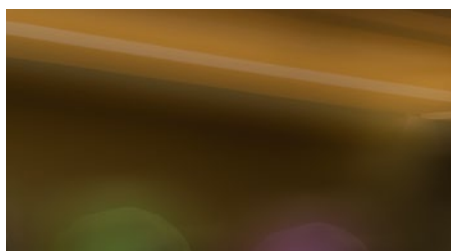


INSPIRED BY TIMBERYARDS, FRANCESC RIFÉ USED OAK PANELLING TO CREATE A WARMLY INTIMATE AND COHERENT INTERIOR AT CARHARTT L'ILLA.

CARHARTT

BY FRANCESC RIFÉ



The new Barcelona outlet for urban-wear label Carhartt is part of L'illa, a landmark commercial complex designed by Pritzker Prize-winning Rafael Moneo and Manuel de Solà-Morales. After opening in 1993, the city's first truly modern shopping mall quickly filled with high-street brands sporting corporate identities, and it's been that way ever since. Conceived by Francesc Rifé, Carhartt L'illa is another of the local designer's striking projects, impeccably executed with a minimum palette of materials and, in this case, within a pint-sized space. Covering an area of only 43 m², Carhartt L'illa has the appearance of a sophisticated pop-up shop. The space is clad in oak panelling, screens and display elements, resulting in a warm atmosphere of intimacy and coherence. 'I was inspired by a timberyard – the starting point of a material that is about to be transformed,' the designer says. Matte-black PVC flooring and exposed lighting, cables and air-conditioning ducts (also bathed in black) add a sense of industrial chic to the interior's otherwise organic simplicity.

rife-design.com

WORDS SUZANNE WALES
PHOTOS FERNANDO ALDA

