

A project by



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CORRIERE DELLA SERA

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DOPPIA FIRMA 2026
A DIALOGUE BETWEEN DESIGN AND ARTISANAL EXCELLENCE
“The Grand Tour in Italy”

Milan Design Week - Fuori Salone
Arts & Crafts & Design
Casa degli Artisti
Via Tommaso da Cazzaniga,
corso Giuseppe Garibaldi 89/A

Open to the public
from Tuesday 21 April to Sunday 26 April,
10.00 am – 8.00 pm
Last admission 7.00 pm
www.doppiafirma.com

*Only those who risk going too far
can possibly find out
how far one can go.*
(T.S. Eliot)

Every year since 2016, the worlds of design and fine craftsmanship have awaited with anticipation the unveiling in Milan, during Salone del Mobile, of the new edition of Doppia Firma – the successful format conceived by **Fondazione Cologni** and **Living - Corriere della Sera**, with the **support of Michelangelo Foundation** – which brings design thinking and excellence in craftsmanship into a fertile and ever-generative creative dialogue.

The 2026 edition is inspired by the fascinating theme of the Grand Tour in Italy, the preferred destination of the historic educational journey undertaken by young Europeans. The classic stages of the itinerary included, in particular, Venice, Florence, Rome, Naples and Sicily. Travellers often set off from Northern Italy, sometimes passing through Milan or Turin, and their main destinations were concentrated around the great art cities, scenic landscapes and archaeological sites, offering immersion in classical culture.

From the splendid historical itineraries of the Grand Tour to today's mass tourism, much has changed; yet one thing, fortunately, has remained unaltered: **the passion for Italy, which continues to be one of the world's most cherished destinations, among the most desired and loved by travellers everywhere.**

This theme is interpreted in the new edition of Doppia Firma, hosted at **Casa degli Artisti** in Milan **from 21 to 26 April**, in a rich and compelling way, thanks to the **12 pairs of designers and master artisans** who came together to create works dense with meaning and beauty, always

marked by an intelligent rediscovery of local traditions and their highly contemporary reinterpretation.

The success of the format is renewed through its winning formula: fostering encounters between the great culture of design and excellence in making. The fundamental premise is that **designer and master artisan stand on equal footing, playing roles of equal importance** and engaging in an authentic exchange of knowledge. Both “sign” the work born of this virtuous partnership, with no hierarchy between creativity and manual skill. In this alliance between design and talent, both protagonists embrace the challenge and test themselves, pushing their creative capacities ever further, often into unexplored territory. **This winning formula has become an internationally replicated model** and, over the years, has given rise to works that are always original and surprising, strengthened by the fertile connection between different visions, skills and cultures.

The Grand Tour was also an opportunity to discover the beauty of Italian craftsmanship – its workshops and its talented masters – capable of producing exceptional objects that often became precious travel souvenirs. **Doppia Firma** therefore proposes a new creative exercise based on the **pairing of international designers with outstanding Italian artisans** linked to the places of the Grand Tour and their materials of choice, namely: *Venice*, with Murano glass and Venetian mirrors; *Florence*, with precious objets d’art in metals, stones and enamels, as well as wood carving; *Rome*, with bronze foundries and handmade paper for fine bindings; *Naples*, with Capodimonte porcelain and papier-mâché; *Palermo*, with ceramics; *Milan*, with metals and paper; *Turin*, with cabinetmaking.

The contemporary design world was invited to engage with these places, these artisans and these materials. A complex yet thrilling challenge – a modern Grand Tour – which has given rise to creations of great charm and beauty, once again under the banner of the alliance between design thinking and craftsmanship, in keeping with the values of the “double signature”.

The designers, master artisans and materials of the 2026 edition are:

Andrea Anastasio / Polo delle Arti Caselli Palizzi and Real Fabbrica di Capodimonte

(Naples, porcelain)

Arthur Arbesser / Andrea Bouquet (Turin, wood)

Sam Baron / Nicolò Giuliano (Palermo, ceramics)

Constance Guisset / Marco Castorina (Florence, wood)

Ugo La Pietra / La Fucina di Efesto (Milan, metals)

Marcantonio / Alessandro Valentini (Rome, bronze)

Paola Navone / Tommaso Pestelli (Florence, silver and precious stones)

Elisa Ossino / Giuseppe Tudisco (Naples, papier-mâché)

Christian Pellizzari / Ongaro & Fuga (Venice, Venetian mirror)

Sara Ricciardi / Fabscarte (Milan, paper)

Roberto Sironi / Simone Cenedese (Venice, glass)

Clara von Zweigbergk / Librarti (Rome, paper)

This year, **Doppia Firma** adopts a new narrative register through a highly contemporary and minimalist exhibition design, entirely centred on paper, light and mirrors, in an overall palette of white.

