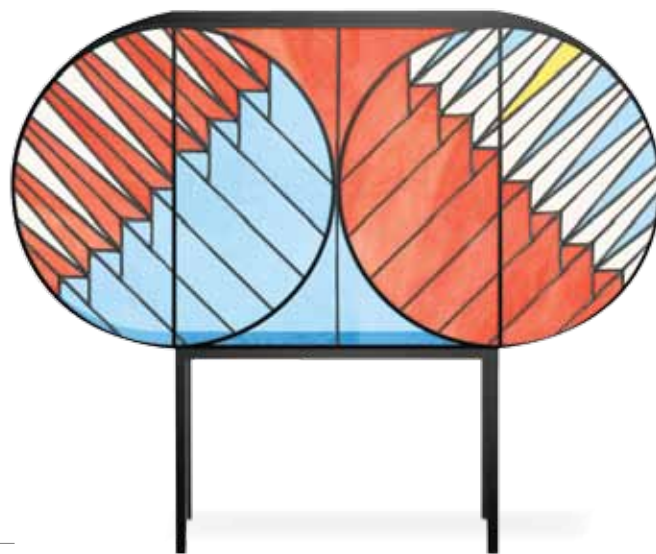


1

SPAZIO PONTACCIO

Via Pontaccio 18; spaziopontaccio.com
In the heart of Milan's charming Brera district, Spazio Pontaccio is the design-world equivalent of Barneys — it carries top furniture lines like Ligne Roset and Glas Italia; supports rising talents like local designer Cristina Celestino; and curates special editions like the collab between furniture star Patricia Urquiola and graphic designer Federico Pepe that's launching during this month's Salone.

Credenza (above left) by Patricia Urquiola and Federico Pepe for Spazio Pontaccio, price upon request at the gallery



DESIGNS ON MILANO

Your guide to gorgeous finds during Salone del Mobile

By MONICA KHEMSUROV

WHEN you're in the market for leather shoes or big black sunglasses, Milan's probably a good bet. But when it's furniture you're seeking, the city is nothing short of a holy grail — not only does it host the world's biggest and oldest contemporary furniture fair each April, the Salone del Mobile, it's home to hundreds of showrooms and galleries that cultivate the city's proud obsession with cutting-edge design all year long. Here are six of the best.



2

POST DESIGN Via della Moscova 27; memphis-milano.com
The colorful 1980s Italian design movement Memphis has come back with a vengeance, and Post Design is its spiritual epicenter: Founded by Memphis legend Ettore Sottsass in 1997, the gallery these days displays not only key artifacts from the era, like Sottsass' "Carlton" bookshelf, but contemporary furniture that nods to it.



Post Design is filled with vibrant pieces, including this "Carlton" room divider from 1981 by Ettore Sottsass (price upon request), part of the gallery's Memphis Milano collection.



3

NILUFAR DEPOT

Viale Vincenzo Lancetti 34; nilufar.com
Nina Yashar has had a gallery on tony Via della Spiga for a decade, but last year she turned its 16,000-square-foot warehouse across town into this impressive three-floor showroom. Its contemporary pieces and vintage finds are all arranged into vignettes, demonstrating how to effortlessly mix eras like the most stylish Milanese do.

Customizable "Cherry Bomb Cage" lamp (above) by Lindsey Adelman, price upon request at Nilufar Depot



Sofa by BBPR (1944), price upon request at Fragile Milano

6

FRAGILE MILANO

Via San Damiano 2; fragilemilano.com
Even if you aren't in the market for rare 1940s Angelo Lelli lamps or original Gio Ponti tables, Fragile is worth a visit just to see its raucous technicolor interiors, designed by Italian icon Alessandro Mendini. If you do go to shop though, be on the lookout for the gallery's impressive cache of collectible 20th-century jewelry, as well as a brand new collection of rugs Mendini designed for New York carpet maker Joseph Carini.

4

ROSSANA ORLANDI Via Matteo Bandello 14/16; rossanaorlandi.com
In addition to boasting a magical courtyard cafe, this gallery founded by the famed talent-spotting septuagenarian Rossana Orlandi comprises a warren of showroom spaces and a shop selling everything from inexpensive Astier de Villatte notebooks to elegantly patterned Nika Zupanc sofas. During the Salone each year this becomes a key spot to see and be seen, as well as to discover young talents handpicked from graduate shows around the globe, like Amsterdam mirror-maker Germans Ermičs.



Progetto Palmador collection "Big One" table by Dimore Studio, price upon request at Dimore Gallery

5

DIMORE GALLERY

Via Solferino 11; dimoregallery.com
For a decade, design duo Britt Moran and Emiliano Salci, aka Dimore Studio, have been sought after by clients (like hotelier Ian Schrager) for their ability to channel Old World Italian elegance into contemporary interiors. But they got even more buzz recently for turning their offices — housed in an 18th-century palazzo — into this showroom, featuring both their own furniture designs and eccentric finds like Chinese lanterns salvaged from a bar in Berlin.

PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES (2), FRANCESCO PIZZO, COURTESY OF THE GALLERIES.

EDITOR'S LETTER

MEMORIES OF A MASTER



FEW talents better represent the global exchange between art, architecture, design and fashion than Zaha Hadid — the Iraqi-Anglo icon who passed away as we were editing this special design-focused issue of Alexa. Hadid's ability to create form from fantasy — to turn sketches into structures — is a testament to the spirit that design elicits in all of us. We pay tribute to her legacy in this issue, while also exploring the ways design informs culture, fashion, film, real estate and travel. From cutting-edge galleries in Milan to an eccentric artist and his Brooklyn studio-cum-aviary, Alexa brings to life the design world's best and brightest.

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