

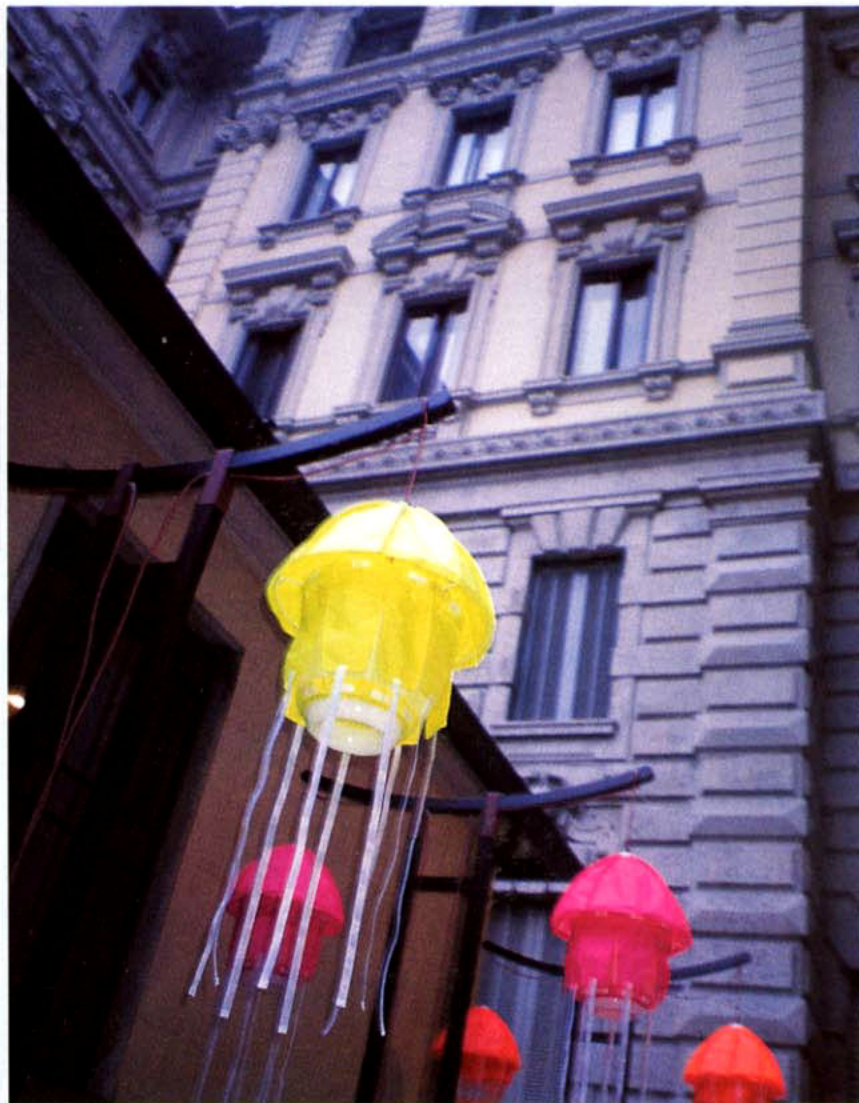
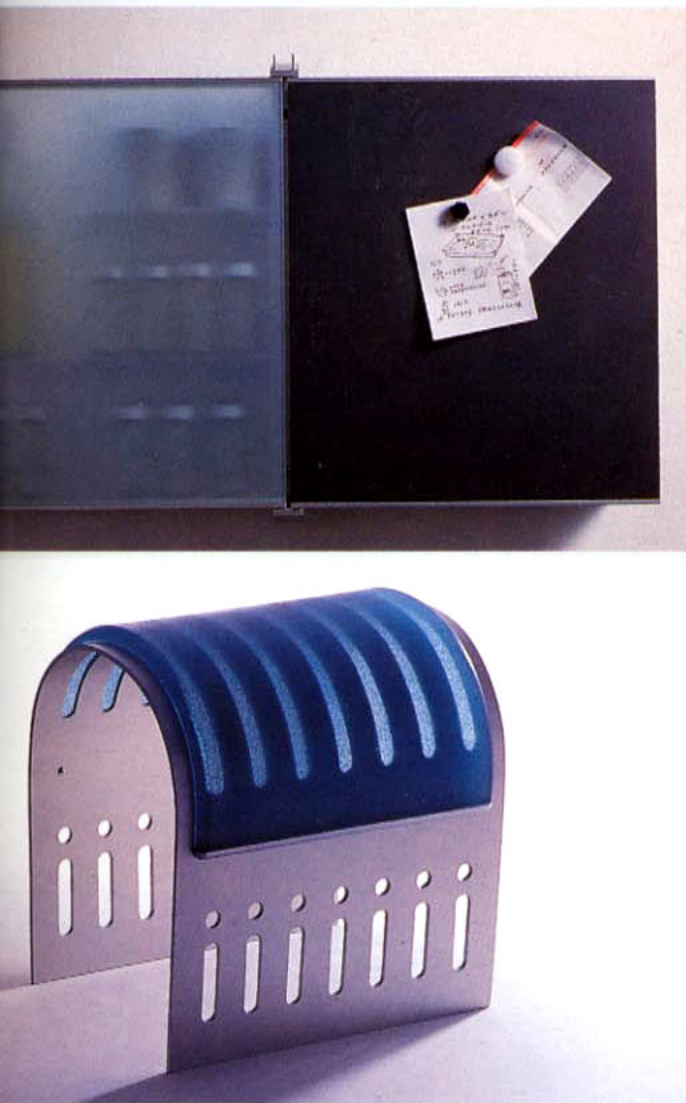
as, in our opinion, the most promising
se on display in the charming
e of Palazzo Dugnani. One reason may
an boasts a special bathroom culture,
materials, shapes, colours and rituals;
n succeeded in summarizing the idea of
rooms: a beach in Bali depicted on tiles,
d player and a videotape recorder
d the sounds and visual effects of waves.
rooms live from Japan! Let us now
e on bathrooms, at a different level: this
e is celebrating its 25th birthday, showing
are what counts in the design world.
ain idea lies in designing new furniture
bathroom furnishing culture; bathrooms
er understood as separate rooms, but
in and parcel of any house. Therefore,
gathered their products to develop

