



IN-BETWEEN. Where Art meets Design.

Baglioni Hotels & Resorts opens the doors to the work-in-progress that is Casa Baglioni, a design by Spagnulo & Partners, with a selection of works from the Stefano Cecchi Trust Collection during Milan Design Week.

“It’s not cement, it’s not wood, it’s not stone, it’s not steel, it’s not glass: the strongest building material is art.” – Gio Ponti

Milan, May 2022 – **Casa Baglioni**, the new hotel in the Baglioni Collection set to open in Milan’s Brera district this year to a design by architects **Spagnulo & Partners**, offers a look behind the scenes during Milan Design Week, as it becomes the stage for an exclusive art exhibition: **In-Between. Where Art meets Design.**

Spagnulo & Partners have created a show to explore the subtle relationship between art and design that underpins the concept for the new Casa Baglioni. It features works by four great international artists – Agostino Bonalumi, Anne Imhof, Enrico Castellani and Giulio Paolini – from the **Stefano Cecchi Trust Collection**, created by entrepreneur Stefano Cecchi.

The exhibition endorses **the idea of a dialogue between interior design and works of art** as a means of discovering new visual languages. It is a process that leads to a vision of **an integrated space where art, design and architecture interweave to create a world of original expressive possibilities.** With this event, Baglioni Hotels & Resorts and Spagnulo & Partners are championing this creative approach, as a conceptual overture to the future Casa Baglioni’s defining themes, inspired by the great artistic flowering of the 1960s Milan avant-garde.

The exhibition features four spaces on the ground floor, each with a dedicated theme. It opens with a display of fine metal lines and neon lights that, like a pencil, trace out a lightweight structure that interacts with its surroundings, evoking **an openness to present and future possibilities.** Then three white monochrome works exemplify an avant-garde language developed from the ’60s abstract period. Castellani’s and Bonalumi’s shaped canvases reflect the formal trend in a period of change that saw industrial Milan assume a stand-out role on the international design scene.

Castellani’s **White surface** (1980), an iconic large shaped canvas with a precise yet rhythmical composition in a wave of solids and voids, is juxtaposed here with two pieces from Bonalumi’s **White** series (1973 and 1974).



Together, these three white works with different yet equally pronounced relief shapes underline the beauty of a technique that transcends its own rigid repetitiveness to keep creating new rhythms and impressions in a play of light and shade.

The second room explores the theme of **reflections** and mirrored surfaces – that ambiguous dimension that muses on a work's role, whether starring or bit-part, and that of the spectator in becoming part of it and bringing it alive in a continual interplay of meaning. The floor, a pool of water, accentuates that sense of disorientation and indeterminacy pondered by the two **Untitled** (2018, 2019) works by **Anne Imhof**. This paradoxical artist wowed the contemporary-art establishment and market three years ago with her powerful installations and performance pieces, including a one-woman show at Paris's Palais de Tokyo and SEX at Rivoli castle.

The third installation plays with **the permeability of the gaze**, using light and surfaces to create moods and sight lines, where the work is revealed in a syncopated rhythm. The textile walls conjure with a juxtaposition of weaves and transparencies to accompany **Giulio Paolini's Comédie Italienne** (1984), a piece abounding in artistic and literary echoes with intimate links to theatrical themes. Visitors are invited to discover the artist's work like a stage when the curtain draws back: the scene teems with a diverse array of extras announcing a performance that we are left constantly awaiting.

The final room is **a look to the future**, a window on the passage of time through videographer **Fabrizio Roscini's** eyes. Contemplating the construction process as it unfolds, bearing witness, framing the various stages of the work like a tableau vivant, it lends its protagonists their rightful importance within the whole.

"I am excited about this artistic venture conceived with our key partners at the new Casa Baglioni to celebrate the art and design of '60s Milan," commented **Guido Polito**, Baglioni Hotels & Resorts CEO.

"A dialogue with art is a unique experience, prompting us to radically rethink how we conceive of space and design. It is a journey that endows designs with meaning, enabling them interact with the world," adds **Federico Spagnulo**, Founder and Senior Partner at Spagnulo & Partners.

