

Portfolio Lavori

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Francesco Frulio

2020

A collection of works



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About

Francesco Frulio was born in London, he has graduated in **Product Design for Innovation** at the Milan Polytechnic. Here he is selected together with 150 other student from Polytechnic of Milan and Polytechnic of Turin to participate in the Honours Degree **Alta Scuola Politecnica**, achieving at the same time the MA in “Systemic Design” “at the Polytechnic of Turin.

In 2019 he founded his studio that deals with product design and collaborates with design studios, companies and private customers including **Nutella S.p.a.**, **Wired**, **The Fashionable Lampoon**, **Triennale Design Museum**, **Sguardi Altrove Film Festival** and more.

His research focuses on the creation of narrative bridges and unexpected relationships between Design and disciplinary fields that apparently often seem irreconcilable with each other. Design as a bridge able to unite and create new stories.

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Manfred Table

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Manfred was born from the idea of creating a table inspired by the lightness and strength of the first wooden planes. The intention of the designers was **to transfer the formal language of the aerospace world to domestic products**, creating a continuum between these two seemingly divergent worlds.

The material used for the structure is beech plywood with a in **Marseilles soap finish**, a technique that has almost disappeared that protects the wood by giving it a tactile feeling similar to that of silk. The table top is instead **tempered, acidified and sandblasted glass cut through water-jet**. The blasting process gently sails the underlying structure, shading it and making it look like suspended above a cloud, underlining the general idea of lightness and floating.

Manfred Table



Manfred Table



Manfred Table



FiberFlax

FiberFlax

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FiberFlax is a new bio-composite born with the aim was to create a **new, ecological composite material that, with the same mechanical properties, could replace glass fiber** in the manufacture of pieces of furniture. It is now important to understand the impact that each project has on the environment in terms of energy consumption and resource utilization. After extensive research into different types of materials, the choice has felt on **linen fabric and wool felt**, two sustainable materials widely found in the Sardinian craft tradition. The process used to assemble the material is an aerospace production technology known as **VARTM** (Vacuum Assisted Resin Transfer Molding). The project also highlights how **tradition and innovation can co-operate to create new and unexpected results.**

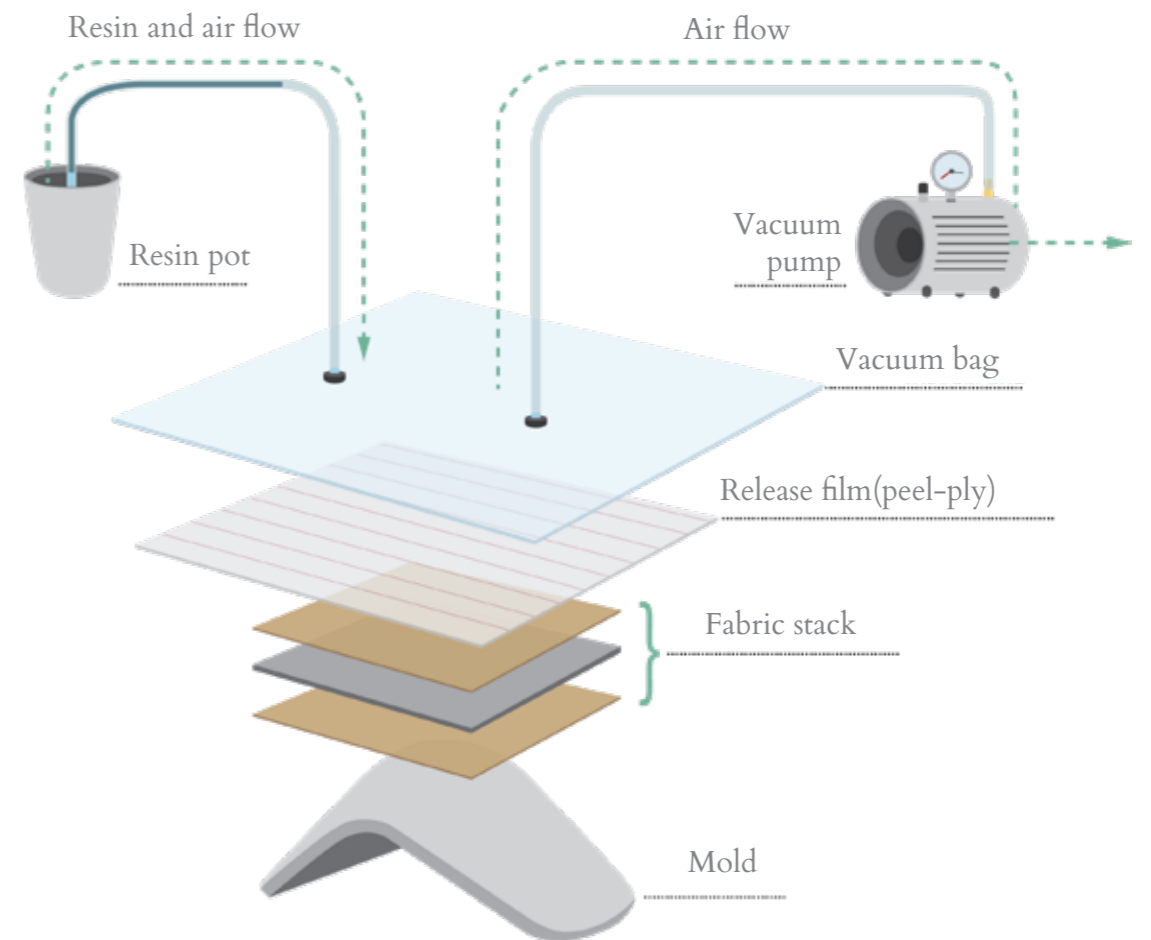
Materials & Process

Linen and wool felt

Flax is a material largely present in the Sardinian manufacturing tradition used for the manufacture of garments and rugs, and has properties similar to glass fiber but with an energy consumption 7 times lower. The fibers used for the wool felt are instead a waste product of the machining and spinning of wool.

With this project I wanted to create innovation starting from traditional materials and demonstrating how tradition and innovation can coexist and benefit from each other.

VARTM technique



FiberFlax Stool

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FiberFlax Stool was born from the idea of making a sitting using the new **bio-composite** FiberFlax made from **linen fabric and wool felt stratified and bound by a sustainable resin** made from wood pulp and recycled waste oils.

The **wool felt absorbs and retains the heat of the user**, keeping the seat warm and giving a material and tactile perception similar to that of wood; linen provides instead structural resistance to the material. The process used for the **shell production is an industrial process borrowed from the aerospace industry, known as VARTM** (Vacuum Assisted Resin Transfer Molding), used for the production of high performance composites. This has also allowed unprecedented and unexpected interplay of the world of advanced composite materials and the domestic one.

Easy Light Chair & Table

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Easy Light Chair & Table is a collection of lightweight plywood furniture, **robust but with a minimal material consumption**. The project was born from the curiosity of seeing how much material could be removed while maintaining a perfect structural integrity while optimizing at the same time the use of the plywood and identifying, quoting Giò Ponti, “the structure with the form”.

The use of **three different thicknesses of plywood for seat, legs and center lobe** according to the efforts to which they are subjected, has allowed to **remove weight in parts of the structure where it was not necessary and to move it to others where it is most necessary**. The furniture has been designed to be assembled without the use of screws, but only through joints, which have not been hidden but emphasized, becoming a feature-rich and decorative element.



