



Press Release

## **5VIE Design Week 2026**

### *QOT – Qualia Of Things*

*Cavallerizze - Leonardo da Vinci National Museum of Science and Technology*

**Milan Design Week 20-26 April 2026**

**H 10:30 – 20:00**

**Milan, Thursday 5 March 2026**

The 2026 edition of 5VIE Design Week is entitled **QoT – Qualia of Things**.

Qualia are the subjective and qualitative aspects of conscious experience: the **“what it feels like” to perceive something**. They are **private experiences**, not physically describable, and they constitute the “hard problem” of consciousness, as defined by David Chalmers.

By proposing **an alternative to the now widespread Internet of Things (IoT)**, 5VIE shifts the focus from device connectivity and the efficiency of data and algorithms to the ability of objects to engage with our senses, creating **emotions and sensations that are “unique and exclusive.”**

Every object becomes a bearer of **“quality of experience,”** and every creation carries the imprint of both its creator and its recipient, becoming a threshold of memory and meaning. The unique piece is “lived” as an unrepeatable experience, while form becomes a catalyst of subjective resonances, ultimately offering each individual their own **“sense of things.”**

Design becomes a language capable of uniting perception and sensation, data and lived experience, in a world that is evolving ever more chaotically between technology and biology. Within this space of transformation emerges **the urgency to safeguard the human dimension of feeling.**

We cannot rely solely on the measurement of data or the power of algorithms: **we must reassess the centrality of sensations and inner experiences** — that which gives meaning to our experience of reality.

The formula **“form that informs”** acquires a new value: it is no longer merely a superficial analogy between shape and meaning, but an invitation to consider how form activates **different Qualia in each individual**. The object becomes an open field of subjective exchange, a network where every gaze, every touch, generates different resonances.

It is therefore not objects in themselves that matter, but what they evoke — the vibration they leave behind, **the feeling they generate**: the “red” perceived by each person, the inner vertigo evoked by design lines, the texture of a fabric beneath the fingers.



These are not merely measurable data, but irreducible lived experiences — unique and personal. In this perspective, QoT invites us to understand that **it is not enough to observe an object: one must feel it, recognize it, and appreciate what it transmits to our consciousness.**

As the physicist Federico Faggin states, **“consciousness is the capacity to have experience through Qualia and to learn the meaning of that experience.”**

QoT – Qualia of Things is therefore an invitation to consider design as both **an aesthetic and an ethical practice, capable of speaking to the heart as much as to the mind.**

In doing so, the NMG/5VIE Association reaffirms its mission: to promote a humanistic innovation of technology that restores the value of human feeling to the center.

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## **PRODUCTIONS 5VIE**

**Denny Candotto**

**IN-HABIT-OUT**

Produced by 5VIE

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

IN-HABIT-OUT is a collection of five wall-mounted display cases inspired by the iconic eras of Milanese living, from the traditional ringhiera house to contemporary social housing. Small wooden architectures create a conceptual play: hang, observe, furnish, inhabit. Each piece is a fragment of the city to manipulate and question. It is architecture applied to art-design, Milan condensed into five tableaux.

**Elizabeth Lewis**

**Cosmic Meadow**

Produced by 5VIE

Curated by Angela da Silva

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

On the occasion of Milano Design Week 2026, SWING Design Gallery - founded and directed by Angela da Silva - presents at 5VIE the installation Cosmic Meadow by Australian ceramic artist Elizabeth Lewis. This collection of hand-built ceramics considers the surrealism of biomorphic forms in ancient sculpture and architecture. Looking at animals and mythology, these vessels and wall works depart from where natural processes of ruin and calcification make an object more interesting in its obscurity. Colourful vases adorned with unrecognisable creatures and knotted serpents situate themselves as a tower in this installation presented and curated by SWING Design Gallery.

**Giuditta Vettese**

**La Fiamma che non Brucia**

Produced by 5VIE

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

The sculpture becomes a domestic altar, a space for intimate contemplation. Delving into eroticism, a large circular and concave body of glazed ceramic is designed to contain water - the guarantor of life, in many cultures a symbol of purification and cyclicity, often also used as a ritual vehicle.

In the formal encounter between certain cultural symbolisms and the exploration of the organic and the curvilinear, this unique handmade piece, La Fiamma che non Brucia (The Flame that does not Burn),



invites us to reflect on the body and the circle as a state of continuous generation. An oxymoronic and paradoxical flame that does not burn. Eternal, it invites us to reflect on the enigma of the elemental, alchemical energy that enlivens matter. The rhythm of circularity is further enhanced by a performative interaction that, oscillating between body and sound, sees gesture become ritual, attesting to the essential bond between human beings and objects.

### **Marco Guazzini**

#### **Resonance**

Produced by 5VIE

Curated by Maria Cristina Didero

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Resonance, in art, is the lasting emotional, psychological, and intellectual impact that a work leaves on those who encounter it. Marco Guazzini's installation unfolds as a surreal journey: a metaphysical landscape in which matter is no longer fixed, but alive with possibility. Color, texture, and form flow through a continuous tubular system, creating a language in constant evolution with infinite combinations and outcomes. Each connection suggests a new result, each curve opens a new direction.

Within this system, materials and objects are not finite or definitive, but potential. Furnishings, spatial elements, and functional pieces emerge through flexibility, shaped by movement, interaction, and imagination as open-ended places.

Resonance does not impose a defined form; rather, it invites transformation, allowing creation to adapt not only to a vision but to the diverse needs of each space, generating an environment that transforms through the gaze and experience of those who move through it. This modular approach blurs the boundary between art, design, and architecture, while simultaneously speaking of structure and emotion, play and precision. What originates as a sculptural installation becomes a tool for personalisation, collaboration, and storytelling, where the user actively participates in defining the final expression. Dedicated to industry professionals as well as passionate enthusiasts, the project brings different needs into dialogue: artistic research, functional design, and commercial adaptability. It is a meeting point where creativity intersects with practicality, and where spaces are not simply furnished, but first imagined - and then brought into existence.

### **Noe Kuremoto**

#### **Jōmon: An Anthem for Mothers**

Produced by 5VIE

Curated by Anna Carnick

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Japanese artist Noe Kuremoto's Jōmon Vessels are a love letter to mothers everywhere. Together, they offer up a collective song honouring the full complexity of motherhood: the beauty and brutality; the struggle and devotion; and the ferocity, hope, and joy.

Kuremoto's sculptural stoneware vessels are contemporary reinterpretations of some of the world's earliest known pottery, dating back to the Jōmon period (14,000–300 BCE). Traditionally, these vessels were used in both domestic and ritualistic contexts, and often embraced as objects of protection. Kuremoto's elegant pieces are recast as both talisman and tributes - homages to the daily moments of light and shadow that together make up a life. At a time when women's rights are increasingly under attack around the globe, the artist reflects on navigating motherhood, and raising good humans, in the modern world. For Kuremoto, who is herself a mother of four, these hand-sculpted pieces carry intergenerational wisdom, while also celebrating the act of making as a form of resistance.



As she observes: “This work insists that creation - of life, of art, of meaning - is still a radical, triumphant act. Clay remembers. Fire transforms. The vessel endures. I see art and parenthood as vehicles to pass on infinity to the next generation.”

### **Richard Yasmine**

#### **Vessels of the intangible**

Produced by 5VIE

*5VIE Headquarter, Cesare Correnti 14*

“Vessels of the Intangible” is a lighting collection at the crossroads of design and art. It explores the invisible sensory forces that animate the body and shape perception before thought. The objects are tangible, yet what they awaken is not.

Each piece transforms one of the five senses into a threshold of awareness. As sculptural light, the works metaphorically hold what escapes immediate perception: the afterimage, the echo, the trace, the imprint, and the anticipation, distilled into memory, desire, and longing.

