

**PAOLA
LENTI**

MILAN DESIGN WEEK 2024
Oltre lo sguardo - Beyond the Gaze
Paola Lenti Milano

Àlfa, an Ideal Home

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Hinting at the start of something, Àlfa is also the name of *Stipa tenacissima*, a perennial herbaceous plant that grows wild in the Mediterranean basin, from which a textile fibre is obtained and used to make ropes and mats.

Paola Lenti has chosen it as the name of a house that, in dialogue with the surrounding nature, suggests what could well be the ideal model home, as respectful as possible of the environment and people's wellbeing. A safe place that encourages its residents to think in terms of values that guide a conscious lifestyle, a daily part of a close-knit familiarity.

This vision of living by Paola Lenti comes together in a 300 square-metre house built inside the Paola Lenti Milano showroom. A home whose large windows look out onto patios and gardens and bring nature indoors, captured in the gifts it shares with us every day.

Architecture that is also "green" in its construction, thanks to the lime and hemp used for the structural cladding, natural tools that provide thermal and acoustic insulation, thanks to which the interior atmosphere is salubrious, pleasant, and healthy.

Àlfa is built with materials found in nature, because a decent dose of willingness is all it takes to trigger new practices that might also mean improvement.

This is the setting for Paola Lenti's indoor project, in an interior pervaded by a compositional consistency that subtly links thoughts, objects, plants, and furnishings.

In a harmonious whole that is the expression of a rare sensitivity to colour and knowledge of yarns and fabrics, the products in Paola Lenti's interior collection dialogue with furniture and complements borrowed from different eras, objects of recognised design or simply sentimental value, family memories, recollections of exotic journeys, and examples of distant craft traditions.

Green is the colour that prevails throughout the house. Dark and intense for the wooden floor in the living area, custom-made for this project with long narrow planks joining to form something akin to a wooden fabric.

A more classic green uphsters the *Move* sofas, which can also be seen from outside through the full-height windows, together with the *Parallelo* rug, *Kanji* coffee table and *Tapio* armchair. Unhindered by furniture the *Nomade Mottainai* rug expresses all its unpredictable multi-colour nature, but is perfectly in tune with its surroundings. In the dining area next-door, *Elsi* chairs in teal blue sit around the new *Elon* table.

Matching the dark green finish of the wooden floor leading from the living area to the kitchen, a central work island rises like a monolith, its colour enhanced by *Sciara* mosaic tiles in lava and glass.

The family room is a happy place. The *Tweed* rug catches the eye with its colour accents created by interwoven yarns and furnishings include the *Zebrù* pouf that, made from production surpluses, conveys cheerfulness and joy.

The house's two outdoor spaces are defined by a classic floral fabric in different shades of grass green, contrasting with the essential lines of the *Linea* chaise longue and highlighting the generous contemporary shapes of the *Sabrina* chairs.

The same sober elegant colours are also used for the most private area in the house, with the bedroom featuring green textiles for the *Silent* upholstered bedhead, wall coverings, the floor carpet, the tartan covering a vintage armchair, and even the raw linen curtains. At the beginning and end of each day, the enamel decorations on the *Intermezzo* bookcase, handmade and again in exclusive Paola Lenti shades of green, invite us to re-establish our contact with nature.

Through Àlfa, Paola Lenti offers a perspective that looks beyond the gaze, beyond dwelling and invites us to reflect on the possibility of living in tune with nature.

Project:

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Founded in 1994, Paola Lenti is renowned worldwide for the innovative twist it has given to design products and for its unmistakable interpretation of colour. In almost thirty years of activity, the company has created a collection of exclusive fabrics and technical materials, eco-friendly and available in hundreds of hues. Paola Lenti indoor and outdoor collections and complements for the architecture are displayed in the most important international showrooms

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