

ILLUMINATA 2023

Milan Design Week 2023
17th to the 22nd April

Illuminata is an exhibition, conceived by Bodo Sperlein and Francesca Ballini, part of Fuorisalone and Brera Design District during Milan Design Week 2023, that will celebrate the merging of skilful design and exquisite craftsmanship with a deep understanding of materiality.

The exhibition will transform the Chiesa Cristiana Protestante in Milano into a spectacular display, a way of creative enlightenment through timelessly beautiful designs. Located right in the heart of Milan, between the prestigious Brera and Turati areas, this magnificent space has never previously been used for exhibition purposes during the Fuorisalone.

The unique location of the late 19th century Lombard-Gothic style church offers a compelling and atmospheric setting. The exhibition will be a new and dynamic addition to the Milan Design Week.

At the forefront of Illuminata are renowned London-based designer Bodo Sperlein and communications strategist Francesca Ballini, both well respected in their fields, who have collaborated previously.

The exhibition is an extraordinary showcase of brands. It brings together projects, companies and designers who are defining the design culture, and investigating the future of making, as the event intertwines materiality and innovation.

The brands featuring in Illuminata are - internationally renowned designer Bodo Sperlein who will take centre stage at the exhibition, premiering a variety of his latest designs. The Voliere and Osca light sculptures, the distinctive designs from the first ever collaboration between Bodo and Spanish lighting brand Lzft, and the architectural MAYU Armchair. The exhibition will also premiere the Beechwood Side Table and feature the Beechwood Chair, designs part of Bodo's distinctive Contourline Collection.

On display will be a variety of designs by Spanish leading wallpaper, fabric and paint, family-run brand Coordonné. Estiluz, a contemporary decorative lighting company of over 50 years, who create timeless, configurative designs with a unique identity. The textile brand Edelgrund who specialise in hand-crafted, wool, tribal carpets which reflect Persian heritage in modern way.

The exhibition will also feature Lzf, a Spanish, contemporary lighting manufacturer, specialising in shaping thin sheets of wood veneer into remarkable lighting products. Manera, a Spanish design magazine with a sophisticated and contemporary perspective on all things architecture, art and indoor living, who will be joined by Valencia-based, design studio MUT Design. Nanimarquina, and Softhouse, the Tuscany-born and female-led furniture brand with a focus on fabric and colour, famous for its master upholstery craftsmanship, which makes their products unrepeatable.

Also present in the group show is Carola fra i Trulli, with an olfactory tale that translates into a line of unique candles and diffusers, born from the union of her love for design, artistic craftsmanship and home fragrances, with references to her Apulian origins and the use of natural materials, precisely to preserve and enhance the precious territory

Lighting sculptures and installations are the main focus of the showcase, creating a true Illuminata experience. Illuminata is a feminine word of a Latin origin, meaning filled with light as well as a feeling

of happiness and pure excellence. The name is a fitting reflection of the exhibition as well as the embodiment of the atmospheric church space.

Illuminata will be held at the Chiesa Cristiana Protestante between the 17th and the 22nd of April 2023, with a preview by invitation only on the evening of the 18th. The exhibition will be open to the public between the 18th and 22nd, from 11am to 8pm, with the 22nd being open for only the first half of the day.

The Fuorisalone takes shape organically and has always existed independently of any central organisation, allowing a wonderfully diverse selection of design events to be seen. It plays an important role in defining Milan Design Week as the most important, international event on the design calendar.

Chiesa Cristiana Protestante
Via Montebello 30, angolo via Marco De Marchi
20121 Milan

Communications
#SO independent studio for the arts
Francesca Ballini
sosrlstudio@gmail.com
+39 3356844305

Bodo Sperlein Studio
Gabriela / Studio Assistant
studio@bodosperlein.com /