

Saporiti Italia at Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro

Projects by Pierluigi Cerri and Alessandro Colombo, Marco Ferreri, Setsu and Shinobu Ito, Marti Guixé, Eric Maria, Gianfranco Pardi, Park Associati, Carlos Zapata

April 2007

Saporiti Italia continues the Inside Art project, its workshop for the creation of pieces of furniture for large art and architectural spaces.

Art works – paintings, sculptures, installations – need large architectural spaces to be exhibited, but they also need design objects to be enjoyed and admired.

This is why, in continuity with Inside Art 06 – the event made last year in Milan and dedicated to the creation of seating systems for museums – Saporiti Italia has proposed to eight international architects to develop the theme of the “table functions” inside an exhibition space.

The table as a place to display, to show, to serve, to preserve, to work, is then the subject of the researches done by Studio Cerri, Marco Ferreri, Setsu and Shinobu Ito, Marti Guixé, Eric Maria, Gianfranco Pardi, Studio Park and Carlos Zapata.

On the occasion of the Milan design week 2007, these designers propose, in total freedom of expression and use of materials, a series of eight original tables, each one different from the other but all characterized by the originality of their design and the refined execution by Saporiti Italia.

Once again the Inside Art research is presented by Saporiti Italia in one of Milan’s most charming art places, the Museum of Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, where Saporiti Italia is a Corporate Member since January 2006.

Inside Art 07 is in fact conceived to talk to and to integrate with “Doppio sogno. 2RC tra artista e artefice”, the art exhibition organized by Achille Bonito Oliva, that presents the extraordinary work of Stamperia d’Arte 2RC, resulting from the collaboration between Valter and Eleonora Rossi and some of the most prominent names of the world’s artistic scene, such as Adami, Afro, Bacon, Burri, Chillida, Clemente, Fontana, Kounellis, Moore, Arnaldo and Gio’ Pomodoro, Sutherland, Vasarely.

The installation design, conceived by Studio Cerri & Associati, covers the whole 3.500 square meters of Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, using a series of walls plus the tables developed by Saporiti’s designers to create functional islands, dedicated to the many possible roles of these objects.

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RIFLETTI

Pierluigi Cerri and Alessandro Colombo

Two mirror-polished steel slabs, pieced together by a refined laser-cut joint, support the glass top. The glass is slightly beveled in its corners, to follow the shape of the steel slabs. An extremely simple yet refined project, that outlines the characteristics of the materials and the purity of the design by Pierluigi Cerri and Alessandro Colombo.

Studio Cerri & Associati - Pierluigi Cerri and Alessandro Colombo

Pierluigi Cerri and Alessandro Colombo coordinate a staff of 25 professional architects, designers and graphic designers, executing projects in the planning sector of architecture, industry, graphic design, shipbuilding and museum exhibitions and installations.

Some of the most important architecture and design projects include the Pirelli Real Estate headquarters, Hangar Bicocca, Triennale Bovisa (TBVS) and Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro in Milan, the Trussardi shops in Florence, Bologna, Rome, Paris, the new Bologna Fair, the Prada factory in Arezzo, the Ferrari Maserati showroom in New York.

Among the graphic and corporate identity projects, the works for e.Biscom, Fabbian Illuminazione, Prada America's Cup, Teatro Arcimboldi, MART.

Among the museum exhibitions, "Excercises in Style" at the Ace Gallery in New York and Tokyo, "Gli Etruschi", "Balthus" and "Da Puvis de Chavannes a Matisse e Picasso" at Palazzo Grassi in Venice, "Lingotto 1915 - 2002" for the inauguration of the Giovanni e Marella Agnelli Museum in Turin, "Made in Italy", "La Città e il Design" at Triennale in Milan, "La Scultura Italiana del XX secolo", "Gastone Novelli" and "Jannis Kunellis" at Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro.

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HASHI

Marco Ferreri

A number of long crossed "wooden sticks", raises to form the base of this table, creating transparencies and optical effects.

A very simple and regular shape, yet able to create unusual geometries and reflections in the wooden materials of the base – maple or mahogany wood – completed by a large two meters by two glass top.

Marco Ferreri

Marco Ferreri, born in Imperia on February 26th 1958, received a master degree in Architecture from Marco Zanuso on 1981 at the Politecnico faculty in Milan, where he lives and works.

He worked as an architect with Angelo Mangiarotti, he has worked and designed objects with Bruno Munari.

Many of his designs are shown in important design museums, such as the Permanent Design Collection at MoMA in New York, the permanent collection of design at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, the Fonds National d'Art Contemporain in Paris and in some important collections.