Crafted through diverse artisanal practices, the senses are freed from anatomy and become autonomous, almost devotional relics. Light emanates from within, as if sensation itself were escaping into space.

Rooted in a psychological Neo Ritual Baroque that is dramatic, tense, and sensorial, the collection shifts from object to encounter, where what matters is not what is seen, but what is felt.

### **Studio mo man tai**

#### **Re-Campaign**

Produced by 5VIE

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Studio mo man tai transforms used advertising banners into a bold, walk-through installation marking the entrance to 5VIE’s Cavallerizze.

The Eindhoven-based duo reworked massive outdoor façade textiles, some originally measuring 18 by 46 metres, into fifteen colourful portals forming a vibrant gateway. The installation explores material transformation as a cultural act. By converting surfaces intended for visual consumption into structures that demand bodily engagement, the project challenges how we experience images in public space.

“We were fascinated by the idea of reversing scale and intention,” say Ulrike and Paul. “These banners once functioned as background for commercial narratives. By cutting them up and recomposing them, we give them a new foreground - one that is physical, tactile, and open-ended.”

The panels combine pixelated fragments, graphic remnants, and layered colour gradients. Through contrast, transparency, and movement, the heavy-duty fabrics create shifting visual effects that respond to wind and light.

The project builds on Studio mo man tai’s long-standing collaboration with large-format printing pioneer BIG Impact and market leaders in large format advertising blowUP media, whose canvasses are completely environmentally friendly; made of recycled PET bottles, PVC free and printed with water-based ink. blowUP media actively supports positive impact initiatives like this.

By transforming promotional surfaces into architectural passages, the installation reframes waste as resource and spectacle as spatial experience - inviting visitors not just to enter an exhibition, but to move through a reimagined material history.

**Tadeas Podracky**  
**Before the Shape Appears**

Produced by 5VIE

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

The project presents three new lamps carved from solid wood - one suspended, one standing. The works emerge from a hands-on practice rooted in carving and directly shaping the material. Each piece develops through the resistance, grain and structure of the wood, allowing the form to take shape through making.

Inspired by the moment a sprout begins to push outward from its seed, the lamps translate inner pressure into form. Their slender, elongated bodies balance vertical and horizontal tension. They appear fragile yet carry structural strength - like a newly formed body not yet fully settled. Light does not decorate the object; it inhabits it.

Alongside the lamps, sculptural works from the Sorbus sudetica series are presented. Named after an endemic hybrid tree species from Northern Bohemia, the series reflects on processes of crossing and adaptation translated into material form. These works continue the investigation of growth expressed through carved structure.

**Liquid Rituals**  
**a cup is a cup**

Produced by 5VIE

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Liquid Rituals is a collection of handmade ceramic vessels, designed to rethink and reimagine the act of drinking from a cup. Drawing inspiration from nature, organic materials, and shapes, the collection explores concepts that reflect aesthetics and the rituals of consumption. Every ceramic cup in the collection is handmade through processes of sculpting, firing, and glazing, making each piece unique and irreplaceable. The diversity and variety of the ceramics also invite the public to reflect on aesthetic preferences, choosing the piece that best suits their individual nuance.

Each piece is made of glazed ceramic, crafted using ancient firing techniques (such as wood-fired) and contemporary methods (electric kiln). Each ceramic piece in the collection is unique, with its own formal and material identity, while the chromatic research develops through organic tones, inspired by natural forms and processes.

**Sara Ricciardi Studio**  
**ALMA WATER – La stanza del mare**

Produced by 5VIE

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

ALMA WATER is a room of the sea, an immersive environment that transports us into the liquid heart of Sardinia. A sound device, like a maternal womb, guides us through the Costa Smeralda. The space comes alive with the continuous movement of large silk bellies. The fabrics, suspended and moved by breaths of air, ripple like the surface of the sea, generating a fluid and enveloping choreography.

ALMA WATER is a sonic pavilion that evokes the power of the ocean, commissioned by CIPNES-Gallura. Inside, the drums of the sea become participatory instruments, surfaces to be activated together in order to compose a grand concert of waves and undertows. Through the movement of the drums, visitors bring to life a collective score made of deep resonances and vibrations that recall the crashing and retreating of water along the shore. Each individual action contributes to a shared composition, as in the natural landscape, where every element plays a part in the harmony of the whole.



The project is a tribute to Sardinia, to its primordial and sacred dimension, to the ancestral relationship between body and water, where everything is generated. ALMA WATER celebrates turquoise as a beneficial emotional and chromatic state.

Within the context of Milan Design Week 2026, The Sea Room presents itself as a space for pause and immersion, where sound becomes a communal gesture. A dance of water dedicated to Sardinia, in which the sea is not only observed: it is listened to, traversed, and created together.

## **HEADQUARTER 5VIE Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4**

### **Another view**

#### **Bar Trattoria Altra Vista with Games Room**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Bar Trattoria Altra Vista with Games Room is conceived as an immersive art and design installation that celebrates and unifies the best of Italian excellence - design, art, craftsmanship, gastronomy and lifestyle - within a single experiential environment set around the digital windows of the Another view collective, curator of the project.

Rather than presenting itself exclusively as a restaurant, Altra Vista is a living cultural platform. It is a curated spatial narrative in which every element - from materials to lighting, from food presentation to furniture design - contributes to a cohesive expression of contemporary Italian identity. The kitchen and bar will be overseen by Chef Aldo Ritrovato.

The lighting design will be created by Giò Forma for LEDFlex.

### **Armand Louis e Roberto Beltrami**

#### **L'Instabilità Necessaria**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

On the occasion of Milan Design Week 2026, the Consulate General of Switzerland in Milan, the 5VIE Association, and Galleria Rossana Orlandi present a selection of works created through the collaboration between Armand Louis, co-founder of atelier oï, and Roberto Beltrami, founder of Wave Murano Glass. The project will be on display from 20 to 26 April at the Cavallerizze in Milan, as part of the 5VIE programme, alongside a wider selection at Galleria Rossana Orlandi.

After more than 35 years with atelier oï - a studio based in La Neuveville in the Canton of Bern, awarded this year's Swiss Grand Design Award, Switzerland's highest honour in the field - Armand Louis decided to take a sabbatical in Murano to immerse himself in the world of glass and return to the material and craftsmanship of the trade.

His meeting with Roberto Beltrami, one of the youngest master glassmakers working on the island, was ideal. Beltrami embodies a generation of artisans rooted in the centuries-old Murano tradition - glass blowing, lamp working, solid glass - and deeply committed to innovation and the transmission of knowledge. This immersion, shaped by intersecting gazes, reveals that what may appear as a flaw in the eyes of masters can, under a gaze willing to be surprised, become a source of inspiration and the starting point for fertile development. Our project was born from a similar situation: an instability that became a founding principle. We identified a process of oxidation that alters the copper content within the glass mass; the material evolves and takes on an unexpected, expressive silvery hue. A phenomenon that would normally be discarded as an anomaly becomes, through our shared complicity of vision, the very core of the research. In the world of glass, words yield to gesture.



The exhibition *L'Instabilità Necessaria* embodies this intuitive and at times unpredictable relationship between material, artisan, and external gaze - a silent dialogue in which form arises from mutual listening. *L'Instabilità Necessaria* is precisely this: the deliberate choice to abandon the safety of what is already known in order to confront material in its unpredictability, to move with the rhythm of the furnace where nothing is ever definitively acquired.

