

Alain Gilles

Designer

« Milan 2020 Novelties »

(the ones that can be shown so far)



Alain Gilles

ALAIN GILLES Short Biography

Design as a second life. After studying Political Sciences and Marketing Management, Alain Gilles went on to work in the financial world. But one has to live his own life. So, thanks to the moral support of his wife, he went back to studying Industrial design in France.

He opened his own studio in 2007 in order to pursue his own dreams and develop his personal approach to product design, furniture design, art direction and interior architecture. He has since started to collaborate with several international editors such as Ligne Roset (FR), Buzzispace (BE), Qui est Paul ? (FR), O'Sun (BE-HK), Varaschin (IT), Casamania (IT), Deknudt Mirrors (BE), Zee (BE), Green Mood (BE), XL Boom (BE), Designer Box (FR), Verreum (CZ), Evolution (FR), La Chance (FR), Vincent Sheppard (BE), Another Country (UK), and Bonaldo (IT).

Named "Designer of the year" in 2012 by the Biennale Interieur.

Born: 1970 in Brussels (BELGIUM)

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ALAIN GILLES Work Philosophy in a Nutshell

I work on what I generally call "Simplicity", simple yet complex designs. Designs that have several layers of understanding, or if you want that can be read differently. I also work on what I call "New Simplicity" and by that I mean designs that have a true identity but tend to use a minimum amount of material needed. This should not be seen as minimalism, but rather as a will to use the right materials for their inner qualities and the minimum transformation process needed to make the piece.

Generally my style is seen as graphic, architectural and dynamic, but also as warm and lively. I pay a great deal of attention to make sure that the pieces as artistic or conceptual as they may be never lose their functionalities. Personally I have noticed that I tend to be satisfied with my designs when they achieve the right balance between the masculine and feminine side of things, weather it is through the overall shape or through the combination of shape and colors/materials.

Typically, my sources of inspirations for a project will be threefold: the human interaction or the human centered aspect of the project; the architectural and structural aspect; and the graphic aspect of the project or the ability to correctly read and understand the project.

Overall, my aim is to design pieces that are fresh, that can evolve over time, that are strong and graphic enough to be easily read and remembered, and thus that could potentially maybe one day become classics...

MILAN 2020 The Novelies

Here are a few explanations and a few images about the new pieces that we can currently talk about our new designs that were meant to be released during the Milan furniture fair.

GEOMETRIC A Shape-Shifting Table Design Alain Gilles for BONALDO (IT)

The “Geometric” table is a dining table that plays with a shape-shifting logic. It is a stylish statement table that plays on the unique geometry of its legs to appear different depending on the perspective, to mesmerising effect.

The table has been designed so that its overall lines will be perceived differently according to the viewing angle. Its four legs appear either fat, or slim and sharp, according to the angle from which they are viewed. This generates differing perceptions of the visual weight of its legs, as well as creating a design interplay between them. This perpetual visual transformation makes the table all the more hypnotic!

The changing visual weight and personality of this table collection is further enhanced by the fact that it is either available with a very slim ceramic table top, which appears almost paper-thin alongside its solid legs, or with a wooden table top that has a lot more body, but remains subtle thanks to its curved shape and rounded edges.

The table is also available in a special clay-like finish that has an earthy look and texture, lending the piece a very sculptural and brutalist feel. This finish is composed of clay and particles of stone (quartz). In this version, the table feels even more solid, as if carved out of a block of sandstone!

Material: Table top: Wood, Ceramic, or Mdf with a clay-like finish; Legs: metal powder coated or treated with a clay-like finish.

Dimensions:

200 x 108 x 74 cm (L x W x H)	//	78.7 x 42.5 x 29.1 inch
250 x 112 x 74 cm (L x W x H)	//	98.4 x 44.1 x 29.1 inch
300 x 120 x 74 cm (L x W x H)	//	118.1 x 47.2 x 29.1 inch
300 x 140 x 74 cm (L x W x H)	//	118.1 x 55.1 x 29.1 inch

www.bonaldo.it



Geometric table for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

clay-stone finished version,
like a sculpture.



Geometric table for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

as if sculpted out of a sandstone black.



Geometric table for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Legs in a water-drop shape with changing visual perceptions.



Geometric table for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Foot detail.



Geometric table for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Metal legs and ceramic top version,
A contrast between slim and fat.



Geometric table for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Metal legs and ceramic top version.



Geometric table for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Legs detail.

COMBINATION Playful Side Tables Design Alain Gilles for BONALDO (IT)

The Combination side tables are all about combining basic geometrical shapes in order to create a fresh take on the small side table typology. A circle, a rectangle and a half-sphere are combined to create a table with a personality that changes according to the viewing angle. The rectangular element supporting the table will appear extremely thin or extremely wide depending on the position from which it is viewed. This in effect creates a table with a changing personality.

The tables' various components are made of metal and are available in a range of colours. They can also be fitted with an extra marble plate for added visual impact. They are offered in two different heights that can complement and interact with each other.

Materials: Metal (option to add a marble table top)

Overall dimensions:

High version: 42 x 46 cm (D x H) // 16.5 x 18.1 inch

Low version: 42 x 38.5 cm (D x H) // 16.5 x 15 inch

www.bonaldo.it



Combination side tables for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

A combination of basic geometric shapes.



Combination side tables for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Playing with the perception of its visual weight.



Combination side tables for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Two heights, different colors.



Combination side tables for Bonaldo (IT) , 2020

Simple geometry.

COQUE Hypnotic Mirror with and Edge Design Alain Gilles for MINIFORMS (IT)

The “Coque” mirror is a combination of two unexpected materials: ceramic and mirrored glass. The whole idea was to create a mirror with a somewhat hypnotic effect, but also to give a real body to the mirror thanks to what can be seen as a modern ceramic frame.

The mirror has an hypnotic effect thanks to its round shape, deep depth, but also above all because the mirror seems to be floating in the ceramic hollow that surrounds it. This is further reinforced by a ceramic shell that is treated matte on the outside and glossy on the inside.

In this case the whole mirror really as a body, contrarily to most modern mirrors that would usually feel cold and flat. Since the edge of the ceramic slightly comes over the inner part the two finishes are always visible at the same time.

As for the name of the mirror, Coque, it refers its surrounding shell since it means shell in French and thus highlights its very recognizable ceramic frame.

Materials: Ceramic, mirror.

General dimensions:

Large: 110 x 14 cm (Diameter x Depth) // 43.3 x 5.5 inches

Medium: 65 x 10 cm (Diameter x Depth) // 25.6 x 3.9 inches

www.miniforms.com



COQUE mirror for Miniforms (IT), 2020

A mirror with an hypnotic effect.



COQUE mirror for Miniforms (IT), 2020

Combining glass and ceramic.



COQUE mirror for Miniforms (IT), 2020

A mirror that appears to be floating in its ceramic frame.