

AD *perspective*

NEWSMAKERS, OPINIONS
THAT MATTER, PLUS
THE LATEST IN ART,
ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

UNITED COLOURS OF DESIGN
Designer Suchi Reddy with
the 'Mille-Feuille' storage units
designed by Emmanuelle
Moureaux and made
by Schönbusch.

THE MILAN REPORT
SALONE DEL MOBILE 2013



SPOTLIGHT

Our team of experts offers the insider's view of the world's biggest design fair. From a guided tour of the city to exhibitions, products and trends, AD looks at the Salone Internazionale del Mobile through India-tinted lenses

WRITER SONALI THAKUR · PHOTOGRAPHER HAZEL THOMPSON



Suchi Reddy in front of *Prying Eyes*, an installation by Michele De Lucchi, at Università degli Studi di Milano.

The 'Bolt' stool by Note Design Studio for La Chance.

An installation by Steven Holl for the Hybrid Architecture show at Università degli Studi di Milano.

SUCHI REDDY

The founder of New York-based Reddymade Design, Suchi Reddy visited her favourite design destinations in Milan, to tell us what had to be seen

Architectural Digest: What are the must-visit design destinations in Milan during Salone?

1. The Ventura Lambrate design district for designers, both established and not.
2. *Wallpaper* magazine's 'Handmade' show at interior design studio, Letetico, now in its fourth year, which is a celebration of craftsmanship. Some of the pieces that I liked were the 'Mille-Feuille', storage units designed by Tokyo-based French architect Emmanuelle Moureaux and made by Schönbusch. They had been "imagined as thin layers of coloured sheets scattered in the air, then settling randomly on top of each other". We had presented this piece to a client of ours who loved it.
3. Droog's pop-up, for whimsy and wit in design.
4. The Salone Satellite, that part of Salone dedicated to upcoming talent, for all the young minds and design schools.
5. The Zona Tortona district, for its collection of international designers' young and experimental work.
6. The Japanese section in the Brera quarter, for its elegance.
7. La Triennale di Milano museum for its shows.
8. Curated exhibitions, such as the one by Rossana Orlandi in the Museo Bagatti Valsecchi, a treasure house of 19th-century renaissance design. She invited designers to create installations that interact with the amazing interior of the museum. The one that I liked was 'Golden Calf' by Desiree Von Pelt, a metal-studded armoire crowned with a whimsical sculpture installed in the museum's weapons gallery, the Galleria Delle Armi.
9. The Università degli Studi di Milano for architectural installations. The ones that I particularly liked were some of the installations in a show called 'Hybrid Architecture'. Lighting designer Dean Skira teamed with iGuzzini to create an arcade of invisible light. I love the intertwining of architecture and technology, where he inserts lights as "a tissue of contact" to create a glowing environment. Another installation from the show was by architect Steven Holl. He worked with a stone company to create a digitally cut sculpture of six stone volumes with voids cut out, set around a reflecting pool. The design, which reverses and reflects the solid-to-void relationship in architecture, was built from an interpreted watercolour by Holl. The sculpted stones issue perfumed mist and light up at night as well. They will be taken to the US to be installed in the new performing arts centre at Princeton University. *Prying Eyes* was another installation here that I liked, by architect Michele De Lucchi, in collaboration with eyeglass company Safilo. One looks through the glasses to see a video of the company's hand-cast glasses.
10. The installations at the Museum of Science and Technology.

AD: Your design favourites in 2013...
SR: Noe Duchaufour Lawrance's lamp for Gaia&Gino; Note Design



The Owls by Manolo Bossi for Bosa.



A lighting installation by Dean Skira for the 'Hybrid Architecture' show, Università degli Studi di Milano.

'RO Taxidermy' by Frédérique Morrel, Museo Bagatti Valsecchi.



Marble installation by Michael Anastasiades and Henraux at the *Wallpaper* exhibition.

'Golden Calf' by Desiree Von Pelt in the Galleria Delle Armi at the Museo Bagatti Valsecchi.



Light installation by Michael Anastasiades, Nilufar gallery.



'RO Taxidermy' by Frédérique Morrel, Museo Bagatti Valsecchi.

Studio's 'Bolt' stool for La Chance; outdoor lights by Forestier; and Bosa's design accessories.

AD: What are your design favourites from this year's Salone? Products and designers to watch...

SR: Frédérique Morrel. I really liked the pieces from his display 'RO Taxidermy' at the Museo Bagatti Valsecchi. They were made from antique tapestries, selected, cut and curated into unique new shapes. I love the fact that the pieces seamlessly blend the old with the new, bringing a very modern language into an ancient craft. Other names that come to mind are Emmanuelle Moureaux, Klaar Prims, Jonah Takagi, Scholten & Baijings.

AD: Stores and galleries you always visit in Milan...

SR: Nilufar gallery, which is my favourite in Milan. It always showcases incredible designers. The other galleries that I make sure to visit include Galleria Rossella Colombari, Galleria Rossana Orlandi, Galleria Rita Fancsaly, Dante's Goods and Bads, and Raimondo Garau's vintage gallery.

AD: What are the top 10 things that you love to do in Milan?

1. Visit the Achille Castiglioni foundation to see the famed designer's work space.
2. Visit the Nilufar gallery.
3. On a sunny day, get lunch in the courtyard of The Four Seasons hotel.
4. Spend some time shopping in the vintage furniture stores around Via Varese.
5. Have cocktails at the Bulgari Hotel.
6. Go up to the top of the Duomo (the Milan cathedral) for an amazing view from among its spires.
7. Go to the department store La Rinascente to look at their window displays.
8. Visit the Santa Maria delle Grazie church to view Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper*.
9. Have a Michelin-star vegetarian meal at the unique, all vegetarian Joia restaurant.
10. Visit the Museum of Science and Technology to see Leonardo da Vinci's drawings, and the amazing ships and trains and planes they have there. ♦