Recently, he has done installations at the IX Venice Biennale di Architettura and at the First Architecture Biennale in Beijing.

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DAN

Setsu and Shinobu Ito

A clean cantilever bridge structure, surprising for the originality of the table top, composed by a series of different heights platforms.

An unusual shape, particularly conceived to set off the positioning of certain objects used for simple but harmonious operations, such as the tea ceremony, the ranging of collectibles, the display of art-pieces.

The precious lacquered finish, very glossy, almost brilliant, enhances the irregular and sophisticated shapes of this object.

Setsu and Shinobu Ito

Both Designers and Architects, after graduating in Japan, at Tama Art University in Tokyo – Shinobu - and at Tsukuba University – Setsu -, they moved to Milan where they have been working between Milan and Tokyo as consultants for some important international companies.

Their work has been published and exhibited through Europe and Japan and it has received several awards. Some of their pieces are today part of the permanent collection at the museum of Contemporary Art in Munich.

Shinobu works also as a graphic designer and she is involved in marketing activities, a skill she developed during the time spent at CBS Sony.

Setsu is a Visiting Lecturer in Milan at the Politecnico University, at the Domus Academy and at the Istituto Europeo di Design and, in Tokyo, at the Tsukuba University and at the Tama Art University.

In collaboration with Saporiti Italia, they have created on 2002 the launch of the Sony Cosmetic line, taking care of the packaging of these products and of the installation at the Saporiti Italia showroom, the chosen location for the world premiere of this cosmetic collection.

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FRAME TABLE

Marti Guixé

A table as a frame, to collect and to show art pieces.

A light metallic structure, almost invisible, supports a thick wooden top, symbolizing a painting frame. The white surface of the top holds and frames as a "passepartout" the art pieces, which are protected by an adjustable glass top.

Marti Guixé

Born in Barcelona in 1964. He lives and works between Barcelona and Berlin.

He studied interior design at the Elisava Escola Superior de Disseny in Barcelona, and industrial design at the Scuola Politecnica di Design in Milano.

Ex-designer (as he describes himself), he expressed a series of new theories on how to understand and interpret the culture of industrial design products through a schema of "curious seriousness".

He lived and worked in Seoul, and after that he opened his own studio based in Barcelona/Berlin in 1997.

Since then he made several art and museum installations as well as some business projects, such as Camper's. As from 1998 he designed all Camper shops in the world as well as the relevant furniture.

In 2004 he conceived FoodBall, Camper's restaurant in Barcelona. Among the many exhibitions, books and shows made by Marti Guixé around the world, we note his collaborations with H2O galleries in Barcelona and Spazio Lima in Milano, as well as the researches made with Droog Design: Couleur Locale, Droog Design for Oranienbaum and Do-Create. His installations and studies on the culture of objects and, over all, of food, brought his works to the worldwide most important museums of modern art and design: MoMA of New York, MuDAC in Lausanne, MACBA Barcelona, Centre Pompidou in Paris. Among his best clients there are Authentics, Camper, Cha-cha, Desigual, Droog Design, Isee2, Pure Lustre and Saporiti Italia, for which he designed the "Saporiti HUB", the company's headquarter, factory and showroom in Besnate.

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SHINING

Eric Maria

A black lacquered wooden top, with a slightly irregular shape, is shattered by a series of cuts illuminated by light flashes.

The glasses transmitting the light on the wooden top, is used once again for the legs of this low table, that can be conveniently placed in a conversation or waiting room.

The black leather ottoman, recalls the shapes and the "cuts" of the table, both in the sequence of the stitching and in the geometry of the surface.

Eric Maria

Eric Maria, architect and designer, was born in 1956 and graduated at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts in Paris.

In 1985 he started his collaboration with Jean Nouvel's studio, taking care of the development of the Institut du Monde Arabe in Paris.

Avec Jean Nouvel he realized many projects all around Europe.

In 1993 he became partner of Architectures Jean Nouvel and he was in charge for the general management of all projects, among which the project for the Opéra in Lyon.

In 1999 he moved to Geneva and established his own architecture firm, EMA.

He maintained a solid professional relationship with Jean Nouvel, with whom he cooperates in many important international projects, such as the Expo 02 in Lausanne, several projects for the Richemont Group and many others.

With EMA, Eric Maria made important urban, architectonic and interior design projects all over the world.

Among his most important clients, Cartier and Vacheron Constantin, for whom he designed the new headquarters in Geneva and Plan Les Ouates in collaboration with Saporiti Italia.

He has designed for Saporiti Italia the "Couture" seating collections and the "Griffes" tables.

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JOHN CAGE

Gianfranco Pardi

A table like a broken cage, punched and folded in many areas.

