitment, hygiene and fire resistance – being the first Solid Surface in the market to receive the official **European Technical Approval (ETA) for façades** – for Alpine White S728 colour. Furthermore, HI-MACS® has obtained the French **QB certification** and **CSTB ATec “Avis Technique”** for facade applications.

HI-MACS® offers a 15-year warranty for products fabricated by a Quality Club Member.



HI-MACS®. Because Quality Wins.

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* **HI-MACS®** is designed and produced by **LX HAUSYS (formerly LG Hausys)**, a world leader in the technology sector belonging to LX Holdings Corp.