

THE DECOR

APRIL 2026

DARE TO DESIGN

IDEAS FOR A LIFE FANTASTIC



**INSIDE A LAURA GONZALEZ
PARISIAN FANTASIA**

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CALDER'S FRENCH CONNECTIONS

PLUS: THE BEST THINGS TO DO, SEE, AND BUY AT MILAN
DESIGN WEEK + THE BEST NEW HOTELS IN ITALY

April, 2026

THE DESIGN FIEND'S GUIDE TO SALONE

Curious about the best way to conquer Milan Design Week? Here's a guide, broken out by zone.

By LAURA MAY TODD Illustrations by JOSIE PORTILLO



Left: Filo sofa in oak and felt by Barber Osgerby. Below: A Jorge Zalsupin coffee table at Mercado Moderno.

MAGENTA DISTRICT

Start with a macchiato at **Marchesi 1824** before crossing the street to see the array of exhibitions at Palazzo Litta, a Baroque-era residence. Farther along is the **Basilica di Santa Maria delle Grazie**, home to Leonardo's *Last Supper* as well as the Formafantasmacurated **Prada Frames** symposium. Stop by the design gallery Rossana Orlandi on Via Matteo Bandello and Canadian lighting brand **Bocci's** chic apartment showroom on Via Rovani. By Sempione Park sits the **Triennale Design Museum**, where an Eames Office project and a retrospective on design duo Barber Osgerby are on exhibition.

BRERA

This neighborhood is worth your time for its mix of traditional showrooms, independent galleries, and temporary installations by blue chip brands. **Hermès** has been taking over a jai alai court from the 1940s for several years. Nearby are marble producers Salvatore and Marsotto, surfaces specialist **Florim**, and **Casa Mutina**, home of the ceramics brand Mutina. On Via della Moscova are the **Loro Piana** HQ and gallery the Great Design Disaster. The furniture brand **Delvis** is in walking distance. Farther north, **Gallotti & Radice** is staging an exhibition of female designers working exclusively with glass.

RHO FIERA

Salone del Mobile, the official furniture fair, will host 1,900 exhibitors from 32 countries over six days, including the return of the EuroCucina and EuroBagno biennials, which present fresh ideas in the realms of kitchen and bathroom design. **Salone Raritas** debuts this year as fair-within-a-fair, showcasing a curated selection of collectible and vintage design exhibitors. **Salone Contract**, an entirely new division of Milan Design Week (dedicated to hospitality and large-scale interiors, helmed by Rem Koolhaas, co-founder of OMA), previews this year ahead of an official launch in 2027.

EXTRA CREDIT

BRAND AWARENESS Fashion houses are everywhere at Milan Design Week. Many activate existing flagships, including **Louis Vuitton**, which will unveil new iterations of Art Deco-inspired designs, and **Issey Miyake**, collaborating with Spanish architects Ensemble Studio. Finnish brand **Marimekko** will host "Osteria Fiori" in a historic Milanese restaurant, while **Golden Goose** will stage a sports-led pop-up with padel tournaments.



Louis Vuitton Objets Nomades cabinet, louisvuitton.com



FILLOAK AND FELT SOFA/PRIVATE COMMISSION 2009/© MANVIR RAI (ISOFA); POLDI PEZZOLI MUSEUM MILAN (FAN)

MILANO PALAZZO REALE SALA DELLE GARIATI/INSTALLATION VIEW © ELABIAKOVSKA/OKNO STUDIO (KIEFER INSTALLATION); PAOLA PANSINI (GERONIMO BARI); COURTESY RH (RH MILAN EXTERIOR)



A fan at "Wonders of the Grand Tour."

ART WALK The impressive **Museo Poldi Pezzoli** was once the home of Gian Giacomo Poldi Pezzoli, a collector of Renaissance decorative arts. He died in 1879 and bequeathed his house and collection to the city, forming the museum as it stands today. Throughout the week, "Wonders of the Grand Tour," organized with the Metropolitan Museum of Art, will spotlight Baroque painter Giovanni Paolo Panini's celebrated views of Rome.



Anselm Kiefer's *The Women Alchemists* at the Palazzo Reale in the historic district.

ALCOVA

Alcova is where independent designers, emerging brands, and boundary-pushing galleries present their work. This year the exhibition takes place in two historic sites on the western edge of the city. The larger is **Baggio Military Hospital**, a vast abandoned medical complex dating from the 1930s. The other location is **Villa Pestarini**, a Modernist private home designed by the architect Franco Albini and completed in 1939. Opening to the public for the first time, the villa is expected to be one of the most sought-after visits of the week, so make sure to book your tickets ahead of time.

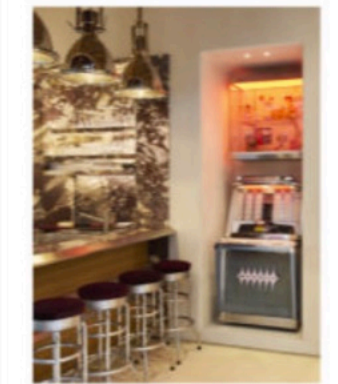


Snoopy lamp, \$1,840, flos.com

CENTRO STORICO

Showrooms such as **Cassina**, **B&B Italia**, **Edra**, **Natuzzi**, **Artemide**, and **Flos** are open for perusing here, as well as **Molteni&C**, **Poliform**, and **Artemest** (at **Palazzo Donizetti**). The Quadrilatero della Moda District is where you'll find fashion-turned-furnishing brands such as **Louis Vuitton**, **Armani Casa**, and **Fendi Casa**. Head to Corso Porta Romana to see an installation by Kelly Wearstler and **H&M Home** at **Palazzo Acerbi**.

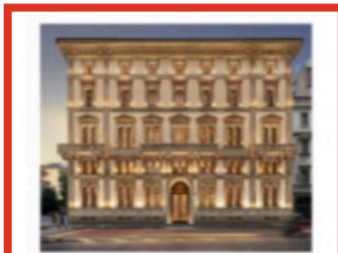
APERITIVO HOUR



GERONIMO BAR Next to Jacques Marie Mage's Milan store sits its first coffee and cocktail lounge, with drinks named after famous American artists and writers, and a jukebox.

BAR BASSO

A favorite of the design set, who head here to mingle late at night, a famed Negroni Sbagliato in hand.



LA VOLTA A skylit restaurant anchors RH Milan's neoclassical gallery, which includes a design studio and a library.

SI MA TOWNHOUSE

Locals love a nightcap at this "small but tall" bar, which is hosting a takeover by architect Massimiliano Locatelli.



MIDNIGHT PASTA Feeling peckish after a long day taking in the sights? If you're staying at any of Milan's luxury hotels (**Bulgari**, **Carlton**, **Portrait**), you'll probably find spaghetti di mezzanotte on the menu. Literally translated it means midnight spaghetti, a tourist-friendly variation on aglio e olio. The longstanding staple of southern Italy is made with garlic, olive oil, and whatever else is in the pantry (capers, fried bread, and chili pepper are popular).