A discontinuous shape, that recalls in a design object the artistic work of Mr. Pardi, always trying to isolate and to unbalance the architectural elements of the buildings, to give them a new meaning, apart from their usual context.

Gianfranco Pardi

Painter and sculptor, born in Milan, he lives and works in Milan.

He made personal shows in many Italian and international galleries, such as Alberti in Brescia, La Colonna in Milan, Studio Marconi in Milan, Foncke in Gand, La Piramide in Florence, il Mercato del Sale in Milan, the XLII Biennale in Venice, L'Isola in Rome, the Frankfurter Westend Galerie in Frankfurt, Spazia in Bologna, Palazzo Reale in Milan, the Bochum Museum.

He has participated to many collective art shows. Among the most important recent shows, Pop Art Italia at Petr Gwyter Gallery in London, Scultura Italiana del Dopoguerra at Castello di Vigevano, Figure Astratte at Palazzo Pallavicini Rospigliosi in Rome, Drawings for Sculpture alla Patriothall in Edinburgh, La Scultura italiana del XX secolo at Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro in Milan, Rifiuti preziosi at Palazzo Strozzi in Florence.

He made large sculptures in Malcesine, Rome, Genoa, Paris, San Dona' di Piave, Bruxelles, Milan.

He holds courses and lectures at Istituto Europeo di Design, at Nuova Accademia and at the Domus Academy in Milan.

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YAYOI

Park Associati

A table with simple and regular shapes, thus with its corners marked by clean and nervous cuts giving character and originality to the visual structure of this object.

The Corian top is carved inside and lighted by several sources of light creating geometric courses, decorative effects or wordings with precise functions.

A linear and refined bench made of chromed steel, multi-layers wood and Corian, is the elegant complement that comes with the Yayoi table.

Park Associati

Park Associati, founded in 1999 by Filippo Pagliani and Michele Rossi, is an architectural firm whose activities range from architecture, to interior and product design, researching new expressive languages and forms, focusing on the care for the details in interior design and on the complexity of the sites macro-dynamics on urbanism and architecture.

Filippo Pagliani, after graduating from the School of Architecture at Milan Polytechnic, worked with Renzo Piano in Paris and then joined Michele De Lucchi in Milan, where he finally founded Park Associati. He is currently head of the Building Elements Design Lab at Milan Polytechnic and teaching professor at ISAD (Istituto Superiore di Architettura e Design).

Michele Rossi, graduated in Architecture at Milan Polytechnic in 1991. He worked with Michele De Lucchi before moving to London to join David Chipperfield and Din Associates.

He was Visiting Professor at St. Martin's School of Arts, he taught at Istituto Europeo di Design in Milan, at ISAD (Istituto Superiore di Architettura e Design) and at Politecnico University in Milan.

Some of the most complex and interesting works by Park include the Credit Suisse Investment Centers in Milan, Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt and Stuttgart, the Acer Group Headquarters in Lainate, the Lehman Brothers offices in Milan, the Motivi Concept Store in Rome, the Tandem Real Estate Offices in Kuwait City, the Morgan Stanley Financial Shops in Italy, the Fineurop Spa offices in Milan, the atrium of MAXXI Museo Nazionale delle Arti del XXI Secolo in Rome, the Piaggio, Vespa, Gilera, Aprilia, Moto Guzzi and Derbi POS, a new brand - Life Pharmacy - for a group of 130 pharmacies in Ireland, the C.P. Company corporate identity and stores.

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CZ-T1

Carlos Zapata

A table conceived to protect and to show art, part of a wider project for home and office tables.

The elaborate cast aluminum basement, supports a large aluminum plate holding the ample glass case, two meters by two, used to contain and to show the art pieces.

The refined mechanical work of the various components of this table, the harmony of its proportions, the precious finishing of the surfaces – sand-blasted, anodized, varnished – makes this object unique and original.

Carlos Zapata

Carlos Zapata is a New York-based designer who has turned out interior design and architecture projects under the radar, quietly impacting major cities around the world, in a way few designers dare to.

After he received a bachelor of architecture from Pratt Institute and a master of architecture from Columbia University, he founded his own studio in Miami, where he made some very important projects, such as JPBT Advisors offices, Publix By The Bay department store, Concourse J at Miami International Airport.

He made residential projects in Miami, Quito, New York, Shanghai.

In 2003, Zapata led the design of the 62,000-seat stadium at Chicago's Soldier Field, which was awarded a 2005 Chicago AIA Award.

Presently he is working on the Fontainebleau Casino & Resort in Las Vegas, the Bitexco Tower in Ho Chi Minh City, the Horizen Tower and the Cooper Hotel in New York.

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