

AN ETERNAL DESIGN CAPITAL, UP CLOSE & PERSONAL

ELLE DECOR

MAY 2021

ITALY FOREVER!

**ROMAN
FANTASY**
A ROOM WITH
THE WORLD'S
BEST VIEW

**COME SI DICE
DREAMHOUSE?**
CAPRI VILLA
IN THE SKY

**MOVIES TO
LIVE IN**
AN ITALIAN
CINEMA HOME
TOUR WITH
A.O. SCOTT

**A MILAN
DESIGN
MYSTERY**

EXCLUSIVE
Zadie Smith's
Tuscan Refuge

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Founders Giuseppina and Angelo Molteni; (from left) Andrea, Giulia, Carlo, and Giovanni Molteni; Gio Ponti's reissued Round D.154.5 chair, 1954; Arc table by Foster + Partners, 2010.



MOLTENI GROUP
Gussano, Lombardy, est. 1934

- **FOUNDERS** Angelo and Giuseppina Molteni
- **FAMILY TREE** Carlo Molteni, son of the founders and the current president, paved the way for the third generation of Molteni leadership, including Giulia, Giovanni, and Andrea.
- **SIGNATURE STYLE** Obsessive attention to detail and a reverence for historical heritage. The brand got its start reproducing classic furnishings; now, it has a reputation for modern pieces, while continuing to offer reissues by design icons like Gio Ponti, with whose archives they have an exclusive partnership.
- **PRODUCTS** There are four brands under the Molteni Group roof: UniFor and Citterio office systems, the sleek Molteni & C furnishings, and the cool Dada kitchens; the latter two are overseen by creative director Vincent Van Duysen.
- **NEWS** Ponti's Round D.154.5 chair, designed in 1954, is being reissued.

ALL IN LA FAMIGLIA



Whether entering their third decade in business or celebrating their centennial, these 12 companies represent the beating heart of Italian design, in all of its soulful resilience.

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PHOTO ILLUSTRATIONS BY **ROSANNA WEBSTER**

SCAVOLINI
Montelabbate, Marche, est. 1961



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: A restyling of the Carattere kitchen collection designed by Vuesse, 2020; Fabiana Scavolini, CEO, and her father, Valter, president; Scavolini trucks; Svedese, the first kitchen, produced in 1961.

- **FOUNDERS** Valter and Elvino Scavolini; Fabiana Scavolini, Valter's daughter, now runs the company.
- **HISTORY** The Scavolini brothers started by making wood furniture before launching their brand with a small workshop in Pesaro. Since the 1960s, they have become an international design authority, recognized for their ultrasleek kitchens emphasizing innovation and technology.
- **SIGNATURE STYLE** The company's lifestyle collections now encompass living rooms, closets, bathrooms, and even a wellness/fitness concept called Gym Space. They recently partnered with the Milanese celebrity chef Carlo Cracco, who masterminded the chic yet adaptable MIA kitchen; it features a wall-hung herb garden and multiple warming drawers.
- **NEWS** Scavolini's latest introductions include Dandy Plus, a "talking" kitchen designed by architect Fabio Novembre that incorporates Amazon's Alexa technology, and Formalia, an experimental kitchen-living room system by Vittore Niuolu. The brand hopes to celebrate its 60th anniversary this year with a series of special events, if the pandemic permits.

OFFICINE GULLO
Florence, Tuscany, est. 1960s



- **FOUNDER** Carmelo Gullo
- **FAMILY TREE** Sons Pietro, Andrea, and Matteo Gullo are all managing directors.
- **SIGNATURE STYLE** Stoves, hoods, and refrigerators rendered in modern metals by Tuscan artisans for home cooks and Michelin-starred chefs alike, including Antonino Cannavacciuolo of Il Ristorante Villa Crespi.
- **NEWS** This year, the newly minted Contemporanea

Collection debuts in a powder-coated steel that comes in a variety of metal finishes and colors, available for custom orders. And there are plans to open an experiential showroom in Florence this spring that will eventually boast a chef preparing Tuscan cuisine for visitors.

- **PHILOSOPHY** "Our cooking ranges are finished in the same way that artisans in Florence have forged metal for centuries," Carmelo explains.

FROM LEFT: A late-19th-century stove, part of the Gullo Collection, manufactured by Florentine metalworkers Massetani Fumisti; Carmelo Gullo (center) flanked by workers; the Fiorentina 30-inch range.