

Φ GALERIE PHILIA



RICK OWENS DIALOG WITH EMERGING ITALIAN DESIGNERS

SPAZIO CB32 | MILAN, ITALY

EXHIBITION: 4 -10 September 2021

Over the years, **Rick Owens** has developed a number of signature materials, shapes, and visual archetypes and has influenced an entire generation of artists and sculptural designers. His brutalist pieces of furniture vary in finishes and textures, they can be black, golden or nitrate, but they all combine a stark modernist look with a contemporary minimalistic line.

The exhibition will be focused on Rick Owens design works aesthetically questioned by contemporary **Italian sculptural design artists**. This unique event during the **Milano Design Week** will weave a dialog between a curated selection of emerging Italian designers and Rick Owens' impactful design artworks.

Rick Owens: *"My furniture is my couture. I'm using rare materials and artisans with specialized skills to create unique, one-of-a-kind objects."*

List of Exhibited Artists:

- [**dAM Atelier**](#)
- [**Draga & Aurel**](#)
- [**Lorenzo Bini**](#)
- [**Agustina Bottoni**](#)
- [**Samuel Costantini**](#)
- [**Cara and Davide**](#)
- [**Pietro Franceschini**](#)
- [**Rick Owens**](#)
- [**Morghen Studio**](#)

ABOUT GALERIE PHILIA

Launched in 2015, Galerie Philia is an international contemporary design and modern art gallery representing emerging and established designers and artists. The gallery is the brainchild of two brothers who share a lifetime passion for art, literature and philosophy, hence its name Philia, the "highest form of love" in Ancient Greek, also meaning "friendship" or "affection". The concept of Philia was mainly inspired by Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*. Their distinct academic background sets them apart from their peers, as it sees them following a rhizomatic and transcultural approach in the way they select works. This involves combining elements from multiple cultures in what becomes a network of harmoniously interconnected roots, ultimately revealing the beauty of each unique creation. The gallery's non-hierarchical curation sits apart from the ephemerality of trends and focuses instead on the true aesthetic quality of the piece – alluring and timeless. Unlike others, Galerie Philia does not focus on a single style – whether minimalist, organic or raw – but rather embraces heterogeneity.

The gallery takes pride in discovering new talents, providing them with multiple international platforms to showcase their latest creations. Such designers include **Cédric Breisacher** (France), **Lucas Morten** (Sweden) **Arno Declercq** (Belgium), **Mark Sturkenboom** (the Netherlands) and **Evan Fay** (USA). As well as propelling the newest generation of 21st century collectible design, Galerie Philia also works with established practitioners such as **Rick Owens** (USA), **Jérôme Pereira** (France) and **Alain Ellouz** (France).

Galerie Philia has a strong international presence, with galleries in Geneva, New York and Singapore. In addition to their permanent spaces, the gallery organises temporary group exhibitions and artists residencies in first-class locations around the world.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

5 -10 September 2021
Opening Cocktail September 4 from 7 PM
SPAZIO CB32
Via Cesare Balbo, 32, 20136 Milano

Press, VIP and Professional Preview: September 4 from 7 PM

FOR FURTHER PRESS INFORMATION AND ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:

GALERIE PHILIA PR

E: info@galerie-philia.com

T : +33 7 60 94 01 23



dAM Atelier

dAM atelier is a duo of young Italian architects sharing the passion for design and architecture, Paolo d'Alessandro and Marco Malgarini. The studies of architecture in Switzerland, at the Accademia di Architettura di Mendrisio, have been essential to define the way of thinking and to shape their design vision. It also gave the trainee to work at the different scales that each project requires with the same attitude and accuracy.

They conceive design as the elaboration of thoughts in a continuous process of adding and subtracting information, seeking a composition of raw elements that are able to generate a moment of wonder. The result is an aesthetic that is minimalistic, pure and timeless but arouses emotions.



Draga & Aurel

Founded in 2007 in the town of Como, Italy, Draga & Aurel is a multidisciplinary design studio that works along the spectrum of furniture, textile and interior design. Draga Obradovic began her career in the fashion industry, first working in London and Milan as a textile designer before eventually settling in Como. Aurel K. Basedow graduated from Milan's Accademia di Belle Arti with a degree in Fine Arts, having previously trained as a carpenter and woodworker. Thanks to their sympathetic methods, combined with an artist's approach to material and composition Draga & Aurel are widely recognized for their clever reinvention of bespoke vintage design pieces.

Their showing at 2009 Salone del Mobile introduced the duo to the world stage; it followed the partnerships with several companies that have pushed the pair's domain beyond the reinvention of singular vintage pieces. While interior projects have expanded their sought after aesthetic into the realm of hospitality and lifestyle. On occasion of the 2019 Milan Design Week the design duo presented Transparency Matters, an exhibition of limited edition pieces, entirely fabricated by hand in their Como atelier.



Lorenzo Bini

Born in 1971, educated in Milan and Oslo, Lorenzo graduated in 1998 from Politecnico di Milano and worked for different offices in Milan and Rotterdam until 2003 when he co-founded Studiometrico, his former practice that ceased business in 2011 after 8 years of shared partnership.

