



> NEWS > STIR-NEWS > A JOURNEY THROUGH THE REFLECTIVE WORLD OF FORMAMINIMA



News



## A journey through the reflective world of Formaminima

The Italian brand employs traditional Italian craftsmanship to build high-quality homeware objects.

by [Almas Sadique](#)

Published on : Feb 01, 2023



Change is inescapable. New trends, styles, and aesthetics are bound to creep up as time progresses and it is almost absurd to hold onto past examples of excellence with a stoic reluctance to adapt to evolved systems and senses. It is, however, also inane to give up age-old traditions and forget practices that have, over several years, garnered a status of prestige and reliance. Melding the old with the new in measured proportions, then, helps satisfy the demands of contemporary trends, while keeping alive the opulent heritage of yesteryear. Italy-based lighting and decor brand Formaminima aim to harness this synergy to align their practice with that of businesses that strive for excellence and make a mark in the Italian design industry. The company collaborates with Italian artisans, craftsmen, workshops, ateliers, and studios that exhibit the know-how of traditional modes of crafting and creating objects.

### Similar News

News



[CINCO x CINCO concocts a series of objects that are The Sum of Small Parts](#)

by Anushka Sharma  
Jan 31, 2023

News



[Potocco exhibits a Mediterranean indoor-outdoor concept at the Maison&Objet Fair](#)

by STIRpad  
Jan 31, 2023

News



[Roland imagines a drone augmented musical experience for its 50th Anniversary](#)

by Jerry Elengical  
Jan 31, 2023

**stir** pad  
see. think. inspire. reflect

**stir** pad

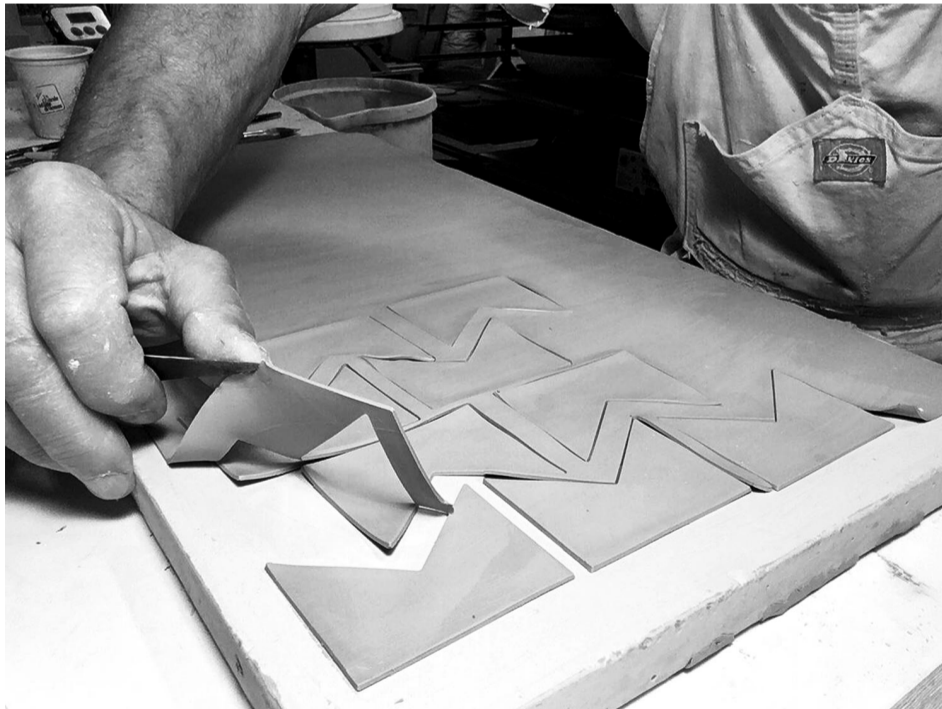


Lamp Two Yellow and Lamp Two Green from the Lamp/s Collection  
*Image: Courtesy of Formaminima*



Lamp/One Green  
*Image: Courtesy of Formaminima*

Tracing the brand's inceptive inspiration, Caterina Vrabec, founder and creative director of the brand shares, "The inspiration, as well as the design journey behind the pieces crafted by Formaminima initially came from the compelling exploration of tradition, artisan mastery, and that 'making' full of charm, care, and perseverance that characterises the finest Italian artisan heritage." Delineating the spots and spaces that inspire Vrabec's practice, she adds, "Those places once known as 'botteghe artigiane', small workshops, ateliers and studios, turned out to be the inextinguishable source of inspiration, where the artisanal know-how, handed down and thoroughly kept for generations, merged with the locally sourced sought-after materials, re-visited manufacturing processes, and a contemporary design ethos."



