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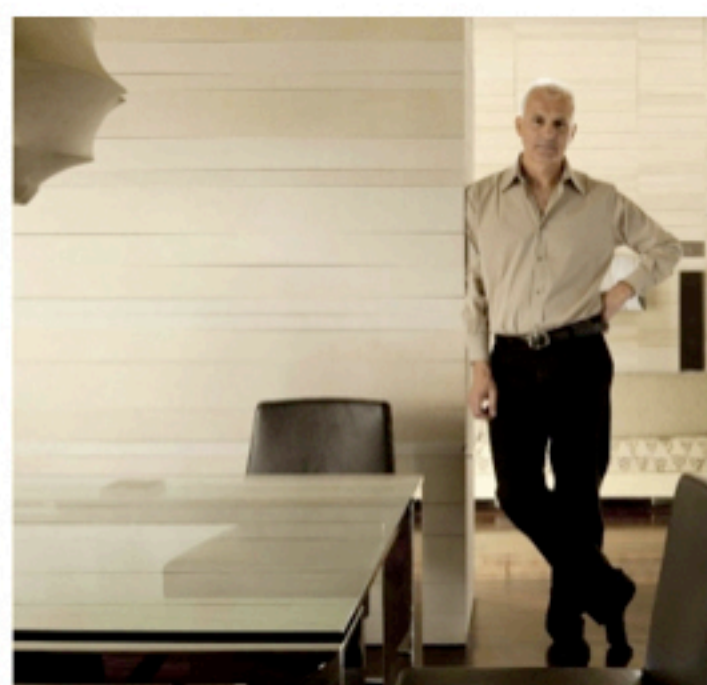


DESIGN [FEED]



Q&A Mauro Lipparini

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HG gets personal with Italian designer (of many facets) Mauro Lipparini. His iconic pieces for Bonaldo are dynamic in style and timeless in design. Classy, classic and creative, Lipparini's products range from tables and chairs to beds and side tables and much more.

What is your name?// Mauro Lipparini

What you do?// I'm an Architect, Interior Designer, Industrial Designer and Visual Designer.

What is your latest project?// Several are on the burner right now!

I produce simultaneous projects in various design disciplines. Currently, the more complex range from a mixed-use 18-story building in Baku, Azerbaijan to a 38-story luxury residence in Dubai, UAE. On a smaller scale, I just unveiled at the Milan Furniture Fair several new furniture designs: the "Slab" and "Cave" sofa designs as well as the "Basket" bed for Bonaldo and many others.

Who are three people that inspire you and why?// Reducing it to three is pretty difficult and I would have to reference people from different cultures to fully answer your question. Allow me to answer with my 5 Italian "Godfathers", albeit deceased, who have inspired my work (not in any particular order):

Giuseppe Terragni for the rigor of his lines. *Gio Ponti* for his delicacy. *Carlo Scarpa* for his poetic use of natural materials. *Achille Castiglioni* as the master of rationalism and for the spontaneous simplicity of his forms. *Ettore Sottsass* for his eccentricity and virtuosic shapes, rich in anti-conformist bliss.

What is your favourite...

Residential space// Maison à Bordeaux, France (Rem Koolhaas).

Commercial space// Tokyo's Roppongi Hills Louis Vuitton (Eric Carlson and Peter Marino).

Decorative product// Decorative "objects" rather than "products": Japanese *chasen* (a tea-ceremony utensil, a tea whisk crafted from a single segment of bamboo as well as Chinese stoneware tea bowls from the Song dynasty (and introduced into Japan during the Kamakura period).

Functional product// The original Fiat 500 city car.

Handmade good// Katana, the traditionally-made Japanese samurai sword – no two are alike!

Mass-produced good// The iPhone.

Item in your studio// I love all the plants in my Studio, but the Acanthophoenix (pictured above) – is very special!

Piece of technology// Ferrari – any model!

Historical figure// Emperor Augustus - The Age of Augustus was a four-decades-long age of peace and prosperity – I'm not a fan of war!

Fictional character// Walter White.

What is your vice// My Ferrari and overindulging in sweets!

What is your virtue// Courage; in the Platonic sense.

What is a quote or saying that motivates you// "See, I fill this sacred pipe with the bark of the red willow; but before we smoke it, you must see how it is made and what it means [...]; this eagle feather here is for the thoughts of men that should rise high as eagles do."

Black Elk Speaks, *The Offering of the Pipe*