He works on the transformation of existing spaces shifting from temporary structures to permanent buildings and gardens. Beside his professional activity, Lorenzo has been adjunct professor at the Politecnico di Milano and visiting professor at the Design Academy Eindhoven.



Agustina Bottoni

Agustina Bottoni is an independent designer based in Milan. She works for companies, private clients and self-productions of objects, textiles and furniture. Graduated at the University of Buenos Aires, and after years of working in the fashion industry, she transferred to Milan, graduating with honors of the MA in product design at the Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti. Following, she collaborated with design studios in Italy and the Netherlands before dedicating since 2015 to her independent design practice.

Exploring the language of everyday objects, these projects tell stories through a gentle use of shape. Agustina's multicultural experience influences the research of different materials and techniques. They also encourage an emotional perception, considering objects as companions in our lives. Her works have been exhibited at Triennale Design Museum in Milan, Salone del Mobile, Maison&Objet and others. Since 2016, she is a co-founder of design collective The Ladies' Room.



Samuel Costantini

The ability to create objects lies in the tradition in our hands. In ancient times, they were our only means of realizing our thoughts. Artisan is the one with this ability to breathe life into the raw material. Since Samuel Constantini was a young boy has tried to create the objects of his imagination. He has always believed when you make an object you have created yourself it

is possible to bequeath something to that object and that my thoughts can be passed on via my hands.

Metal is one of those materials which more than others allows you to give shape to ideas. Connection with the elements is basic when it comes to my objects being born. The principle element is earth, from which metal originates. The natural world around us is a source of inspiration for new techniques and new objects to be shaped. The earth has, over the centuries, already sculptured the most beautiful works of art. The second element is fire which governs metal. Over time he has come to understand that fire is never my servant. You can think that you dominate it, but in reality you never have full control over it. So fire contributes to the creation of objects as if it were a co-artist.

The concept of the elements, the link with the territory, the precious metals often obtained from recycled materials, techniques from the past and the search for new ones give the creation all the subtleties it requires. This is the essence of Samuel Constantini's creations. After years of bringing to life the ideas of others, it is now time also to realize our own, giving hands and minds the freedom to experiment and create. There is no production line: every creation is made by hand and exclusively to order, and this enhances the individuality of the pieces, which are all numbered to make each one unique.



Cara and Davide

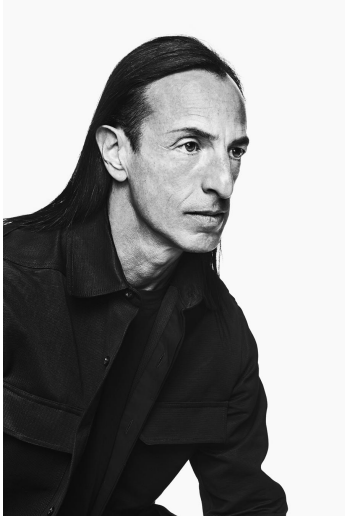
Design studio based in Milan, is a collaboration between Cara Judd (South Africa) and Davide Gramatica (Italy). Graduating in product design from IED Milan, Cara and Davide started their professional careers in diverse areas ranging from apprenticing with artisans to working with Industrial companies before merging their experience in 2016. They work in the fields of product design, event curation and offer creative

consultancy to studios and private clients. Cara and Davide both lecture in the Product Design Department at IED Milan. Passionate about craftsmanship, they also produce their own series of products working together with artisans in Italy and South Africa.



Pietro Franceschini

Pietro Franceschini is an architect and designer based in New York and Florence. He was educated in Italy, Portugal and the United States. After receiving his B.Arch cum laude from Università degli Studi di Firenze and his M.S.Arch with 1st class honour from Pratt Institute, he collaborated among others with Leeser Architecture in Brooklyn, Claudio Nardi in Florence, Laisné Roussel in Paris and Carlo Ratti Associati in New York. His latest project - PFStudio - was born as an interior and furniture design practice.



Rick Owens

Rick Owens is a California-born fashion and furniture designer who has developed a unique style that he describes as “luxé minimalism.” Though his designs are simple and spare, Owens thrives on theatricality — producing wildly original runway shows featuring gender-fluid models of all ages and shapes. Inspired by his longtime partner and muse, Michele Lamy, clothes and furniture alike feature dark grays, blacks and browns. Like his frontier forebears, Owens finds his strongest influences in nature — his furniture and housewares have simple, organic shapes, and a few items even feature his distinctly 21st century take on antlers.



Morghen Studio

Morghen is a multidisciplinary studio that works on the boundaries between design, art and craftsmanship. They rely on techniques passed on by the artisan heritage mixed with experimentation and contemporary materials. Every single piece is conceived, developed and handcrafted in a carefully renovated old carpenter’s shop located in the Milanese Bovisa district. Every single piece evolves from and assimilates previous theoretical and practical research. Every single piece is unique. Their work encompasses objects, furniture, lighting and spaces