It is in the furnaces of Murano that this necessity reveals itself most powerfully, where every gesture is a negotiation between intention and resistance, where the final form does not pre-exist the act of making but emerges from the living encounter with what the material grants and what it refuses. Perhaps this is how knowledge handed down through centuries renews itself: not through faithful repetition, but through exposure to a gaze that questions it and sets it back into play. To cross the threshold of instability, to embrace it as a founding principle, is to enter a territory that mastery alone could never reveal.

### **Atelier Bowy C.D. / Henzel Studio**

#### **The Atelier Editions**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Bringing together nine international architects and designers, the platform introduces editioned works that expand the handmade rug beyond its conventional role. Through material experimentation, relief, gesture, and structural variation, each piece is conceived first and foremost as sculptural form.

Developed in close collaboration with Atelier Bowy C.D., the works are produced using advanced hand-knotting techniques and material research. Each design is released in a limited edition of 20 + 1 artist proof, establishing a long-term collectible framework positioned between architecture and collectible design.

Installed within Le Cavallerizze - the former Austrian stables reconfigured through a contemporary intervention by Luca Cipelletti - the presentation unfolds across three custom-built architectural volumes conceived specifically for the space. Works are mounted as vertical planes and extend across the floor as spatial interruptions, engaging directly with the brick, cement, and exposed structural elements of the site.

### **Instituto Guatemalteco de turismo**

#### **Guatemala designs by hand**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Guatemala designs by hand arrives at 5VIE Design Week 2026 to celebrate the fusion of artisanal tradition and contemporary design. A traveling project that invites audiences to discover Guatemala's cultural and creative richness through a perspective that brings together ancestral heritage, innovation, and sustainability.

The exhibition stems from a national open call addressed to design studios, artisans, and textile artists. An international jury selected the works of 17 Guatemalan design studios, reflecting the vitality of today's creative landscape.

The project revolves around a collaborative installation inspired by the Temple of the Great Jaguar in Tikal, conceived as a symbolic space of encounter between past and present. The aluminum structure is wrapped in two textile skins representing the connection between tradition and innovation. The exterior covering, *Weaving Color*, combines traditional textile techniques with digital tools and was developed by the Guatemalan studio *Nebula Handmade* together with artisans and artists from Lake Atitlán under a fair-trade model. The interior covering brings together patterns, colours, and techniques from different Maya communities into a single collective textile, created by women from 21 weaving



councils across Guatemala, belonging to the National Movement of Guatemalan Weavers and the Association of Tactiqueña Artisan Weavers B'atz' from Alta Verapaz.

Inside the pyramid, the immersive experience connects design, territory, and memory through architecture, sound, and audiovisual elements, evoking landscapes, markets, Maya languages, and textiles, positioning design as a living expression of identity and future.

The project, by Idonika with architecture by Amarillo Studio for INGUAT, reaffirms Guatemala's commitment to design as a tool to promote its cultural heritage, identity, and creativity.

### **Marco500**

#### **ALAGOAS PLURAL**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Celebrating the diversity of Alagoas craftsmanship and highlighting the relationship between people, objects, and the ancestral know-how of the state's artisans, the exhibition "ALAGOAS PLURAL", after being presented in Paris, Miami, New York, and Lisbon, arrives at Milan's Fuorisalone 2026. The exhibition returns to Milan, bringing with it the soul of the sertão and the agreste, through a significant collection of Alagoas craftsmanship that expresses tradition, identity, and aesthetic excellence, grounded in deep respect for the environment and territory.

A total of 120 handcrafted creations will be presented, produced with great technical skill and artistic rigor, revealing the cultural blending and symbolic strength of Brazil in its most authentic form. The project is the result of the ongoing work of the "Alagoas Feita à Mão" Program, launched in 2015 by the Government of the State of Alagoas through the State Secretariat for Federal and International Relations (SERFI), a national reference in promoting craftsmanship as a structured public policy.

### **OOCCA**

#### **ÉCORCHÉ - Anatomia di un Mobile**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

ÉCORCHÉ begins with a simple premise: sustainability is not a label. It is a structure.

In a landscape saturated with materials, certifications, and claims, the exhibition strips furniture back to its anatomy. It reveals what is usually hidden - material choices, construction logic, production systems, and ownership models - and asks a direct question: what truly makes an object last? This is not an aesthetic exercise. It is an investigation into responsibility embedded in design decisions. The exhibition moves from fragmentation to clarity, from noise to structure, culminating in the assembled object - where durability, performance, and lifecycle value become visible, measurable, and accountable.

ÉCORCHÉ positions furniture not as a finished form, but as a system of choices. The exhibition invites visitors to question the objects they live with - and the systems that produce them.

### **Ryota Yokozeke**

#### **From Flat**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Everything begins from flat. "From Flat" is a design theme centred on the process of transforming flat materials (sheet materials) into three-dimensional forms. In my studio, hands-on experimentation with diverse materials gives rise to ideas and structures that inspire me to create new lifestyle pieces. Behind this project lies a multifaceted and neutral perspective, encompassing social communication, environment and portability, material diversity and potential, form and structure. Through this solo



exhibition, I draw inspiration from the history, materials, and processes of mass production to explore and express new interpretations and values.

**Shimadzu × we+**  
**In Between Matter**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

Science is a practice of observing the world through multiple methods - classifying phenomena and deepening our understanding of how things come into being. With over 150 years of history, Shimadzu Corporation has contributed to the advancement of science through the continuous development of analytical and measuring instruments. Yet beneath logic and measurement lies something more fundamental: pure curiosity and the quiet excitement that accompanies discovery.

Being moved by the questions that emerge before us, it is this sensitivity that has long driven scientific progress and supported solutions to societal challenges. This installation explores In-Between Matter; the subtle states that Shimadzu aims to reveal through their analytical equipment. The exhibition invites visitors to encounter the fascinating world of science beyond data through sensorial experience. Immersed in the space between matter, transcending the boundary between logic and perception.

By touching the origins of scientific curiosity, the way we see the world may begin to shift. We hope this exhibition becomes an entryway to that experience.

**unobject**

**“Gaze Forward”: Between the Boundaries of Motion and Stillness**

*5VIE Headquarter, Cavallerizze, Via Olona 4*

We usually understand progress through speed, yet rarely pause to consider - before we move, where should our gaze rest?

Gaze Forward does not mean the moment of moving forward. It is a quieter and more resolute state: when the direction exists and yet one has not stepped out, the gaze moves forward first - contemplating what lies ahead.

In 2026, unobject keeps its experimental spirit to reimagine the conventions of furniture and material craft; the side table series emerges. Assembling from the original design signature element “Tetra,” and infusing the brand core value of “be curious, be real,” the structure retains the essence of - lightweight, modular, and variability-conscious. Moreover, each piece is designed to bridge daily living applications with an artistic experience.

Continuing the tradition of the Chinese zodiac and inspired by the Year of the “Horse” in 2026, unobject translates its essence into the abstract form of the Tetra side table series.

To reconsider the idea of “moving forward” as an inner rhythm, the creation captures the posing and imagery of the horse’s movement - between motion and stillness, between choice and waiting, the work returns to the moment where structure, time, and sensation converge.

Through this creation, unobject expresses a deeper reflection on self-positioning in contemporary life. It is not only toward the future, but also responds to every moment of choice and waiting in our daily life, reminding us, before moving forward, to retain awareness, reflection, and alignment with the self, revealing a quiet yet resolute inner landscape.



## **HEADQUARTER 5VIE Via Cesare Correnti 14**

**Alberto Sanna**

### **Manifesto della Neuroestetica fotografica**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

The story an image offers arises from the depths of the mind of the one to whom it first revealed itself, only to be recalled - in likeness and unlikeness - within those who choose the challenge of reading it and lend it their attentive gaze. Light, an otherwise immense and fleeting affront, expresses in a chosen instant the static form of its quantum chaos, and becomes image.

