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EDIT Napoli 2026: on the importance of conversation and community

BY ANNA LAZZARON

Italy's southern capital hosted the eighth edition of EDIT Napoli; a fair dedicated to editorial design, focused on the relationships between design and its makers.

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EDIT Napoli returned on **9-11 October 2026** to La Santissima and to several locations in Chiaia, with around 80 Italian and international exhibitors. This year's theme, **Where Design Shapes**, shifts attention from the finished object to the process behind it: materials, gestures, skills, relationships, and production models. In a market that tends to reduce design to image and trend, the fair argues for research and for the culture of making.

The fair's founders, Domitilla Dardi and Emilia Petruccelli, created EDIT Napoli because they saw a gap between industrial design and collectible design, which is more tied to the art-fair circuit. They wanted a place for editorial design: expressive, small-scale, and made with a strong sense of authorship.

A festival for connection

Still, the most striking part of the fair is its community. While in Milan, and at most larger events, encounters are brief and rushed between an aperitif and a taxi, Naples keeps a smaller and slower rhythm. Dardi describes the fair as family-run even after eight editions: a household of relationships formed over the years, which have in turn generated new work and new projects.

At this size, the festival feels like one long conversation, and conversations are often where new work begins. When the pace drops, listening becomes possible, and listening is where invention starts: a designer has time to explain an idea and a manufacturer has time to hear them, a maker can see their own craft reflected in a stranger's questions, and a writer like me discovers they came for the design and stayed for the people.

Naples' slowness and romance are not a decoration to the fair but the very essence of it, because they make room for attention, connection, and trust, which are ultimately what new ideas in design are shaped by. This is what the 11 projects that follow have in common; some were made by 5 workshops, others in a prison, in a ceramic lab in Amalfi, or in the water of the Gulf. Each is the result of people who took the time to meet and the patience to work together.



EDIT Napoli, DECODE © Giorgio Bena

Past winner [Giorgio Bena](#) closes the selection with DECODE, a new design language shown for the first time at [EDIT](#). Wood enters his vocabulary and brings warmth, new curves, and tactile consistency, while metal stays essential, in dialogue with the new material. The collection is built on contrasts: rigid and warm, structural and tactile.

Bena was born in 1995 and is based near Turin. His practice moves between experimental, craft-based work and a more traditional approach to interiors and products. His debut collection LOCKWERK was built around metal and won "Best unreleased product" at [EDIT Napoli](#) back in 2023, coming back with new work to the community that launched him.