

MONOCLE

Salone del Mobile Spring 2026 A Monocle Special Edition

Delivering fresh insights from the world's premier furniture and design trade fair – plus shows and exhibitions across Milan.

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Top tables

The Lombard capital's best new hospitality openings.



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Wine and dine

Monocle takes over Balay bar and restaurant for Milan Design Week.



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Colour theory

Italy's Mutina teams up with the Josef & Anni Albers Foundation.



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Expert views

Fresh takes from Miminat Shodeinde and other designers in the know.



FURNITURE / TOKYO

From Tokyo with love

"Sustainability is about timeless elegance," says Fumie Shibata when Monocle meets the Japanese designer in her Tokyo studio to learn about the expansion of her collections for Flexform. The work, which includes furniture and homeware, will be on show during this year's Milan Design Week. "That's a philosophy that I share with Flexform. It's about creating objects that are cherished across generations, fostering a deep emotional bond that transcends time."

Shibata's first partnership with the brand, the Eri armchair, blended structural integrity with a soft, sculptural form. The effect is a merging of Italian manufacturing process with pared-back Japanese aesthetics. Shibata hopes that the combination ticks the boxes of timeless elegance. And it's something that her new releases for 2026 – a collection called Soreto – should possess too, offering an honesty in terms of materiality and form.

"Good design requires taking a long-term perspective and having the intelligence to use materials appropriately by deeply understanding their inherent properties," says Shibata. "While physical durability is essential, it's equally vital to possess aesthetic durability – the quality of a design that remains relevant and beloved for decades, regardless of trends."

• FOR MORE TIMELESS ELEGANCE, SEE PAGE 52

EXHIBITION / DENMARK

From the archives

While Milan is arguably the design capital of the world (at least for one week in April), Copenhagen is hot on the Italian city's heels. But rather than compete, why not join forces? That's exactly what's happening at the Triennale Milano this year. The museum is hosting *Frødericia: A Chronicle of Danish Design*, an exhibition honouring the legacy of one of the Nordics' leading furniture firms. Monocle gets a preview.

• FOR MORE ON DANISH DESIGN NOUUS, SEE PAGE 33



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Spring 2026

LISTING

EVENTS / MILAN

What to see and where

From cyberpunk installations to silverware – and from career retrospectives to showcases of emerging talent – here are the presentations and shows not to miss at this year's Milan Design Week.

WRITER: Grace Charlton

It can be hard to know where to turn during Milan Design Week, with events sprawling from the central Brera neighbourhood to the far reaches of the city's Isola district. To help you navigate the week, we present a guide to 50 events (in no particular order) that are worth visiting.

01

Dimoregalleria

Emiliano Salsi and Britt Moran, the co-founders of Milanese design firm Dimorestudio, are staging a group show with exhibitors including Aesop, Bonacina 1889 and Monde Singulier.
Piazza Affari, Via San Vittore al Teatro, 1/3

02

Prada Frames

The fashion powerhouse returns for the fifth edition of Prada Frames, a series of talks curated by Formafantasma. This year's topic of conversation is the role of image-making in contemporary culture.
Complesso Santa Maria delle Grazie, Via Garadino, 1

03

Alessi

The design brand, which was founded in 1921, has put together an ode to the inimitable postmodern Italian designer Ettore Sottsass, in an installation titled "La Bella Tavola".
Palazzo Stampa di Soncino, Via Soncino, 2

04

Jil Sander

Simone Bellotti, the creative director of Hamburg-founded, Milan-based fashion brand Jil Sander, invites guests to peruse a selection of 60 books chosen by 60 different creatives as part of its "Reference Library" installation.
Via Luca Boltrani, 5

05

Muuto Apartment

The colourful Danish brand takes over an apartment in San Marco with an installation titled "The Art of Belonging", which unites new lighting and furniture designs in a distinctive and tactile environment.
Via Solferino, 11

06

Kaldewei

The work of Milanese architect Piero Portaluppi forms the central theme of German bathroom experts Kaldewei's exhibition, staged in a palazzo designed by Portaluppi himself.
Palazzo Crepi, Corso Giacomo Matteotti, 1

07

Geberit

The Swiss leader in sanitary products, founded in 1874, stages a site-specific installation titled "Form. Flow. Function." in collaboration with Atelier OL.
Opificio 31, Via Tortona, 31

08

Convey

More than 20 brands are taking part in the fourth edition of this design showcase, which will occupy five storeys of a building.
Via San Saverio, 10