The fovea can now perceive the kaleidoscope of its infinite details, at will and with delight. Thus begins the inexorable process of searching for order, for meaning, for a sign that offers pleasure or discomfort - a reference to preserve and share with the world that surrounds us and will continue to unfold around us. The image becomes imagination; imagination becomes revelation. Suddenly, a flare of connections envelops elements of recent and distant memory, evoking known and unknown anxieties and desires: a new meaning has thus been unveiled, and from that moment visual perception is altered, transformed. Will you be able to perceive the details as they were captured by the lens? Will the sequence in which you extract them nourish your cognitive and emotional processes as it did mine and those of the person now beside you?

Will this transient, fleeting experience alter your perception of reality? Will it yield other and new meanings in a minute - or in a month?

**Ale Jordao**

### **Pink Toilet**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

What happens when an intimate, functional space ceases to be private and becomes an exhibition? In Pink Toilet, Alê Jordão transforms the bathroom of a historic building into an immersive installation that brings together excess, memory, and the body. "This project is inspired by the Pink Motel in Los Angeles - a place where everything is pink and the ordinary is transformed. The bathroom, in turn, becomes the protagonist and takes on seductive qualities, a place where we spend time, observe ourselves, and shed our masks," explains the artist. The result is a provocative exploration of intimacy, color, and perception.

**Aida Mahmudova**

### **Aida Mahmudova studio showcase**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Aida Mahmudova Studio presents a special commission by Aida Mahmudova at 5VIE Design Week, bringing together new works that explore material memory and contemporary craft. The Elysium Series (2024–25) features handwoven carpets produced in collaboration with artisanal workshops across Azerbaijan. Rooted in a centuries-old weaving tradition, the works reinterpret the carpet as a sculptural surface, where rhythm, geometry, and layered textures create a dialogue between heritage and spatial form. The ceramic series Beyond Utility (2024–26) extends Mahmudova's material research into clay and glaze experimentation. Using locally sourced elements such as oil, ash, sand, and stone, the vessels transform functional forms into tactile objects that hold traces of landscape and personal memory.

**Designs of the Time**

### **Azimuth**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Azimuth, by Designs of the Time, marks the space between where we stand and what we look toward - inviting us to shape our own direction through the materials that surround us. Each



fabric tells a story, carries emotion. Texture, weight, and tactility reveal character, showing the nature of traditional materials. Subtle irregularities arise from authentic craftsmanship - signatures of the maker's patient hand, of intuitive patterns shaped slowly over time. Linen and silk diffuse daylight. Wool holds warmth like earth holds memory. Mohair velvet adds depth, while stonewashed finishes and hemp's raw grain tell stories of time and touch. Azimuth is made to be touched, to be felt. It's the human in nature, nature in the human - a rediscovery of how we, materials, and our environments interact. Colours guide us from earth to horizon: desert sand, clay whites, saffron and spiced ochre, graduating towards burgundy and olive. Rust and indigo rest alongside earth and dark brown - rich, grounding shades that shift with light and deepen with age. In the Azimuth collection, materials reveal their stories through a connection with the senses.

**Federica Sala**  
**SPARKLING WATER**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

During Milan Design Week 2026, Federica Sala unveils an imaginative installation showcasing a new collection of unique, visionary pieces in glass and precious stones, all inspired by the theme of water.

**Gupica**  
**An-tropico for Besana Carpet Lab**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Gupica presents *An-tropico*, an installation created for Besana Carpet Lab that explores the relationship between humans, nature and space. The Bambù collection of lamps, produced by the designer, and the Traccia carpet for Besana Carpet Lab, are the focal points of imagery that's undeniably exotic, but far removed from literal representations of the term. Here, "tropical" is reinterpreted in a contemporary way, through a designed habitat where human intervention strips away the superfluous, conveying a rarefied sort of exoticism.

**HAUTS RELIEFS**  
**When 18th & 19th Century Furniture Meets Design and Contemporary Craft**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

French association Hauts Reliefs offers an alternative to the massive destruction of antique furniture: transforming the existing rather than producing anew. This initiative is part of a broader approach to heritage preservation, highlighting history and artisanal techniques alongside contemporary creation, transmitting know-how and promoting a circular economy.

The association presents its first collection of upcycled furniture in Milano.

Six Manifest pieces enhance heritage, based on dialogue between designers - Paul Bonlarron, Cheeri (graphic design studio), Dominique Picquier, and Régis Protière - and craftsmen - Nathalie Moschetti, stained-glass artist; Claire Curot, master gilder; Clément Loustau, cabinetmaker; Zoé Berthet and Amélie Logeais, upholsterers-decorators.

**Ji-youn Woo - HWA**  
**A Structured Garden**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

A Structured Garden presents 'Renascor' and the 'Vertical Garden' as two distinct yet connected interpretations of growth.

While Renascor translates organic growth into tactile, handcrafted forms integrated into everyday life, the 'Vertical Garden' reinterprets botanical expansion as a structural and urban system.

Though seemingly opposed - one soft and organic, the other modular and industrial - both works stem from the same inquiry: how can growth be shaped, structured, and translated within constructed environments? The exhibition reveals not separate projects, but two evolving branches of an ongoing practice.

### **Manufactures nationales - Sèvres & Mobilier national Faire Ensemble - Crafting the French art de vivre**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

During the Milan Design Week, Manufactures nationales - Sèvres & Mobilier national are unveiling a unique partnership with Entreprises du Patrimoine Vivant and renewing their collaboration with renowned French publishers. This exhibition highlights the excellence of French expertise in textiles, furniture, and ceramics, showcasing the excellence of French design on the international stage. The scenography was designed by Camille Drigny and Iseult Schmeler from the Ecole Bleue following a competition organized by the Campus Mode, Métier d'Art et Design.

### **Massimo Rigaglia LIGHT IN TENSION**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

L / T is a bamboo lamp created by splitting poles into slender strips, allowing the material's natural flexibility to be used efficiently and without excessive mechanical intervention. The result is a series of soft, slender, lightweight arc lamps that cast a fluid, understated light into the space. Available in three sizes, the arch can stand alone or be repeated according to need or desired effect, making it possible to create striking, scenographic light installations.

A flexible linear bulb with a circular profile is housed along the concave inner curve of the bamboo strips, running the full length of the arc.

A leather cord, fixed to the ends of the bamboo strips, keeps the structure under tension and maintains its curved form. Stability is ensured by a slim T-shaped base in burnished brass, also circular in section, positioned at either end according to the user's preference during assembly.

### **Nicolette De Waart Perfect Imperfect Berry lamp**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Dutch sculptor and designer Nicolette de Waart's work is shaped around connection, femininity, and beauty. She has built a cohesive body of work across multiple disciplines, from furniture to sculptures and functional art objects. Her design vocabulary is deeply rooted in nature, and her fascination with different cultures and countries she has lived in (Singapore, UK, and the Netherlands) informs her practice. She creates objects of bold simplicity and elegance, often with a tacit playfulness, in a continuous search for the novel and undiscovered. Research plays a pivotal role in her creative process. Her Berry lamps, for example, are inspired by the intricate beauty and skillfully made Japanese lanterns. Several of her best creations resulted from a voyage of exploration and experimentation, followed by solid partnerships with local artisans like the foundry she works with and their extensive expertise. She considers her work continuous with craftsmanship excellence, traditional techniques, and materials such as bronze, wood, textiles, clay, and cire-perdue, a lost wax method. Although her techniques are rooted in tradition, her work strives for innovation and production within the circulatory system.