Cutting the parts of the lamps  
*Image: Courtesy of Formaminima*

**stir** pad  
see. think. inspire. reflect

**stir** pad



Folding and gluing the individual components  
*Image: Courtesy of Formaminima*

Vrabec, who has worked in the disciplines of product design, branding, and art direction, constructs the pieces for her brand using well-ground crystal glass that softly diffuses light, satin brass that is sturdy yet fine and lightweight, solid marble sheets that are thin enough for light to pass through, wood surfaces finished with a layer of ebony, and porcelain shells as thin as an eggshell. Light is distributed in varying intensities and textures by the five materials, which have varying levels of transparency and translucency. "Thinness, lightness, transparency, and shade, just to mention a few, were the project boundaries, the main frame that helped define the context and turn those possibilities into suggested solutions, represented by the pieces developed by us," shares Vrabec.



Making of the lamp: Behind the Scenes  
*Image: Courtesy of Formaminima*

Formaminima operates with the aim of keeping each step in the local supply chain short. In an attempt to satisfy this attitude toward operating ethically, the brand carefully chooses materials and shipping facilities that not only preserve the slow design process but also deliver good-quality products to the collector.



Mirror/Zero Black Edition and Fading Marble



**stir** pad  
see. think. inspire. reflect

**stir** pad



Zenith decor box

Image: Courtesy of Formaminima

In an attempt to better understand the workings of the brand, STIR traces the innovations undertaken for each of the three collections—*Lamp/s* Collection, *Mirror/Zero* Collection and *Curiosité* Collection—launched by Formaminima so far. “The three collections reveal the same common roots, being almost all three the natural disclosure and development of the same initial concept: materials as the heritage of a ‘territory’ and ‘culture’, on one hand, and the possibilities of endless design interventions aiming at challenging the material’s technical properties and the transformative processes involved, on the other one,” Vrabec asserts.

### Curiosité Collection



Sunrise decor box and Dazzle decor box

Image: Courtesy of Formaminima

The *Curiosité* Collection comprises three table boxes, namely *Sunrise*, *Dazzle*, and *Zenith*, all of which are handmade. Each set comprises a plate and three boxes, each of which can be configured as desired. While the *Sunrise* decor box set is inspired by the sun rising above the horizon, *Dazzle* evokes images of shimmery sea waves on a sunny afternoon, and *Zenith*, with its dark grey mirror finish, projects a *trompe-l’oeil* effect. In all three décor table box sets, the minimally hued individual pieces, topped with a mirror shade finish and arranged atop a square tray, reflect light in varying capacities.

### Mirror/Zero Collection



Mirror/Zero Fading Brass and Fading Wood

Image: Courtesy of Formaminima

Comprising four pieces, namely *Fading Marble Revamp 01*, *Fading Brass Revamp 01*, *Black Edition*, and *Fading Wood Revamp 02*, the *Mirror/Zero* Collection is a series of indoor decorative wall mirrors. The pieces reflect the unique textures imprinted on them by using

**stir** pad  
see. think. inspire. reflect

**stir** pad



Lamp/One Collection Chandelier  
Image: Courtesy of Formaminima

The *Lamp/s* Collection by Formaminima comes in several styles and material variations. For instance, the *Lamp/One* series, a single suspension lamp, comes in materials such as olive briarwood, *Arabescato Orobico* solid marble, *Palissandro Blu Nuvolato* solid marble, white *Calacatta* marble, Royal Pink Yellow marble, Red *Collemandina* Marble, *Green Alpes* marble, solid brass in different finishes, and Canaletto walnut wood. Other variations of *Lamp/One* include trio chandeliers and six-light chandelier made using materials such as black and gold marble, solid *Calacatta* marble, Red *Collemandina* marble, *Green Alpi* marble, *Arabescato Orobico* marble, *Palissandro Blu Nuvolato* marble, Royal Pink Yellow marble, satin brass, and *Canaletto* walnut wood. Lamp/Two, a table lamp, also comes in different textures and colour variations of brass, marble, and wood.



Lamp/One Marble Chandelier  
Image: Courtesy of Formaminima

Delineating the experience of working on these projects, Vrabec shares, "The design process involved in the realisation of these three collections features a *fil rouge* of sleekness, as the action of subtraction to add meaning, leaving plain surfaces and minimal geometries as bulwarks to convey a cutting-edge aesthetic, free from useless mediations and captions," Vrabec shares, delineating the experience of working on these projects. The brand intends to expand their practice with the inclusion of varied products, such as rugs, furnishings and textiles, all of which the brand hopes to infuse with the widely coveted Italian style and finesse.

Read on: [Home Decor](#) | [Italian Design](#) | [Italian Designer](#) | [Italy](#) | [Lamp Design](#) | [Lighting Design](#)

### What do you think?

Leave your thought or question...

Post



augmented musical experience for its 50th Anniversary.

Jerry Elengical  
Jan 31, 2023



Mediterranean indoor-outdoor concept at the Maison&Objet Fair

STIRpad  
Jan 31, 2023



gallery Twentieth announces its move to Hollywood Hills

Twentieth  
Jan 30, 2023



out of city waste moulds Design Museum Gent's new facade

Anushka Sharma  
Jan 30, 2023