09

Monument Magazzino Archive

London design gallery Monument teams up with French design expert Harold Mollet to present a collection of rare functional art, exhibited at the Mulino Factory.
Via Antea, 2

10

Alcova

This popular design showcase takes place in a former military hospital and a rationalist residence by Franco Albini.
Baggio Military Hospital Complex, Via Giovanni Labus, 10; Villa Pstarnin, Via Mogadiscio, 2/4

11

The Lucia Eames Rug Collection

A new rug collection centred on the work of Lucia Eames, the only child of design duo Charles and Ray Eames, makes its debut, in collaboration with Barcelona's Nansimarquina.
Via Statuto, 13

12

Objects Are By

The Milan-based design studio launches a tea brand called Croso with a temporary tea-house on the 2nd floor of a Milanese brutalist landmark.
Torre Ilasca, Piazza Ilasca, 5

13

Hernès

The French luxury fashion house returns to its usual Milan Design Week address at La Pelota, a former 1940s sports court, to unveil its latest collection of homeware.
Via Palermo, 10

14

Range Rover

After making its debut last year, the UK carmaker is back with "Traces", an installation that explores personalised luxury, materiality and sensory design.
Galleria Meravigli, Via Gaetano Negri, 6

15

Louis Vuitton Objets Nomades

The French luxury fashion house unveils new designs for the home, including works by São Paulo firm Estúdio Campana and Parisian paper sculptor Geraldine Gonzalez.
Palazzo Serbelloni, Corso Venezia, 16

16

Buccellati

With an installation titled "Aque Mirabiles", the Italian silverware specialist presents Caviar, its latest collection for the table.
Piazza Tomasi di Lampedusa

17

Nilufar

Nina Yashar's gallery is putting on two showcases. The first, at her depot, is conceived as a fictional luxury hotel; the second, *La Casa Magica*, explores the house as a symbolic and ritual space.
Nilufar Depot, Viale Lancetti, 14; Nilufar Spiga, Via della Spiga, 32

18

Arcinera

New work by Antonio Citterio, the architect and artistic director of Italian kitchen company Arcinera, will be presented in the brand's showroom.
Via Durini, 7

19

Marni x Cucchi

The Milanese social ritual of the morning espresso (and later an aperitivo) is reimaged by fashion brand Marni at a café, in collaboration with design studio Reddus.
Piazzetta Cucchi, Corso Genova, 1

20

Poltroa Frau

What does it mean for design to be timeless? For Poltrona Frau, the answer is in materials that develop patina, a central theme of its True Over Time presentation.
Via Alessandro Manzoni, 30

21

Pro Helvetia

In partnership with Presence Switzerland, the Swiss Arts Council presents *Shared Matter*, a showcase on emerging design voices from the Alpine nation.
Via Pinamonte da Vinaccia, 4

22

Technogym

The Technogym Unica, the gym-equipment company's all-in-one machine designed for at-home strength training, celebrates its fourth decade with a high-energy installation at the brand's showroom.
Via Durini, 1

23

Loro Piana

Plaid takes centre stage at the luxury Italian house's headquarters. The display pays homage to different weaving techniques and patterns through focused case studies.
Cortile della Seta, Via Moscova, 23

24

HEM Home x Kelly Wearstler

The US designer joins forces with HEM Home for a capsule collection that spans large-scale furniture as well as smaller design objects.
Palazzo Acerbi, Corso di Porta Romana, 3

25

Baccarat

Marcelle-based artist and scenographer Emmanuelle Luciani presents "Crystal Crypt", an installation with a cyberpunk and science-fiction influence, for French glass manufacturer Baccarat.
Centro Brera, Via Marco Formentini, 10

26

Warsaw, São Paulo, Milan

Jorge Zalszupin's emigration from Poland to Brazil – and his contributions to the latter country's modernist architecture – is told for the first time in Milan.
Torre Ilasca, Piazza Ilasca, 5-5, 16th floor

27

Rosewood

The legacy of Andrea Branzi, one of the leaders of the 1960s Italian Radical Design movement, is honoured by hotel group Rosewood with a large-scale display of the designer's rice-paper lamps.
Via Carlo de Cristoforo, 1

28

Tod's

The visual language of 20th-century Italian design provides the inspiration for a limited-edition collection of the Italian fashion brand's signature Gommone shoe.
Via Sarona, 36