## **Officinanove**

### **One Process, Many Echoes**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Officinanove presents a selection of projects that interpret design as a discreet and enduring presence. Within this vision, metal becomes a bearer of messages, values, and details, capable over time of constructing a silent dialogue between objects, space, and people, where a body of productive knowledge generates different design resonances.

From the hand of Antonio Norero come Flintstone, a family of low tables that plays with primitive balances and controlled disproportions, and Circolo, a wall-mounted coat rack with archetypal naturalness, expressing an idea of furniture that reveals its value over time. Alongside these is Capitanuncino, a system of modular shelves hooked onto a metal truss, conceived as an open and reconfigurable infrastructure, able to adapt to different uses and to evolve over time through interaction with space and with those who inhabit it.

Badessa, designed by Celia, Miccoli, and Pagano in collaboration with Antonio Norero, and Tòrre, conceived by Celia, Miccoli, and Pagano, further explore the relationship between material, function, and contemporary living: a lamp that investigates the curvature of stone as a poetic gesture, and an open, versatile, and replicable object, capable of evolving with spaces and people. A coherent set of projects that restores design to its most authentic role: to be useful, quiet, and necessary.

## **PIETRACHIARA**

### **LIGHTBOX**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

PIETRACHIARA returns to 5VIE district with its first lighting piece: the Stardust lamp, carrying the studio's approach to material, process, and imperfection into light.

Conceived in close dialogue with Italian artisans, the lamp follows the same philosophy that defines the studio's furniture and objects: untreated materials, visible process, and surfaces shaped by time. The design is reduced to a striking gesture: a suspended aluminium disc pierced at its centre by a glass sphere that appears to hover weightlessly. The light source is held within this transparent core, while the disc floats in space, anchored by the thinnest of wires. When illuminated, the composition recalls celestial bodies in slow orbit, bringing a quiet sense of movement and depth to the room.

## **Polish Creative Center in Milan**

### **Crafted in Podlasie. Design Meets Heritage**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Crafted in Podlasie. Design Meets Heritage is a project positioned at the intersection of Polish design and cultural heritage, whose primary objective is to present the contemporary creativity of the Podlasie region. The project aims to demonstrate how contemporary design can become a concrete tool for enhancing endangered craft traditions and artisanal excellence. It is not a nostalgic return to folklore, but rather a conscious reinterpretation of intangible heritage, conceived to engage contemporary taste and the global design market.

Podlasie is a unique region where unspoiled nature and centuries-old history merge into a landscape of great intensity. A land of primeval forests and traditional villages, it still preserves artisanal knowledge, music, and rituals rooted in ancient traditions. Located at the crossroads of Poland with Lithuania and Belarus, it stands out for the richness of its techniques, forms, and symbols, while maintaining a strong cultural identity and a recognisable craft language. This atmosphere makes the region an ideal starting point for a project that unites tradition and contemporary design, interpreting heritage as a living organism.



The exhibition “Crafted in Podlasie. Design Meets Heritage” will present original projects and small series created independently or in collaboration between designers and masters of traditional craftsmanship from the Podlasie region. Traditional utilitarian objects will be transformed into design works, contemporary interior elements, and luxury pieces. The collection includes wooden objects, such as reinterpretations of traditional Podlasie architecture and woodworking craftsmanship, transformed into furniture pieces or large-scale marquetry inspired by the region’s nature. Textiles and large tapestries created using modern or traditional techniques in a contemporary form, such as double weaving, will also be presented. Objects balancing between function and sculpture include ceramic totems inspired by the spirituality of Podlasie, experimental lamps that use light to create a magical atmosphere, and concrete vases with striking fluorescent details. There are also contemporary interpretations of traditional straw decorations, such as the Podlasie “spiders,” as well as vases created using weaving techniques.

## **SHOTA SHIMODE** **CONTEXTS**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

The materials that surround us each live within their own sense of time. Glass may be born from instantaneous phenomena such as volcanic eruptions or lightning, while wood records years of growth within its grain.

CONTEXTS reconsiders these embedded temporalities not as mere traces of the past, but as contexts that can be reconnected to the present through the act of design.

Through everyday forms such as lighting, stools, and tableware, time shifts from abstraction into something tangible - something that can be touched and used. Moving between industrial precision and the ethics of craftsmanship, the exhibition quietly reconstructs the relationship between materials and daily life.”

## **Signora Luna** **ARMONIOSO SENTIRE**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Signora Luna presents “armonioso sentire,” ornamental fantasies that take shape in antique-inspired furnishings, a nod to the conceptual fusion of the natural world with sinuous forms. These furnishings call for a return to the values of the past, a current of thought that contrasts with the frenetic existence imposed by contemporary life. “Harmonious Feeling” is a project that proposes a return to the essence of furniture: harmonious, inspired, and balanced in form, materials, and technique.

Traditional materials, attention to detail, and decorative elements that gracefully interact create a unique aesthetic presence in the space. Creations are visualized with a harmonious approach, immersive in a reinterpretation of tradition that aims to create profound visual and functional harmony.

## **Studio mo man tai** **Reflecting Diverseness**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

During Milan Design Week 2026, studio mo man tai presents Reflecting Diverseness as a site-specific spatial installation in the historic villa at Via Cesare Correnti 14, curated within the 5VIE design district. Following its widely noted debut at Dutch Design Week 2025, the project is transposed into a Milanese edition - translating the city’s demographic composition into a sparkling immersive landscape. Milan, Italy’s most multicultural city, has a population of approximately 1.4 million residents as of early 2026,



making it the country's most cosmopolitan urban center. This layered social fabric forms the foundation of the installation.

Created by Ulrike Jurklies and Paul Bas, Reflecting Diverseness visualizes social statistical data to reveal how diversity generates richness, balance, and cultural depth within a city. Each mirrored flower represents a specific portion of Milan's population, collectively forming a reflective landscape that transforms statistical information into an emotional and spatial experience. The flowers are crafted from leftover acrylic mirror materials collected by Pyrasied - industrial surplus reworked into a luminous environment. What was deemed for recycling becomes a shimmering, immersive flower bed that captures light, movement, and the reflections of visitors themselves. The audience is not merely observing the work; they become part of it.

By translating demographic data into a visually compelling installation, studio mo man tai continues its exploration of how material transformation can amplify social narratives. "Data often feels abstract and distant," say Ulrike Jurklies and Paul Bas of studio mo man tai. "By turning numbers into something fragile, reflective, and physical, we make diversity truly 'visible' - and we offer people the chance to see themselves within it." First presented in the Netherlands as a 'portrait' of Dutch society, the installation now evolves to reflect Milan's unique demographic composition. In doing so, it underscores a universal idea: diversity is not an abstract concept, but a living structure shaped by individuals. As part of 5VIE, Reflecting Diverseness carves out a space for reflection within the density of the design program.

The installation invites visitors to move along a mirrored meadow that is both celebratory and contemplative: a landscape where statistics shimmer, identities overlap, and collective presence becomes visible.

**Vintola Studio**  
**Butter Limone**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

"Butter Limone" is a collection by Vintola Studio presented in a fresh and luminous palette of buttery tones, soft lemon accents and warm creamy shades. It represents contemporary Polish design that bridges new creations with refined reinterpretations of vintage aesthetics. The new Vintola Studio pieces feature soft, delicate lines inspired by mid-century atmospheres and subtle art deco references. The collection celebrates lightness, elegance and timeless proportions, creating a dialogue between heritage and contemporary design in a fresh, modern expression. The collection is designed by Ola Szewczul, founder and owner of Vintola Studio, whose creative direction shapes the brand's distinctive balance between vintage sensitivity and contemporary refinement.

