# Meneghello Paolelli design studio at the Salone 2024

New collaborations ranging from bathroom furnishings to indoor and outdoor furniture, emphasizing a total cross-disciplinary approach to product design. Designers are signing new products for Arbi Arredobagno (in addition to booth design), Cesana, Fiam, Marac, Porada, Scab, Stella Rubinetteria, and Twils.

The 2024 edition of the Salone del Mobile marks significant developments for Meneghello Paolelli studio, once again confirming the great versatility of its approach to product design, creating new collaborations and emboding its aesthetic and innovative drive in every design area, always respecting the DNA of the companies it collaborates with.

The showcase of new projects in the furniture sector is rich, featuring a new mirror design and the range extensions for the Sansiro table and Aksel desk for Porada, a side table for Fiam, a lounge chair for Marac, and a family of upholstered furniture and a bed for Twils.

In the outdoor sector, the fruitful collaboration with Scab continues, presenting not only an extension of Flap system but also introducing an ironic family of in&out coffee tables.

In the bathroom sector, Meneghello Paolelli signs several projects with very diverse companies, reaffirming their expertise and technical know-how in this specific environment, approached in all its facets. At the Salone del Bagno, new bathroom furnishing projects for Arbi (for which the studio has also designed the booth) and the third collection of faucets for Stella Rubinetteria will be exhibited.

Also in the bathroom furnishings sector, during the Fuorisalone, the studio presents a new shower enclosure project for Cesana.

### **FURNITURE**

#### Fiam Italia

Stone is a side-table designed not only to be placed next to a sofa but also to serve as an armrest cover insert. This element has been designed to enhance the organic layout of the surfaces, that reminds of natural stone forms. The combination of shapes, materials, and finishes contributes to characterize the product. In terms of shapes, the project focus on the idea of a monolith of top and stem-leg, in the sense that the first merges seamlessly with the second: the two elements are aligned at the top, so much so that the supporting surface is also provided by the leg. Thus, the top and leg complement each other in a single form, they are part of a single whole. For materials, we have suggested using glass in glossy metallic black (paired with black wood) and glossy brown (paired with Tobacco wood) for the top. The metal base will be black to blend in as much as possible, almost becoming the shadow on the ground of the side-table itself. A versatile object that easily fits into any context, still providing a touch of style and contemporaneity.

## Marac

## Time Out

The first collaboration between the historic upholstered furniture company Marac and Meneghello Paolelli studio begins. Time Out is a generous lounge armchair in wood (75x80x65 cm), corded in leather, designed as a relaxation seat and for taking a break from the fast-paced time, aiming to "suspend" everyday life. Hence the name. The wooden rod architecturally defines the upper backrest. The rear legs and armrests converge and fit onto this rod. The result is a structure that is somehow austere, with sharp and clear joints, softened by a leather cord system on the backrest as well as by large cushions designed to provide seating comfort and relaxation.

#### **Porada**

One year after the debut with Porada with projects such as the Molly chair, the Aksel desk, and the Sansiro table, the company entrusts new briefs to the designers.

Firstly, an extension of the *Sansiro* range, which has been very successful, is proposed. Thus, the *Sansiro* tables are born, which reinterpret the iconic geometry of the dining table in new shapes (oval and circle), primarily played on the legs and the spiral woodwork (which strongly recalls the architecture of the homonymous stadium). In the two new tables, the legs are positioned under the top and not at the corners.

Additionally, a lamp designed to fit into the groove of the *Aksel desk* is presented, named the *Aksel lamp*, but it can also exist independently as a table lamp. Built on a metal base, the lampshade is a sphere of tempered glass that offers a comfortable and relaxing luminous effect. A novelty for 2024 is the *Fortyfive* mirror. The project focuses on the wooden frame, apparently composed of two different pairs of profiles. In fact, the triangular section profile is unique, but it is turned first inward towards the glass and then outward. The 45-degree cut on the edges - which gives the project its name - creates a continuity effect between the sides of the frame, the illusion of a ribbon of wood bending around the mirror. The light hits the surface at different angles, creating a strong contrast of lights and shadows that gives a decisive and rigorous appearance.

#### **Twils**

The collaboration resumes in 2024 with a company that had already believed in the studio's work. Thanks to the meeting with the new art director Matteo Ragni, Meneghello Paolelli worked in a new territory such as that of upholstered furniture and "textile furnishings", both in the case of the *Chain sofa* and armchair collection and for the new *Elle bed*. The studio's aesthetics and industrial design approach have been applied to a different area, where function - always at the heart of our projects – should remain more silent.

#### Chain-Sofa

Lightness and comfort result from the combination of the wide seat with a more deconstructed design backrest. The name *Chain* comes from the idea of translating the image of a roll of fabric, portioned with a regular pitch (each portion measures 16 cm), "unrolled" along the perimeter of the backrest. A large sofa characterized by its generous, high, soft, and rounded seat, combined with the image of this segmented backrest, as if it were a chain being unrolled. The result is a soft upholstery, bridging the gap between the pop of its soft curves and the classic feel perceived from the regular movement of the backrest. The *Chain* family is available in 2 and 3-seater sofas and an armchair.

