



GALLERIA PAOLA COLOMBARI

Paola Colombari is the daughter of the oldest antique-dealer dynasties of northern Italy. After an intense activity in competitive skiing as a member of the Italian National team (including participation for six years in the World Cup for downhill skiing) and her studies at the University of Middle Eastern Archaeology, Paola co-founded with her sister Rossella her first gallery in 1981 in Turin. For approximately ten years the Gallery concentrated on the research of twentieth century design, actively participating in the development of modern collecting, with particular attention to the study and promotion of the infamous architect from Turin Carlo Mollino. From 1984 to 1987 the sisters organized the first auctions of modern design in Italy, including the great auction in 1985 dedicated to Mollino's work and in 1986 the first auction dedicated to contemporary design which highlighted "Affinità Elettive", the famous collection of the Triennale from 1985.

In 1989 the Colombari sisters opened their first in gallery in Milan and in the year 2000 transferred the Gallery to its second location in via Maroncelli and divided it into two branches: the Gallery of Contemporary Art and Art Design Design curated by Paola Colombari and the Mid-Century Design Gallery curated by Rossella Colombari. At this juncture, Paola Colombari, an innovative and multi-disciplinary figure, decided to branch away from her long experience with mid-century design and veer towards the experimentation of new postmodernist trends with the foundation in 1991 of the Brand "Edizioni Galleria Colombari" dedicated to the production in Limited Edition of Art-Design furnitures designed by important Italian and international designers such as: Karim Rashid, Antonio Cagianelli, David Palterer, Luca Sacchetti, Garouste & Bonetti, Riccardo Dalisi, Yaacov Kaufman, Joanna Lyle Pawel Grunert; she has also collaborated with historical designers such as Alessandro Mendini, Ettore Sottsass, Ugo La Pietra, Andrea Branzi, Adolfo Natalini, Mario Bellini, Bob Wilson, Matteo Thun and Ron Arad. Paola Colombari collaborates today with the brasilian contemporary designer suchs as Sergio J.Matos, Rodrigo Almeida, Henrique Stayner, Ronald Scliar Sasson, Juliano Guidi and the italian designer Alessandra Roveda.

In 1994, the Galleria began the production of the series "Homage to Carlo Mollino", with the reproduction of seminal pieces of the architect's oeuvre. In 1990, collaborations with important international galleries and museums were also launched (including the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Montréal, Canada - KunsterKolonie Museum, Darmstadt, Germany - Museum of Gent and Oostende, Belgium - Kulturring StadtGalerie, Sundern - Museum of Contemporary Art, Castle of Warsaw, Poland). Colombari also organized exhibitions dedicated to the work of Carlo Mollino for the Istituto Italiano di Cultura, such as the Paris exhibition in 2000 and then in Amsterdam and Brussels in 2001. From 1990 to the present, Paola Colombari has been active through collaborations as both curator and cultural manager.

In 1994 Paola Colombari began her collaboration with Alicja Trusiewc in Poland and together they curated the first Art Design exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Warsaw dedicated to the famous designer and architect David Palterer. Furthermore, Colombari has also developed important public relations/press offices including: Renzo Arbore, Bob Wilson, Adisco, Fiera Milano City, and the Israeli Pavilion at the 9th Venice Architecture Biennial entitled "Metamorph", curated by Kurt Foster. Paola and Rossella Colombari then curated the Christie's auction in London on October 23rd 2001, focusing on the complete works of Carlo Mollino.

In 2005, based on their extensive knowledge, they curated the first catalogue of Mollino's work: "Carlo Mollino: Catalogo dei Mobili" edited by Idea Books. In 1994 The exhibition "Eco-Trans-Pop" followed in 2009 and in the 2010 the Gallery showed an important exhibition "HORM: Bellini-Holl Design Exchange", with design pieces by internationally renowned architects Steven Holl and Mario Bellini. In the 2011 Paola Colombari showed "Steel Effect", in the 2012 the exhibition "The Religious Contemporary Design", in the 2013 the show "WABI SABI Italian Slow Design" with the curator Silvia Ariemma, in the 2014 the exhibition "Art Design for Freedom", in the 2015 curated with Neia Paz the exhibition "Brasil Art Design" and for the Furniture Fair 2015 the Solo Show of the TV Star Marisa Laurito, in the 2016 the exhibition of the designer Antonio Cagianelli "Cosmic Vanity" and the Solo Show of Marisa Laurito "Radici Squadrate" (Square Roots) for the Galleria Narciso in Turin.

In 2000 Paola Colombari opened the gallery's Contemporary Art sector dealing with both Italian and international artists, with a particular attention today to the work of the artists David Yarrow (UK), Alessandro Vasapoli (ITA), Uli Weber (DE), Tom Vack (USA), Andrea De Carvalho (BR), Monica Silva (BR), Steve Thornton (USA), Marilù Manzini (ITA), Carla Chiusano (ITA) and collaborated with the artists Maïmouna Guerresi, Rachana Nagarkar, Blue and Joy and Marisa Laurito. The Gallery participates in some of the most important international Art Fairs such as: PAD London (GB), Design Days Dubai (Emirates), Mia Photo fair (Milan), MiArt Fair (Milan), Arte Fiera Bologna, Wopart Fair (Lugano), Fotofever (Paris), Roma Nuvola in Arte (Rome).