**Zade Design**  
**TEARDROP COLLECTION**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Cesare Correnti 14*

Nature and craftsmanship are two sources that nourish the human soul, ignite creativity, and awaken aesthetic senses. Each of these elements, fascinating on its own, when brought together, creates true harmony and beauty. These enchanting elements were our sources of inspiration. The most important details for us were ensuring that each new product is unique, personalised, and crafted with different textures. The masterpieces, shaped with skilled craftsmanship and handmade details, which encompass the creativity of carefully processed materials, align perfectly with our design. By bringing out the beauty from the essence of three different materials and showcasing the unique abilities of the human hand, we ensured that each product is distinct from the others.

For this reason, all the products we design carry the name 'Teardrop Collection.'

## **HEADQUARTER 5VIE SIAM - Via Santa Marta 18**

### **Accademia Teatro Alla Scala**

*5VIE Headquarter, Via Santa Marta 18*

The Accademia Teatro alla Scala, the training centre of the Milanese theatre that prepares all the artistic, technical and managerial figures working in the field of live entertainment, will also be among the protagonists of the week. The 5VIE district celebration day will be enlivened by many young people who dream of a career on stage or behind the scenes.

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## **5VIE DISTRICT**

### **Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera**

#### **RAKETOPIA tool-being**

*Giardino segreto Via Terraggio*

Students from the Product Design program at the Academy of Fine Arts of Brera present RAKETOPIA tool-being, a research and experimentation space where the rake serves as a tool for reflecting on the relationship between the individual and space, action and transformation, gesture and trace.

### **Alberto Levi Gallery**

#### **VENETIAN ECHOES**

#### **MISE EN ABYME**

*Via San Maurilio 24*

On the occasion of Milan Design Week 2026, Marta Bastianello inaugurates a new phase in her creative journey with Venetian Echoes | Framing Light and Matter, an installation conceived for Alberto Levi's gallery, which from 17 to 30 April will be transformed into a contemporary Venetian interior.

### **ARCStudio Perlini**

#### **Equilibria**

*Piazza Cordusio 1*

Michele Perlini presents Equilibria, an installation created in collaboration with EuroDesign and the new brand KIHOM. A unique and playful work that, through a subtle gesture, opens up a space for reflection. Entirely crafted from certified fir wood, it embodies a concrete act of respect for nature - a theme that continues to inspire architect Perlini's design research year after year. The installation draws inspiration from the classic game of Shanghai. Among the wooden sticks, only the red one stands out: resting on a mirrored cylinder, it becomes the visual and symbolic focal point of the work - the precise point of balance. A delicate yet powerful sign that reflects a deeper exploration: the inner balance, fragile and precious, that each of us - consciously or not - is constantly seeking to achieve.

In the project, the mirrored cylinder is not merely a physical support, but a conceptual element: it reflects the red stick, amplifying its meaning, and returns the image of the observer, directly engaging the viewer in a continuous dialogue with the artwork. In Equilibria, balance is not imposed - it emerges from the relationship between matter and reflection, between action and awareness, between the artwork and the observer. A silent invitation to perceive the subtle boundary between stability and suspension.



## **Art de Vivre**

### **Floralis Collection. Campana x Art de Vivre**

*Teatro Arsenale, Via Cesare Correnti, 11*

The Floralis collection for Art de Vivre is rooted in Humberto Campana's illustration practice. Its central theme draws from the living universe of cellular structures, reproduced on a large scale and then translated into a handcrafted woven textile brought to life through the artistry, expertise, and craftsmanship of the bespoke rug company Art de Vivre. Here, different worlds and cultures connect - East and West, nature and architecture, tradition and experimentation, urban environments and craft communities.

## **Atelier Angela Florio – DecorAzione®**

### **Arràs. Arràs. Light in the Weave.**

*Via S.M. Fulcorina 20*

For Milan Design Week 2026, Angela Florio opens her atelier as a room of light. On display is Arràs, a contemporary fiber optic tapestry created by the artist-designer for the VIP Lounge at the 2016 Genoa Boat Show. Arràs is composed of two mirrored marine elements, part of the Meduse da Mare collection. The work intertwines textile memory and luminous technology: the weave vibrates, breathes, lights up, evoking the bioluminescent creatures of the deep sea. Arràs reinterprets the tapestry as a surface sensitive to light and the vibrations of space.

For this edition, the artist chooses subtraction: a single gesture, a single object, a secluded space. The atelier becomes a space of resonance, open by appointment and during the official inauguration of the 5VIE district.

## **Arjumand's World**

### **La stanza nella tenda**

*Via Santa Marta 11*

A bedroom conceived as a tent: fabric as structure, pattern as memory, light as atmosphere. Here, textiles do not decorate but define space. Layered canopies and enveloping prints transform the room into a protected inner world, where intimacy replaces architecture and softness becomes form. References to nomadic dwellings and ancient narratives emerge through texture and shadow, creating a timeless, suspended environment. This is a place designed for withdrawal and reverie, where the bed becomes the heart of a fabric-built refuge and the boundary between interior and imagination dissolves. Not a room to inhabit but a world to enter.

## **Byredo**

### **In conversation with**

*Chiostro del Cappuccio, via Cappuccio 3/5*

For Milano Design Week 2026, Byredo unveils a collaborative project with designer Jean-Guillaume Mathiaut, an encounter between scent and structure, memory and material. The collaboration, shaped through a close dialogue between brand and designer, unfolds as a limited edition of wooden sculptural seats conceived solely for Byredo. Developed as exhibition pieces, these works are crafted entirely in wood and finished in black, painted with Japanese ink, and conceived as quiet moments for exchange and contemplation. The edition comprises six pieces in total: two principal works, Behind the Scenes and Millenium, accompanied by four additional works corresponding to the four cardinal points of the Convent.



## **Candiani Denim Store** **Candiani**

*Piazza Mentana 3*

In the heart of Milan, there's a unique experience where clients can become the designers of their own made-to-measure jeans, which are then sewn on-site by Candiani, a renowned producer of denim fabrics for luxury brands. For the warmest seasons, linen-blended denim fabrics will be available, ensuring softness and freshness while maintaining the qualities that make denim so beloved.

## **Carroccio6** **SYNAPSE + AURA | Design tra Corpo, Luce e Natura**

*Via Carroccio 6*

During Milan Design Week 2026, Carroccio6 reimagines its showroom in the heart of 5VIE as a living, breathing spatial manifesto. SYNAPSE + AURA is not a showcase. It is a sensorial ecosystem. Here, design moves beyond display and becomes embodied experience — a dialogue between body, light and nature. Neuroscience-informed principles, chromatic culture and biophilic architecture converge to explore a new paradigm of domestic wellbeing. SYNAPSE represents the invisible intelligence of space: systems, connections, seamless integration. AURA expresses its emotional field: atmosphere, perception, rhythm. Tactile materials, calibrated light and architectural greenery shape a journey to be inhabited rather than observed. The visitor becomes an active presence within the environment, guided through immersive listening sessions and the Bosco Natura path — a spatial ritual that reconnects human energy with the built environment. At SYNAPSE + AURA, the future of living is not presented. It is experienced. In collaboration with CasaOggiDomani / Gruppo Infoweb.