Alessandra Salaris, an established Milan-based interior stylist, has curated the exhibition design. **Stylevent**, an artisanal company based in Pavia, has crafted the exhibition displays to the highest standards.

Laila Pozzo, a Milan-based photographer specialising in portraits and settings connected to excellence in craftsmanship, portrays the pairs and documents the works for the exhibition catalogue, curated by Fondazione Cologni and offered free of charge to all visitors.

The exhibition is hosted in the exceptional setting of **Casa degli Artisti**, in the heart of Brera: a space dedicated to residency, production and public engagement, placing research and the work of artists across all disciplines at the core of its mission. It is an interdisciplinary and international institution, open to the city, the public sphere and the urban space, connecting art and society and preserving its function as a public good.

This particularly meaningful venue becomes this year the showcase for **Arts & Crafts & Design**, a format that for several years has brought together diverse creative players united by an interest in design and making. It is home to four leading protagonists of Milan's craft and design scene: **Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte**, **Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity & Craftsmanship**, **Serapian** and **Creative Academy**. **Casa degli Artisti** reflects the shared values of creativity, experimentation and dialogue embraced by the four partners, in an initiative that represents a significant contribution to the collective reflection fostered by Milan Design Week, focused on **design, craftsmanship, innovation** and **sustainability**.

Fondazione Cologni dei Mestieri d'Arte ETS is a private non-profit institution founded in Milan in 1995 by Franco Cologni. It promotes cultural, scientific and educational initiatives aimed at safeguarding and disseminating the crafts. Through the editorial series *Mestieri d'Arte* and *Ricerche* (Marsilio Editori), it seeks to reconstruct historically the reality of these fields of excellence up to the present day. It publishes the magazine *Mestieri d'Arte & Design*. *Crafts Culture*. Through the training placements of the project *Una Scuola, un Lavoro*. *Percorsi di Eccellenza*, it supports young people's education in fine craftsmanship. With the web portal [well-made.it](http://www.well-made.it) it presents a selection of the finest Italian artisan workshops. Every two years it awards the title of MAM – Maestro d'Arte e Mestiere. In partnership with Starhotels it promotes the patronage project *La Grande Bellezza*, featuring awards, exhibitions and productions. It is a partner of Michelangelo Foundation in numerous initiatives and in the major international biennial event *Homo Faber*, hosted on the island of San Giorgio in Venice.

www.fondazionecologni.it

Living is *Corriere della Sera's* interiors, design and lifestyle magazine. A monthly print publication, digital edition, website and a strong presence across major social networks make *Living* Italy's leading vertical media system dedicated to interiors. Focused on new ways of inhabiting domestic spaces, the RCS monthly directed by Francesca Taroni starts from the home and embraces everything that revolves around it: food, art, fashion and green living. Special attention to *Made in Italy* excellence, an international outlook and a strong service-oriented editorial approach are the cornerstones of the *Living* system, reflected in every page and every project.

www.living.corriere.it

Michelangelo Foundation for Creativity and Craftsmanship is a non-profit institution based in Geneva, which champions contemporary craftspeople worldwide with the aim of promoting a more human, inclusive and sustainable future. The Foundation seeks to highlight the connections between craft and the wider arts and the design world. Its mission is to both celebrate and preserve craftsmanship and its diversity of makers, materials and techniques, by increasing craft's everyday recognition and its viability as a professional path for future generations. The Foundation presents *Homo Faber*, a cultural movement centred on creative artisans worldwide. Its signature projects comprise: *Homo Faber NextGen*, a suite of education programmes for the next generations of artisans; *Homo Faber Guide*, an online platform showcasing artisans around the world; *Homo Faber Finds*, which identifies craft excellence and proposes imaginative ideas to inspire collaborations, private commissions and acquisitions; and a yearly programme of physical events including flagship celebration *Homo Faber Biennial* and curated exhibition series *Homo Faber Capsule*.

www.homofaber.com

www.michelangelofoundation.org

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