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THE OUTDOOR REVIVAL

Neapolitan architect and designer Mario Marengo created his eponymous collection of armchairs and sofas for Arflex 50 years ago. In celebration of its semicentennial landmark, the brand has announced that the iconic design will now be available in a number of outdoor versions (arflex.it).

THE ARTFUL COMPLEMENT

Exploring what Living Divani describes as 'the intimate connection between bodies and objects', this tall slimline 'Kigi' coat-hanger has been conceived by design duo Junpei and Iori Tamaki, and is one of a series of products that the brand is spotlighting during this year's show. The detail of the catch-all tray is a particularly chic touch (livingdivani.it).



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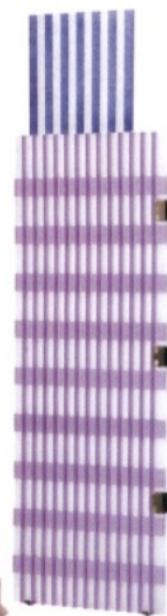
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THE STORAGE SOLUTION

The '2022 True Evolution Collection' from Poltrona Frau marks the brand's 110th year and is a banquet of various design treats.

We suspect the show-stealer might be the pixel-covered 'Archibald Limited Anniversary Edition' previewed in our May issue, but we're also rather enamoured with this reinterpreted 'Lloyd Tex' bookcase by Jean-Marie Massaud, with its semi-transparent partitions (poltronafrau.com).

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THE TALKING POINT

Knoll will be encouraging the art of conversation during Salone del Mobile, showcasing its new curvy 'super chaise longue' design by the prolific Piero Lissoni. With its fluid form and two-directional seating positions, it manages to present somewhat effortlessly as a bench or a sort-of yin-and-yang-style sofa. Available in three different sizes, it's covered with removable fabric or luxurious leather (knoll-int.com).

THE MODERN MONUMENT

Available in six different sizes and shapes, the new 'Bulbi' planter (see what they did there?) for outdoor specialist Ethimo by Studiopepe is set to shimmy in and make its debut during the Milan show. Look out for the warm neutral colours and primitive texture bringing a little hint of the Mediterranean mood to gardens near you (ethimo.com).

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THE RETURN TO MEMPHIS

In a kaleidoscope of colour reminiscent of Memphis, one of Italy's most prominent design movements, architect and designer Gaetano Pesce took inspiration from the New York city skyline to make a semi-transparent polyurethane resin room divider, 'Tramonto a New York'. The striking, vibrant panels of the screen have been made by pouring resin into moulds, layer by layer. From purple and blue to pink and green, Pesce has saved the most penetrating colour of all – bright red – to form the round, rising-sun shape that appears to crown the work of art (cassina.com).

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THE PERFECT PAIRING

Armani Casa will treat us all to a new dining-table design and a 'floating' armchair. The 'Space' table's striped Greige Lacquer top – edged in canaletto walnut wood – sits on some rather elegant transparent plexiglass legs. This piece will be on display alongside something a little more curvy: the 'Sharon' floating armchair, which has been upholstered and finished in dove cuoi leather (armani.com).

THE NEW MATERIAL

Surface specialist Marazzi is showcasing a sleek new kitchen surface slab collection, named 'The Top'. Available in a spectrum of tempting designs, including 'Marble Look', 'Stone Look', 'Metal Look', and 'Solid Color' look finishes, all are made from what Marazzi describe as 'a malleable, yet very strong, stain-resistant and mould-resistant material'. Practical and stylish? That's a design win-win (marazzigroup.com).

THE MODULAR MARVEL

The new 'René' design by Andrea Parisio for Meridiani takes modular sofa design into a new age. It's a fully flexible system of combinations – there's a healthy scope of what Meridiani calls 'units' available, and a spectrum of upholstery materials to choose from. Defining the joys of design detail, there's also a series of different size and shape ottomans – semicircular, round, trapezoidal or rectangular – and they can all be specified with an accompanying tray on top (meridiani.it).

THE ELEGANT BALANCE

Like 'Eliseo', the name of Flexform's latest chair design, according to the Italian furniture brand, there are three other words beginning with 'E' that define it: elegance, ergonomics, and equilibrium. It launches two versions during the fair: a club armchair and a *bergère*, both designed by the masterful Antonio Citterio. We're particularly keen on the armchair version with the swivel die-cast aluminium base. Bets are on that it will send Salone spectators into a spin (flexform.it). ➤

ELLE DECORATION

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