



Living Nature. La Natura dell'Abitare

The Salone del Mobile.Milano ponders the possible reconciliation of man and nature with an emotive installation that enters into the debate on the value of sustainable living.

The 57th edition of the Salone del Mobile.Milano will explore the relationship between nature and living with an exhibition-installation designed to trigger ideas about sustainable design in the internal and external parts of the home.

The Salone's city-based **technological project Living Nature. La Natura dell'Abitare** developed with the **Carlo Ratti Associati (CRA)** international design and innovation studio, **will be in Piazza del Duomo**, in front of **Palazzo Reale**, from **17th to 25th April**.

A single 500m² space, conceived with energy saving criteria in mind, will contain **four natural, climactic microcosms** that will enable all **four seasons of the year** to unfold at precisely the same time, one next to the other.

Visitors will be immersed in nature and experience its changes as they make their way through the four different areas – **Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn** – **embellished with familiar and domestic concepts**.

The project, conceived by **CRA** with **Barbara Römer**, does not fail to deliver in terms of **ironic, evocative and experiential value**. Quite the reverse. While the obvious aim is the **reconciliation between urban and domestic spaces** on one hand **and nature** on the other, the end goal is to **come up with sustainable, genuinely applicable solutions** that replicate the processes inherent in our own ecosystem, harnessing **existing technological advances** in an intelligent manner. While air conditioning is often associated with excessive consumption, this project offers a radical change of perspective, demonstrating the **feasibility of air conditioning technology** that is also **sustainable**, with **huge potential for future applications**.

The 5-metre-high pavilion will consist of a **responsive Crystal membrane** fitted with light-reactive sensors that enable the **internal climatic conditions to be carefully regulated**. A series of organic **photovoltaic** panels, equipped with **latest generation solar cells inspired by chlorophyll photosynthesis**, will be integrated into the roof, providing the energy required to keep the winter area cold. A heat exchange system draws on this energy to heat the summer area.

With this event, the Salone del Mobile.Milano is keen to make its contribution to the re-greening of the city, albeit temporary. **Living Nature. La Natura dell'Abitare** is designed to explore whether or not a space, urban or domestic, can become more human-friendly through the **sustainable use** of natural resources.



Ultimately, the project provides a new standpoint and a different perspective on tackling the **issues of environmental sustainability** and **climate change** with a view to improving our living conditions at home and in cities and satisfy the human tendency towards “**biophilia**” – a term coined by Harvard biologist Edward O. Wilson – according to which we are all instinctively attracted by nature and “programmed” to feel better when we are immersed in it.

Credits

A Carlo Ratti Associati (CRA) project for the Salone del Mobile. Milano

Concept Design: **Carlo Ratti Associati & Studio Römer**

Design Development: **Carlo Ratti Associati**

Scenography: **Studio Römer**

Engineering Consultants: **Ai Studio**

Landscape and Botany: **Patrick Blanc Flavio Pollano**

Construction: **PAC Team Expo**

Graphics: **studio FM milano**

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17th – 25th April

Piazza del Duomo

10am – 10pm

Press info:

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