## **CASAORNELLA** **Animale sociale – nessuno mi può giudicare**

*Via Conca del Naviglio 10*

In an era shaped by performative individualism, Casaornella places the fundamental need for human encounter back at the centre with Animale Sociale. For Milan Design Week 2026, Maria Vittoria Paggini conceives and directs an interiors project that restores the home to its most radical condition: living is relational. Within the 5Vie district, Casaornella becomes a permeable domestic organism. Doors disappear, while boundaries remain visible; space acts as a device through which contemporary coexistence takes form. Not an installation, but a way of living. **Creative Hungary**

## **Budapest Select - Patterns of Being**

*Via Olmetto 1*

Hungarian Contemporary Design in Milan. Creative Hungary presents Budapest Select - Patterns of Being, showcasing 26 exceptional designers and brands that reflect the dynamic and evolving spirit of contemporary Hungarian design. Presented in the heart of the 5VIE design district, the exhibition unfolds through five thematic sections - Current, Aspiration, Fate, Cycle and Responsibility - responding to Milan Design Week 2026's motto Be the Project. Blending craftsmanship, material knowledge, and critical reflection, the exhibition brings a distinctive Central European perspective to Milan while exploring how we shape the world through intention, process, and responsibility.

## **DAVID/NICOLAS** **LA BOISERIE**

*Via San Maurizio 19*

For the first time, design studio david/nicolas opens its Milan project space in the 5VIE district to visitors, unveiling La Boiserie, a standalone project born from years of research into architectural surfaces, interiors, and material expression. Conceived as a modular yet highly customisable system of panels, La Boiserie reflects the studio's architectural language through recurring geometric motifs that introduce rhythm, depth, and material richness, turning the wall into a central architectural feature. The installation



unfolds as an immersive environment that expresses the studio's approach to form, detail, and materiality.

## **STUDIODODICI BY ARCHITETTO FRANCESCA CUTINI MILAN INTERIORS**

*(By appointment only: [info@studiododici.com](mailto:info@studiododici.com))*

In the projects of Francesca Cutini Roveda, founder of StudioDodici, architecture stems from the enhancement of existing structures and a profound dialogue with nature. Authentic materials such as marble, wood, and Corten steel become expressive tools capable of activating a sensory relationship with space: tactile surfaces, unique grain patterns, and design objects contribute to creating intimate and welcoming environments. The home is conceived as a place of well-being, where memory and contemporaneity coexist in balance. Even in urban contexts, greenery enters the interior through plants, iron objects, Corten steel poufs on wheels, and the transformation of balconies and courtyards into small domestic landscapes, bringing back to the forefront the idea of living in harmony with nature.

### **Giopato & Coombes**

#### **Nokori**

*Via San Maurilio 19*

On the occasion of Milan Design Week 2026, Giopato & Coombes presents Nokori - The Light That Remains, a new project that continues the studio's research into light as a sensitive and narrative material. Nokori unfolds as a series of luminous sculptures exploring the idea of hold light, investigating the process not as an immediate gesture, but as a trace and a memory within space. A body of work that expands the studio's poetic and design vocabulary, revealing a new nuance in its ongoing dialogue between light, experimentation, space, and perception.

### **Gilda Contemporary Art**

#### **PUERTAS Y PAREDES**

*Via San Maurilio 14*

During Milan Design Week 2026, Gilda Contemporary Art presents Puertas y Paredes, a participatory performance project by artist Florencia Martinez, on view at the gallery from 20 to 26 April. Conceived especially for younger audiences, the project explores the symbolic tension between walls and thresholds - barriers that can also become spaces of possibility. Through a collective performative action, participants are invited to question and reinterpret the "invisible walls" that shape personal and social experience, transforming them into moments of encounter, curiosity and openness.

Gilda Contemporary Art, located in the historic 5Vie district of Milan, promotes contemporary artistic research through exhibitions and cultural projects that foster dialogue between art, society and new generations.

### **Heiwa Gokin x we+**

#### **Unseen Objects / Overflow**

*Via Santa Marta 10*

This furniture collection was developed through a collaboration between Heiwa Gokin, a casting foundry based in Takaoka, Toyama Prefecture, and design studio we+.



we+ conducted extensive research at Heiwa Gokin's foundry, closely observing casting processes, tools, and material behaviour. Through this investigation, attention was drawn to burrs - forms that emerge as metal solidifies and are normally removed during finishing.

For large-scale castings, sand moulds (moulds made from compacted sand) are produced in multiple parts according to the shape and size of the original model. When molten metal is poured and begins to solidify, excess material forms along the seams between these mould sections. These formations are known as burrs. Typically eliminated as imperfections, they are reinterpreted in this project as material traces that naturally arise from the casting process.

Panels cast with their burrs intact are layered and combined with aluminium boards to construct shelves and low tables. The collection translates material behaviour - generated within a controlled industrial process - into the structural language of furniture.

Unseen Objects / Overflow visualises the essential qualities of advanced casting techniques while reconsidering the cultural value of casting practices that are often overlooked. This work marks a new series within the Unseen Objects project, seeking to reframe casting culture as sources of form, meaning and possibility.

### **HoperAperta**

#### **CLOSE UP. The Shapes of Time**

*Via dell'Ambrosiana 20*

HoperAperta presents an exhibition on the temporal, symbolic and formal value of image-objects. Things as they appear and things as they are.

Close-up is curated by Maurizio Barberis and Patrizia Catalano and located at the Mangini Bonomi Museum

HoperAperta presents a collection of unique art and design pieces in the beautiful courtyard of the Mangini Bonomi Museum. "Close-up" is intended as a manifestation of poetic imagery, where each individual piece is conceived through a series of 'literary' processes, a system of places that are custodians of images and memories, a wandering of forms understood as the art of 'metissage'.

Painting, photography, sculpture, design and architecture converge to lead the authorial process which takes us from function to form, from form to image, from memory to invention and from invention to memory. Each object is placed within its own system and has its own sequence, determined by the continuous movement of points and lines in the space, generated by the poetic imagination. The temporal sequence acts as a narrative movement that leads nowhere and encompasses within it the entire narrative development.

### **IMPATIA**

#### **Game Tables**

*Via stampa 8*

For this edition, IMPATIA unveils two completely new game tables, entirely developed by IMPATIA R&D, the brand's internal department dedicated to design and material experimentation. These new pieces open up to an international audience, encouraging shared games and convivial moments where multiple players gather around the same table. At the same time, they are conceived to offer a more personal and introspective experience, equally suited for a solitary match, embracing a slower and more contemplative rhythm. Alongside the new creations, IMPATIA introduces a new pool table with a distinctive aesthetic, born from an exclusive collaboration with a renowned international fashion house. A project that brings together two aligned creative visions and sensitivities, resulting in a piece that



transcends the concept of play to become an expression of style, culture, and savoir-faire. The name of the maison will be officially revealed in the coming weeks.

### **KOD.Objects**

#### **ARCHETYPE**

*Via Cesare Correnti 11*

A project by KOD.objects exploring the historical stone window opening as an architectural system. Through reduction, the arch preserves its formal logic and cultural memory.

### **Laboratorio Paravicini in collaboration with Natalia Criado**

#### **ELEMENTS**

*Via Nerino 8*

Ceramic and metal meet on an imaginary table. Steel offers protection and support, while ceramic - fragile and decorative - reveals itself through its lightness. The table setting is here broken down into its primary elements, unveiling the essence of the everyday in a metaphysical image.

### **Liselotte Studio**

#### **L'ingresso**

*Via Lanzzone 11*

"L'ingresso by Liselotte Studio" presents the entrance as both the beginning of a home and Liselotte Studio's introduction to the design world: the ground floor is conceived as an exhibition space dedicated to the idea of the entrance, while the lower level showcases a curated selection of antique and refurbished pieces, chosen for their meaning and given new life through the studio's distinctive design language.

### **Missing Objects**

#### **Edition 2: The Kitchen**

*Casa Brivio, Via Cornaggia 12*

Continuing its inquiry into absence and transformation, Edition 2 turns toward one of the most symbolically charged and socially dynamic spaces in the home: the Kitchen. Eighteen emerging international designers present a series of interventions that address, disrupt, or reimagine this environment. Together, these objects form a constellation of responses: some reimagine domestic rituals, others propose tools for new forms of coexistence, questioning the very boundaries of what a kitchen might become.