29

Laboratorio Paravicini

Milan workshop Laboratorio Paravicini presents a new collection exploring the contrast between ceramics and metal, created in collaboration with Colombian-born designer Natalia Criado.
Via Nerino, 8

30

Zucchetti

The evolution of the Italian brand's Octo faucet collection, designed by David Lopez Quincoces, is presented in stainless steel, as well as in several new configurations.
Corso Venezia, 29

31

Design Singapore Council

Is Singapore the ultimate prototype nation? This exhibition explores this idea, reimagining the Asian city-state as a centre for optimisation and future-proofing.
Foro Buonaparte, 54

32

Giorgetti

High-end Italian furniture maker Giorgetti unveils its latest wares in its showroom, as well as through an immersive experience staged at the Teatro Manzoni.
Via Della Spiga, 31; Via Alessandro Manzoni, 42

33

Kettal

To celebrate its 60th year in business, Kettal is staging collaborations with design luminaries such as Verner Panton and Jasper Morrison at its Milan showroom. Over at the Triennale, the Eames House Exhibition revisits the US architects' flat-packed house.
Via Bolzano, 44; Triennale Milano, Viale Alemagna, 6

34

Rimadesio

The Palazzo Isimbardi provides the site for an exhibition of Rimadesio's furniture by Swiss firm Encoor Studio.
Corso Monforte, 35

35

Acqua di Parma

The Italian perfume brand will celebrate the launch of a new series of fragrances, *Buongiorno La Collezione*, with an installation in the courtyard of the publishing house *180 Media*.
Via Bernardino Luini, 12

36

Vistaria Foundation

This group showcase, entitled *Pelak Modernism. A Struggle for Beauty*, covers the impact of modernist ideas and the movement's symbolism as an act of resistance in Poland.
Torre Ilasca, Piazza Ilasca, 3-5, 16th floor

37

RH Gallery

The US design behemoth marks its Italian arrival with the opening of its Milan outpost, which comprises a shop, a library, a restaurant, a bar and a lounge.
Corso Venezia, 56

38

USM x Snobetta

Multi-sensory installation "Renaissance of the Real" invites visitors to explore the Swiss brand's metal modular system through a spatial journey.
Corso Venezia, 52

39

Bocci

Light, as a medium in and of itself, is the subject of this year's exhibition from Bocci, interrogating the theme through the lens of design gallerist David Ahadef.
Via Giuseppe Rovani, 20

40

Humbert & Poyet

The French duo present a limited-edition version of their Hug chair – rendered in lacquered aluminium, polished brass and garnet velvet – for gallery Maison Puenat.
Via Bergamini, 5

41

Dropsy

What are the key challenges of the near future? This is the question that Dropsy posed to students of London's Central Saint Martins for this year's showcase.
Via Giovanni Battista Sammartini, 40

42

Alphabet

A retrospective on the work of UK design duo Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby over the past 30 years, on display at the Triennale.
Triennale Milano, Viale Alemagna, 6

43

Interni Venosta

A private apartment opens to the public, displaying objects by the furniture brand founded by Dimorestudio.
Via Bigli, 21

44

CC-Tapis x Fornasetti

Surrealist patterns from 1958 by Piero and Barbara Fornasetti are reimaged as rugs by Italian brand CC-Tapis.
Piazza Santo Stefano, 10

45

6iAM Glassworks

In the basement of the Piscina Romano, the Milanese firm presents *Over and Over and Over and Over*, an exploration of repetition as a source of creativity.
Via Ampère, 24

46

Zaha Hadid Architects x Audi

The German carmaker presents "The Origin", a titanium-bued fibreglass portal, in partnership with the acclaimed London-based architecture firm.
Corso Venezia, 11

47

Deidar

Custom textiles from chair upholstery, curtains and more form the subject of the Italian experts' exhibition, *Ileri Liberi*.
Via Lazzarini, 15

48

Artemest

The historic Palazzo Donizetti provides a theatrical setting for the fourth edition of *L'Appartamento*, the design retailer's annual showcase of Italian design.
Via Gaetano Donizetti, 48

49

Kohler

Can design aid personal wellness? Lifestyle brand Flamingo Estate teams up with Kohler to create a brutalist bathroom and delve deeper into the topic.
Via Palermo, 14

50

Lina Ghotmeh

The Lebanese architect presents a Pepto-Bismol-pink labyrinth for visitors to explore within the courtyard of the Palazzo Litta.
Corso Magenta, 24