

DESIGN

This Future is Currently Unavailable: Isola 2024 Highlights

In its eighth edition, the Isola Design Festival explores hidden gems under a theme that seeks to prove the potential of collaborative, circular and sustainable design.



There's a resounding emphasis on sustainability and a compelling call to action at this year's **Isola Design Festival**. As an integral part of Milan Design Week, the eighth edition champions the theme "**This Future is Currently Unavailable**," urging designers to confront pressing real-world challenges. Under this theme, Isola invites exhibitors to present forward-thinking concepts that intertwine innovation, sustainability, and craftsmanship, highlighting the industry's potential for the future.

As such, the Isola Design Festival showcases dynamic collaborations with partners from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. This includes the exhibition "Routes to Roots," developed for Tanween (Ithra Creativity Conference), the debut presentation of "Anatolia" in Downtown Dubai, and Designwanted's own "Enhance" exhibition curated by Juan Torres, which focuses on social impact projects. For the first time, the district also includes Lampo Milano, an urban redevelopment spanning 40,000 square metres within the historic Farini railway yard.

In the spirit of innovation, [the design festival](#) also explores other hidden gems across the city, including unprecedented locations like Lampo Milano, WAO PL7, and Galleria Bonelli. Comprising three main hubs and five curated exhibitions, the eighth edition boasts a lineup of over 320 international designers and creative producers across 40 locations. Here, we've handpicked some highlights for you to explore and enjoy.

ISOLA DESIGN FESTIVAL 2024: OUR HIGHLIGHTS

1. **DANS by Ihab El Riz** Is One Life Enough?
2. **Beluga by Polimair** Is One Life Enough?
3. **Created for Nonconformists by Heilig Objects** Disclosure: Design Studios Unveiled
4. **Cosmos by Noiro Studio** Isola Design Gallery
5. **Ripple Chair by YET Design Studio** Isola Design Gallery
6. **Lockwerk Coffee Table by Giorgio Bena** Isola Design Gallery
7. **Blurring Borders: Helium's Transcontinental Journey by Dace Suna** Isola Design Gallery
8. **Medaillon by Booabood** Routes to Routes
9. **TOFU by IAMMI** (guest exhibition)
10. **Around the Table by Masquespacio** (guest exhibition)

Lockwerk Coffee Table by Giorgio Bena @ Isola Design Gallery

Italian designer Giorgio Bena unveils a striking addition to his industrial-inspired Lockwerk collection, following its resounding success at EDIT Napoli 2023. Inside the reimaged quarters of the former Scalo Farini at Gallery Bena exhibits the Lockwerk Coffee Table, another piece rooted in steel craftsmanship much like the rest of the collection.

The Lockwerk Coffee Table proudly displays its inner workings – screws, bolts, and all those intricate connections typically concealed within furniture. Fashioned from stainless steel without any surface coatings, it retains the original tactile properties of the raw material and can be refurbished as needed to ensure a prolonged lifespan. What emerges is an aesthetic narrative that transcends the merely post-industrial, evolving into a realm of industrial classicism or even a subtle form of gentle brutalism.



Lockwerk Coffee Table by Giorgio Bena © Marco La Melia