Triennale Milano pays Tribute to Ettore Sottsass with the Permanent Display of the Casa Lana

From December 3, 2021

After *Ettore Sottsass: There is a Planet*, the major monographic exhibition of 2017, Triennale Milano opens the *Sala Sottsass*, on the first floor of the Palazzo dell’Arte. The Sala Sottsass contains the reconstruction and permanent display of an interior of the *Casa Lana*, a private residence designed by *Ettore Sottsass* in the mid-1960s in Milan. It is now accessible to the public thanks to a donation by *Barbara Radice Sottsass*.

A series of *exhibitions and events*, highlighting different aspects of the great master’s works and ideas, are being put on around the permanent display of the Casa Lana.

Alongside the various exhibitions, a number of targeted donations will form the core of an important collection of works by the architect *Ettore Sottsass Jr* in the permanent collection of Triennale Milano.

*Stefano Boeri*, President of Triennale Milano, says that “Today Triennale Milano is giving the world a wonderful surprise: the faithful reconstruction of a part of Ettore Sottsass’s Casa Lana, a ‘room within a room’ that Triennale has dismantled and reassembled exactly as it was, thanks to the assistance of Iskra Grisogono of Studio Sottsass and to conversations with the family of the original owner. Milan is now home to an authentic time machine, created by one of the international geniuses of the twentieth century.”

The central area of the *Casa Lana*, on display at Triennale, consists of a wooden structure with sofas arranged in such a way as to form a protected place to sit and chat or listen to music, while the space around it can be used for various activities and purposes. The spaces are optimised because, by eliminating the corridors, “a little piazza is created, where one can move and meet”, as Ettore Sottsass himself described it (*Domus*, 1967).

The layout of the Sala Sottsass and its faithful reconstruction are the outcome of a meticulous study by the Triennale Milano archive and restoration centre, which saw the participation of *Luca Cipelletti*, among others, who oversaw the reconstruction in the central space on the first floor of Triennale.

The display is accompanied by a *series of exhibitions* curated by Marco Sammicheli with installation design and graphics by *Christoph Radl*.

*Marco Sammicheli*, Director of the Triennale Milano Museo del Design Italiano says: “Starting from the narrative ideas of the Casa Lana, we thought up a series of exhibitions that would examine some of the major themes of the great master’s work.”

The first exhibition, *Ettore Sottsass. Struttura e colore*, takes from the title of an article written by Sottsass in 1954. The display includes paintings, drawings, photographs and objects that reveal his close attention to the relationship between man and his needs, his rituals, and the space he lives in.

The second event, *Ettore Sottsass. Il calcolo*, set to run from May to November 2022, will examine the relationship between large numbers and technology, as well as his collaboration with Olivetti. The third show, entitled *Ettore Sottsass. La parola*, from December 2022 to April 2023, will open up to the narrative and literary power of Sottsass’s work.

With its *Museo del Design Italiano*, Triennale Milano thus continues its mission to promote the great Italian masters of design and architecture, while expanding
its interactions with institutions, archives and study centres to implement research projects that ultimately lead to exhibitions, publications and study days.

The Institutional Partners Eni and Lavazza, the Institutional Media Partner Clear Channel and the Technical Partner ATM are giving their support to Triennale Milano also for this exhibition.

Information
The Casa Lana display
From December 3, 2021
Reinstallation design: Luca Cipelletti
Art direction: Christoph Radl

First exhibition:
Ettore Sottsass. Struttura e colore
December 3, 2021 – April 10, 2022
Curated by: Marco Sammicheli
Exhibition design and graphics: Christoph Radl
Admission free

Triennale Milano opening hours Tuesday-Sunday
11 am-8 pm (last admission 7 pm)

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