#### Elle-bed

The basic concept of the Elle project is to create a bed "suspended" on the painted metal structure, very light and elegant. Another notable feature is the "almond" profile emphasized by the stitching that runs all around the perimeter of the bed. The upper backrest is divided into two parts, and thanks to a semi-flexible flap, it can be reclined to facilitate and increase seating comfort, offering greater support to the back, for example, to facilitate reading/smart working. The choice of fabric in this case will play a key role, being able, for example, to underline the section of the backrest by combining two different fabrics, patterns, or colors.

### **OUTDOOR**

#### Scab

### Hyppo coffee-table collection

The "Hyppo" coffee-table family arises from the desire, on one hand, to offer an extremely versatile and functional series of accessories suitable for both indoor and outdoor use, and on the other hand, from a formal experimentation, at times playful, which characterizes its design. The studio primarily focused on the contrast between the leg (made of aluminium), large and sculptural, and a slim top, made with a new colored paste laminate by Arpa. The shape of the top is intentionally irregular - non-geometric - and reminiscent of the body of a hippopotamus. The dimensions vary in diameter and height also to create groups of coffee tables (for a lounge, outdoor environment). The color palette is designed to create an eye-catching effect but without seeking ostentation.

# Flap System - Range expansion

Following the success of the modular *Flap* system presented at the last Salone in 2023, the company has decided to expand the collection with armchair, pouf, and chaise longue versions that incorporate the central element of the project: the movable backrest, a flap, which rests on the tubular structure and can rotate on an axis of about 15° degrees, allowing the support cushion to have different inclinations to achieve the best possible level of comfort.

### **BATHROOM FURNISHINGS**

#### Arbi Bathroom

For Arbi, the studio designs, for the second consecutive time after the Cersaie 2023, the booth project, also showcasing its interior design expertise. "The iconic flower cheba project" is an abstract design narrative, unfolding outdoors in a metaphorical garden punctuated by circular islands conceived as large gazebos, like "cages" that host the collections within them. "The iconic flower cheba project" is a continuous play of contrasts and opposition between glossy and matte finishes, between the hardness of the cages and the softness of the carpet that delineates the space, between the rigidity of wood and the lightness and freshness of the setup, culminating in the chromatic contrasts stemming from the choice of a color palette in green tones, enlivened by complementary hues in shades of burgundy red and antique pink. A "secret garden" where projects and new ideas sprout to personalize the bathroom environment. The gazebos, constructed with a supporting base onto which aluminium tubes are mounted to create cages to protect and display the products, are enriched by a series of floral compositions as if they were climbing plants.

For Arbi, the studio also designs *Almond*, a highly articulated collection that includes suspended furniture, aluminum washbasin structures, consoles with integrated washbasins, countertop basins, bathroom accessories, and mirrors. The collection takes its name from the almond-shaped section of the aluminum extrusion used throughout the system, conveying a soft and elegant mood. The same profile is also used in the edge of the top and the console. The furniture is characterized by a "biscuit" silhouette of the top and curved doors on the sides. A preview is presented at the Salone del Bagno, while the development and final version of the collection will be showcased at the next Cersaie.

### Spaces

The concept of customization and integration are two important and highly requested drivers in the realization of private and contract bathroom environments. Getting inspiration and energy from this point, Cesana and Meneghello Paolelli create the *Spaces* project, a system of waterproof profiles designed as a design tool to be made available to interior designers in the modulation of private and hotel spaces.

It is a system of partitions (profiles with glasses of different types and finishes), which can integrate the shower with other adjacent spaces (sanitary area, laundry area, dressing room/utility room, walk-in closet). The system not only involves dividing the bathroom space between wet and dry areas but also a true design kit that allows the architect to modulate space and find integrated solutions inside and outside the bathroom, in a perspective free from separation schemes between environments and, at the same time, with a single guiding thread.

The project highlights, on one hand, the know-how and experience of Cesana in the production of high-end shower closure systems and, on the other hand, the design and aesthetic sensitivity of Meneghello Paolelli studio, capable of adding stylistic value to a product type that is more technical and colder for its nature.

### Stella Rubinetteria

Side is the third collection designed by Meneghello Paolelli for Stella, marking the consolidation of the relationship with the company. Designing for Stella means designing for a historic and renowned brand in Italian tapware, recognized for its elegance and the exclusivity of its collections, for its refinement and savoir-faire. Stella faucets are chosen by architects and interior designers as prominent features in the bathrooms of the world's most prestigious hotels. The intention behind *Side* project is mainly to create a highly sophisticated and customizable collection.

The handles are the heart of the project: an iconic lever combines a high content of product design with the material element and the touch. From this premise, the lever is divided into two primary volumes, into two distinct elements with a different shape and material, that can be declined and customized according to the customer's needs. The fragility of the contact between the two volumes creates a magical connection that enhances the two individual elements as if they had their own nature. There are many finishes proposed, starting from the classic Stella PVD, then hypothesizing collaborations with companies operating in the wood, fabric, and marble sectors that could further enhance the product.