Roberto Fallani. Artfully Seated and Illuminated

curated by Fortunato D'Amico and Massimo Domenicucci

Material ConneXion Italia at the
TRIENNALE DI MILANO

24 February – 23 March 2012

Presentation of the catalogue, press conference: Thursday, 23 February at 11:00 a.m.
speakers: Fortunato D'Amico, Massimo Domenicucci, Renucio Boscolo

Inauguration: Thursday, 23 February at 6:00 p.m.

Press Release 10.02.2012

From 24 February through 23 March, in the MCI space at the Triennale di Milano, a personal showing by designer **Roberto Fallani** entitled "Artfully Seated and Illuminated": a carefully-chosen selection of the furnishing and lighting elements, milestones along the artist's creative path. Curators of the exhibition: Fortunato D'Amico and Massimo Domenicucci.

Time and its inexorable march is a theme that Fallani has amply interpreted in his works, with a focus on change and the future, while from the past he captures auras from those ancient civilizations that kindle his imagination – and reshapes them in a contemporary key.
Roberto Fallani's creations are always coherent with his personal worldview: "For me, change in man's ways of thinking has always been the fundamental leitmotif: to move ahead, always differently." It is in this perspective that Fallani's works come into being; often patented, his futuristic forms are fantastical revisitations of lines and styles that call to mind surreal ambiences. The references to the refined, portentous atmospheres of Fritz Lang's *Metropolis* are potent and recurring.

In 2011, his passion for **experimentation** and the **new technologies** led Fallani to create Butler, on show at the exhibition. An example of comfort united with versatility and technology, this adjustable, **poly-functional** armchair, more than a meter and a half in height, is an all-enveloping structure incorporating video, PC, radio, LED lighting, a ventilation system, a pull-out refrigerator drawer, and a digital safe compartment. All the low-consumption technological features are activated via a lightweight, flexible **photovoltaic panel** that supplies environment-friendly energy.

The path through design followed by Roberto Fallani has also been characterized by tightly-focused, rigorous research into special, diverse materials like briar, Murano glass, optical fibers, iron, Plexiglas, and leather.
This orientation is exemplified at the exhibition by such **furniture** items as the *Cingolare* dormeuse (91 x 200 cm) in lacquered wood and leather, with gilded and silvery inlays in plays of unexpectedly crossbred plastic materials; the *Lavica* fabric armchair/sculpture; and *Tro_no*, a laser-modeled iron seating element with leather upholstery: an example of rigorous formal composition that translates to a perfect balance of form and material.
Iron finds its maximum expression in the **floor lamps**, in which strictly linear design conducts an ongoing dialogue with optical fibers, colored spirals, and the transparencies of Murano glass. True "illuminated sculptures" with curious names, some inspired by mythology: *Berenice*, with a luminous halo of filamentous optical fibers; *Argo*, a full-metal giant (290 cm height) with a myriad of independent "eye-lights"; and *Gordio*, with its luminous knots of transparent plastic containing bundles of optical fibers that can change color.

Another outlet for Fallani's exceptional creativity is **timepiece design**: wall clocks and smaller timekeeper mechanisms. On show, a selection of his extraordinary gold wristwatches, each produced in limited series of 12 exemplars, perfect metaphors of passing contemporary time – as well as precious small sculptures designed to be worn.
The exhibition **catalogue**, published by Palombi Editori, contains critical texts by Fortunato D'Amico, Massimo Domenicucci, Renucio Boscolo, and Giorgio Forni and excerpts from

Giuliano Serafini and Lucrezia De Domizio Durini, with photographs by Aurelio Amendola, Massimo Listri, and Michele Tabozzi.

Biographical Notes

Roberto Fallani lives and works in Florence and Rome. He has exhibited in myriad public and private venues in Italy and abroad..

A selection of his Italian and international showings:
2011 - Milan, Planetarium, Made Expo 2011, Fiera Milano Rho
2010 - Venice, collateral event at the 12th International Architecture Exhibition, Biennale di Venezia
2009 - Rome, Archivio Centrale dello Stato
2007 - Florence, Museo degli Argenti, Palazzo Pitti
2005 - Algeri, Italian Embassy
2003 - New Delhi, Istituto Italiano di Cultura
2000 - Florence, School of Architecture, with R. Piano and P. Portoghesi
1998 - Milan, Fondazione Bagatti Valsecchi
1997 - Florence, Accademia and Loggia Rucellai
- Florence, Fortezza da Basso
1995 - Istanbul, "Ibrahim Pasha" Museum
1994 - Pavia, Castello di Sartirana
1992 - Ravenna, Museo dell'Arredo Contemporaneo
- Pavia, Castello di Belgiojoso
1991 - Florence, Fortezza da Basso
1977 - Padua, Palazzo della Ragione
1976 - Florence, Palazzo Strozzi

Fallani's works appear in the **permanent collections** of the Museo degli Argenti at Palazzo Pitti in Florence, at the Art Museum of Padua, at the Castello di Sartirana in Pavia, and at the Fondazione Roma Museo (formerly Museo del Corso) in Rome.

Exhibition information

Title	**Roberto Fallani. Artfully Seated and Illuminated**
Curated by	Fortunato D'Amico and Massimo Domenicucci
Location	**MCI** at the **TRIENNALE DI MILANO** – Viale Alemagna 6, Milan
Dates	**24 February – 23 March 2012**
Inauguration	**Thursday, 23 February at 6:00 p.m.**
Presentation of the Catalogue, Press Conference	**Triennale - Bookshop, 23 February at 11:00 a.m.**
Opening hours	Thursday-Sunday: 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., 2:30 – 8 p.m. Closed Mondays
Admission	Free of charge
Catalogue	Palombi Editori, with critical texts by Fortunato D'Amico, Massimo Domenicucci, Renucio Boscolo, and Giorgio Forni and excerpts from Giuliano Serafini and Lucrezia De Domizio Durini. Photography by Aurelio Amendola, Massimo Listri, and Michele Tabozzi. Price: €20
Information	Spazio Material ConneXion Italia at the Triennale di Milano phone 02 72434255
Press Office	**Irma Bianchi Comunicazione** phone 02 89404694 fax 02 8356467 info@irmabianchi.it **Texts and photos available for download at** www.irmabianchi.it/Fallanibis.htm

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