### **Ottica San Maurilio**

#### **Fluorescence by Theo Eyewear**

*Via San Maurilio 14*

A collection of eyewear featuring intriguing design, balanced classic colours, and flashes of neon.

For the 5VIE Design Week 2026, Ottica San Maurilio presents the Theo Eyewear collection, a Belgian brand of creative eyewear that lights up your gaze. From April 22 (opening 6–9 PM) to April 26, experience the "Fluo Experience," where you can discover extraordinary colours in a whole new light. Frames designed to enhance your look by day... and shine at night!

### **Piloto Milano**

#### **Echoes of Elsewhere**

*Residenza Vignale, Via Enrico Toti 2*

Piloto Milano presents Echoes of Elsewhere, an exhibition curated by Ricardo Gaioso in collaboration with Plus, exploring design as a form of translation - of experiences, displacements, memories, and the



frictions that emerge between different contexts. Urban living is approached as an unstable and evolving condition, expressed through objects shaped by non-linear processes, where aesthetics, material research, and narrative construction converge in the work of designers from diverse geographies. Set within one of Milan's most historic Liberty buildings, the exhibition creates a deliberate tension between contemporary design languages and layered architectural heritage. This contrast opens a dialogue between memory and present-day possibilities, inviting visitors to reflect on how urban life is continuously reimagined, negotiated, and lived today.

### **RIANNA + NINA CABINET OF CREATURES**

*Via San Giovanni sul Muro 14, angolo Via Brentano*

RIANNA + NINA is a Berlin-based luxury label founded in 2014, internationally recognised for creating one-of-a-kind pieces from rare vintage and archival textiles. Working with existing fabrics, the brand transforms precious materials - from antique silks to traditional kimono textiles - into contemporary creations, redefining luxury through sustainability, craftsmanship, and emotional value. Preservation and reinvention lie at the heart of its philosophy: nothing is mass-produced, nothing is wasted, and every material carries a story forward.

With CABINET OF CREATURES, presented in the new RIANNA + NINA boutique in Milan during Fuorisalone 2026, this philosophy takes the form of an immersive installation inspired by historical cabinets of curiosities. One-of-a-kind creatures are crafted entirely from rare textile remnants generated during the brand's own production, forming a poetic ecosystem where discarded fragments are transformed into expressive new beings. Aligned with the theme "Be the Project," the installation positions sustainability as a creative act, inviting visitors into a tactile, imaginative world where craftsmanship, memory, and responsibility converge - and where luxury is defined not by excess, but by uniqueness, care, and wonder.

### **TA-DAAN This is not AI – Artisans Generated Culture**

*Via Santa Marta 3*

On the occasion of Milan Design Week 2026, TA-DAAN presents "This is not AI – Artisans Generated Culture", an experiential pop-up dedicated to the new generation of contemporary artisans. Through installations, curated products, and live show-crafting sessions, the space celebrates the value of human gesture in the age of automation. It is an invitation to reconnect with the meaning of making, where contemporary craftsmanship becomes storytelling, and every creation embodies identity, time, and vision.

### **Takeda Katsuya Design Poesia senza Parole - 言葉なき詠**

*Via del Torchio 5/7*

Hinoki furniture, dry bonsai, wagashi and Japanese tea, art — and their wordless poetry weave a silent yet passionate world.

### **TAKT PROJECT Lesson in Relations: Dialogue with Trees #100**

*Chiesa San Bernardino alle Monache – Via Lanzzone 13*

This project explores an alternative approach to design itself—one grounded in dialogue rather than control—using tree branches collected from the forest as its central motif. At its foundation lies a distinctly Japanese philosophy of nature.



## **The Cloister** **Sam Baron: CELEBRATION**

*Via Valpetrosa 5*

The Cloister presents CELEBRATION, a special project unveiled during Milano Design Week 2026 in collaboration with French designer Sam Baron — a long-standing friend of The Cloister and a collaborator presented here for the third time. Both a tribute and a collectible project, the presentation reflects Baron’s ongoing interest in craft, storytelling, and the role everyday objects play in our lives.

At its heart, CELEBRATION is a personal exhibition built around the friendship between Daniela Cavero, founder of The Cloister, and Sam Baron. In contrast to the fast pace and scale often associated with Milano Design Week, the project creates a more intimate experience. Friends, family, clients, and visitors are invited to gather, explore, and celebrate design in a relaxed and welcoming setting.

The centerpiece of the presentation is a sculptural celebratory “cake” conceived as an installation. Both playful and symbolic, it transforms the idea of celebration into a physical display. The installation also serves as a platform for a series of limited-edition pieces, encouraging visitors to discover them as part of a shared experience. It evokes generosity and memory, turning the act of choosing an object into something personal and meaningful.

Developed in collaboration with selected European artisans and partners, the limited-edition collection brings together craftsmanship and everyday usefulness. Produced in small editions and available for purchase, the pieces are conceived as refined keepsakes of time spent in Milan — a vero souvenir, an authentic object meant to carry the memory of an encounter and a journey.

Through CELEBRATION, The Cloister highlights shared values of craftsmanship, friendship, and design culture — offering a warm and accessible way to experience Milano Design Week.

## **THE LANTERNS | ART** **Shaping the Act of Becoming**

*Via Gaudenzio Ferrari 16*

The Lanterns | Art brings designers and artists together in a dialogue around the transformation of matter, working with photography, marble, textiles, brass, plastic debris, glass, and wood. The project explores the uniqueness of each work as the result of process, gesture, and the intimate relationship with material.

## **TWÓR Association of Applied Arts** **Living Forms: Collectible Design Inspired by Nature**

*Via Gaudenzio Ferrari 16*

Forme Viventi: Nature-Inspired Collectible Design is an immersive exhibition presenting the works of 20 Polish artists whose furniture and objects draw inspiration from the forms and structures of the natural world. The show challenges traditional ways of observing objects. Here, the scent of earth, an original soundtrack, and the tactile qualities of the works create a shared narrative engaging sight, touch, hearing, and smell, immersing visitors in the heart of nature.

Dialogue Between Scale and Material The exhibition composes a meticulously arranged landscape, where monumental forms — sculptural tables, consoles, and benches — coexist with refined details of applied arts, such as lamps, mirrors, and vases. Each work is a manifesto of the creator’s unique style. In their hands, fine ceramics, glass, and jesmonite, as well as natural wood, brass, leather, and textiles, take shapes that seem to emerge directly from the earth. It is a celebration of uniqueness, where handcrafted creation meets uncompromising artistic courage.



Curatorial Vision: Wróbel & Szyc Curators Kama Wróbel and Katarzyna Szyc are responsible for the exhibition's coherence and high artistic standard. Wróbel's experience managing Poland's most prestigious private collections — including the FOLTA Collection — and her institutional practice at OP\_ENHEIM provided the foundation for a rigorous selection of works. Together with Szyc, president of the association and designer, they conceived the exhibition as a total artistic experience, where collectible design becomes a vehicle for emotion and a profound connection with nature.

## **XL EXTRALIGHT®**

### **Airstone**

*Via Santa Marta 10*

XL EXTRALIGHT® presents Airstone, the new tote bag designed by Nichetto® and featured in a special installation curated by the designer himself. Crafted in XL EXTRALIGHT®, an innovative material renowned for its extreme lightness and widely used internationally in high-performance footwear, Airstone is born from a design paradox: evoking mass, density, and solidity through a material whose very essence is lightness.

The result is a subtle tension between perception and reality, where Nichetto®'s design redefines the very concept of weight through material research. The bag is produced in a limited, numbered edition and will be sold exclusively within the installation.