

FRIEDMAN BENDA
515 W 26TH STREET
NEW YORK NY 10001

ENRICO MARONE CINZANO
OBSESSED BY NATURE
NOV 14 – DEC 14 2024



Verde, 2024



Basculante, 2024

New York – Friedman Benda is pleased to present *Obsessed by Nature*, Italian designer Enrico Marone Cinzano's first solo exhibition with the gallery, opening on November 14th. Deeply inspired by nature's beauty, Marone Cinzano explores the spaces where perfection meets imperfection, reality meets fiction, and concept carries form. The exhibition unveils new work rooted in his profound understanding of nature's undeniable 'truth'—a truth that is immediate and universally accessible.

Beyond an obsession with nature's immutable beauty and logic, these works navigate a delicate interplay between organic and industrial elements, seeking not fusion but an equilibrium of opposing energies and properties. Collecting and hunting for objects across time and geographies is central to Marone Cinzano's practice. The process of collaging these discrete elements is a way of finding answers. In his words, it is a process of "developing reinterpretations and contrast, whereby the original purpose is morphed into new functionality, resulting by steering the raw materials into an artistic sculptural object with strong aesthetic values... What was becomes something else, what was discarded, and undervalued material, becomes part and parcel of a, hopefully, beautiful, quality functional object."

Through meticulous craftsmanship, his existential inquiries become accessible, tangible, and functional. It all comes down to the object's function, longevity and staying power in the world. "It is not even any more a question of recycling; it is a question of what materials form part of our daily lives, of putting out timeless solidity. It is not only a question of form but also of purpose and utility. It is, after all, a question of maximization, of potential."

The diverse stones and marble slabs used in several of these works are, in Marone Cinzano's eyes, "a gift in themselves, pure natural luxury and elegance." *Obsessed by Nature* is, in its purest essence, a designer's attempt and urge to find meaning and what is yet to come. A tribute to the object for its own sake, it is an affirmation of its enduring significance and timeless presence in our world.

About Enrico Marone Cinzano

Driven by a fascination with science, mathematics, materials and learnings from nature, Enrico Marone Cinzano's practice is inspired by *The Golden Ratio*. His sculptural works draw references from the classic and the progressive, from Leonardo da Vinci to Kandinsky. Such imagery is reflected through the layering of geometry and contrasting colors with soft and industrial or long-lasting materials, including wood, steel, natural stone and glass.

Marone Cinzano starts with found and discarded materials and then conceptualizes a functional object according to the material's potential and qualities. His one-of-a-kind creations are counter-intuitive to the conventional artistic process and mark collaborations with independent workshops and artisans.

Born in Turin, Italy, in 1963, Marone Cinzano studied business administration at Babson College in Wellesley, Massachusetts. In 2012, he established his eponymous label focusing on designing ethical and sustainable products. He began designing nature-inspired furniture using local and functional materials produced sustainably with minimal environmental impact. His works also draw inspiration from the classic and the progressive, from Leonardo da Vinci to Kandinsky. Such references are reflected through distinct aesthetics through the layering of geometry and contrasting colors with soft and industrial materials, including tinted glass, natural stones and steel.

Selected exhibitions include *Fuorisalone* (2018, 2015 and 2012), Milan Design Week, Rossana Orlandi Gallery, Milan, Italy; *China Clean*, Pearl Lam Galleries (2016), Hong Kong; *Untold* (2014), Museo Bagatti Valsecchi, Milan, Italy; *Bagatti Valsecchi 2.0* (2013), Museo Bagatti Valsecchi, Milan, Italy; and Rossana Orlandi Gallery at *Design Miami* (2013) Miami, USA.



Piego (Red), 2024



Sbieco, 2024

About Friedman Benda

Friedman Benda identifies and advances key narratives that intersect contemporary design, craft, architecture, fine art, and cutting-edge technological research. The gallery promotes synthesis between leading creative thinkers and makers by creating opportunities to advance new connections within the global design community. Friedman Benda is committed to a critical view of design history. We aim to expand the design dialogue from its established sources, exploring perspectives that have previously been marginalized. Spanning five continents and four generations, Friedman Benda represents a roster of seminal established and emerging designers, as well as historically significant estates. With locations in New York and Los Angeles, the gallery's exhibitions, publications and collaborations with institutions have played a vital role in the development of the contemporary design market and scholarship since 2007. For further information please visit www.friedmanbenda.com and the gallery's Instagram [@friedman_benda](https://www.instagram.com/friedman_benda) and [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...).

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Enrico Marone Cinzano: Obsessed by Nature

November 14 - December 14, 2024
Friedman Benda, New York, NY



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Basculante, 2024

Recovered Ferrari seat, glass, petrified wood, stainless steel

Rocker chair:

50.25 x 33.25 x 36.25 inches

127.6 x 84.5 x 92.1 cm

Foot rest:

22.75 x 27.75 x 22 inches

57.8 x 70.5 x 55.9 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Bianca, 2024

White Agata, painted and polished steel, recovered electrical insulators, painted glass, LED lights

80 3/4 x 28 3/4 x 28 inches

205 x 73 x 71 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Dondolo Chair, 2016

Recycled car parts, stainless steel, recycled leather, recovered mahogany

49 1/4 x 65 3/4 x 32 inches

125 x 167 x 81 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Marmo, 2023

Hand carved Carrara marble, aluminum honeycomb, lazy Susan

34.25 x 73.25 x 73.25 inches

87 x 186 x 186 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Piego (Brown), 2024

Marra Mamba tiger eye, painted steel

34 3/4 x 22 x 22 inches

88 x 56 x 56 cm

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Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Piego (Red), 2024
Red Jasper, painted steel
34 3/4 x 22 x 22 inches
88 x 56 x 56 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Piego (White), 2024
White Zebra agate, painted steel
34 3/4 x 22 x 22 inches
88 x 56 x 56 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Piego (Yellow), 2024
Honey Comb calcite, painted steel
34 3/4 x 22 x 22 inches
88 x 56 x 56 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Rosa, 2021
Pink onyx marble, ebony wood, hand dyed shark leather, LED lights
Pair of nightstands, each:
28.75 x 21.75 x 21.75 inches
73 x 55 x 55 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Rosa Tank Lamp, 2023
Painted steel, semi-transparent colored glass, pink onyx, LED lights, military viewer
80 3/4 x 11 x 33 1/2 inches
205 x 28 x 85 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Sbieco, 2024
Grand antique marble, painted and polished metal
30 x 59 x 59 inches
76 x 150 x 150 cm



Enrico Marone Cinzano [Italian, b. 1963]

Verde, 2024
Reclaimed wood, recovered car headlights, polished steel, turquoise stone, LED lights
78 3/4 x 15 3/4 x 21 1/4 inches
200 x 40 x 54 cm