The exhibition has been created with top partners from the Made in Italy arena, with **Panzeri Illuminazione**, **Zucchetti.Kos**, **Dedar** and the kind cooperation of **Guisa Costruzioni**, **Gabana Arredamenti** and **Chef Claudio Sadler**, auteur of the Casa Baglioni cuisine.

STAY TUNED on [in-between.casabaglioni.it](https://www.in-between.casabaglioni.it)



BAGLIONI
HOTELS & RESORTS

SPAGNULO
& PARTNERS
architecture & interiors

IN-BETWEEN. Where Art meets Design.

Where: Via Dei Giardini 21, Milan

Press day: 6 June 2022, 10 am – 7 pm

Open to the public:

7, 8, 11 June, 10 am – 4 pm

9, 10 June, 11 am – 8 pm

12 June, 10 am – 1 pm

>> EXHIBITION VISUAL <<

>> CASA BAGLIONI RENDERS <<

BAGLIONI HOTELS & RESORTS

Ambassadors of fine Italian hospitality, the Baglioni Hotels & Resorts are private, elegant, intimate places to stay. Under CEO Guido Polito's stewardship, the brand has developed a concept of contemporary luxury centred on tailored service that makes guests feel comfortable and at ease every day.

The Collection now numbers 4 exclusive hotels – 3 in the heart of Italy's finest art cities (Florence, Venice and Rome) and one in the centre of London's Kensington district – plus 3 resorts, namely in Punta Ala, Tuscany, on Maagau island in the Maldives, and in Sardinia with the brand-new **Baglioni Resort Sardinia**, opened on 1 June 2021 just north of San Teodoro on beautiful Lu Impostu beach. This year, the Collection acquires an extra dimension with the opening in May of the Baglioni Masseria Muzza a few minutes from Otranto and, in the fourth quarter, of Casa Baglioni in the heart of Brera in Milan. www.baglionihotels.com

STUDIO SPAGNULO & PARTNERS

The Spagnulo & Partners architecture and interior-design studio was founded in Milan by architect Federico Spagnulo with Alessandra Carbone and Andrea Spagnulo. It now vaunts a 15-strong team of staff and associates. Over the years, the practice has developed a particular focus on architecture and interior-design projects for luxury hotels and residences in Italy and throughout the world. Its flair and sensibility for this aspect of design has seen Spagnulo & Partners figure prominently in important international projects in Dubai, Cannes, Cap d'Antibes, Casablanca, Miami, Mumbai, Marrakech, Moscow and St Moritz, in collaborations with major global hotel groups from Kempinski to Marriott International. It is also responsible for all interior-furnishing projects for Baglioni Hotels & Resorts group, in Italy and overseas. An attention to detail and a constant dialogue between the traditional and the modern are the Spagnulo & Partners hallmarks. Every new project has its own sense of style, in a fresh interpretation that transforms each space into a unique, bespoke experience. www.spagnuloandpartners.it

THE STEFANO CECCHI TRUST COLLECTION

The Stefano Cecchi Trust Collection and art fund was created by Turin entrepreneur Stefano Cecchi to support selected emerging and established artists and reposition their works with a new and higher profile on the international market. The Collection brings together an array of names, places, careers and techniques in a coherent whole despite their diversity. A judicious selection of paintings, sculptures, installations, photographs and NFTs has seen the Collection grow rapidly in importance, carving out a role on the contemporary post-war art scene. From 2021, the Collection has assembled two catalogues featuring over fifty artists. There are outstanding works by Jannis Kounellis, Hermann Nitsch, Hans Hartung, Mario Merz, Joseph Kosuth, Enrico Castellani, Agostino Bonalumi, Giulio Paolini, Gilberto Zorio, Nan Goldin, Cindy Sherman, Christo, Shusaku Arakawa, Jacques Villeglé, Andy Warhol, Mario Schifano, Julião Sarmento, Enzo Cucchi, Anne Imhof, Hugo McCloud and JR.



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