a shoe rack and a shop display. 'Flat', a system
designed by G.P. Benedini (one of the owners of the
company), also stood out among the items
introduced in 1998. Its differently shaped tops and
washbasins as well as its containers, shelves and
mirrors result in outstanding flexibility. A wide
range of materials is available, including birch,
wengé, steel, crystal and white Carrara marble for
tops, steel, birch or wengé for washbasins.
Minimalist 'Boxes', designed by Benedini, means
boxes hiding pipes, connections and any
technical parts; a wood box is connected to another
marble or glass box, namely the washbasin.

THE FLAGSHIPS OF THE FUTURE...

Countless projects look promising; we will see how
many of them will be turned into actual products.
Energies are being poured into all directions,

system designed by Mancini; 'Low one' is a low chest
of drawers designed by B. Cisotti and S. Laube;
'Ypsilon' is a TV cabinet, designed by Sigla, which
swings round on a pivot, thus changing its shape
and function. Ex Novo's items were on show at the
Elissa showroom in via Luini, where you could also
see Laboratorio Lolli e Memmoli's products, namely
highly effective, hand-coloured crystal chandeliers
produced at architects Lolli and Memmoli's
workshop according to handicraft-focused criteria.
Their catalogue includes many models in any
shapes and colours: topaz, lapis lazuli, warm,
oriental shades of amber, tourmaline and
aquamarine. This means that everything is feasible;
they have made giant pieces to order, for shops and
hotels. Within the joint exhibition of young
designers that has been staged by Opos every year,
for no less than eight years, 18 projects were chosen



systems harmonizing with each other as
accessories suiting the whole house. New
'a', designed by Marco Ferreri, is a case in
stem provided with uprights to which
d doors in several sizes can be fixed to
o containers performing many functions,
a can be used as a CD rack, a broom rack,

including original ones. Being somewhat biased, we
would like to start with the Italian projects that
impressed us. 'Testa fra le nuvole' and 'cuor leggero'
mean ingenious inflatable bedheads designed by
Lorenza Bozzoli and Piergiorgio Fasoli for
Antiquità di Udine. A new company, based in
southern Italy, in the Bari province, looked
extremely promising: Ex Novo is the result of a
partnership between two businessmen who have
long been committed to furniture sales and
customized design respectively. Under the art
direction of architect Francesco Mancini, their first
collection seems to be aimed at searching for a new
type of rationalism rather than 'speak' a minimalist
language. It includes remarkably versatile cabinets
suited any rooms and performing several
functions: 'Cabiria' is a wall shelving and container

among 328 ones from any part of the world.
Strangely enough, the most interesting ones had
been designed by women: Marika Hasuake, with
thermoelectric fabric panels for houses, to be used on
walls or as partitions, an interesting mix of
aesthetics and functionality; Karin Kravtgartner,
with an intelligent liquid soap or shampoo
dispenser to be applied to tiles or shower booths by
means of a suction cup; Donata Paruccini, with a
folding lemon-squeezer die-cut in a sheet of low-
density polyethylene. Oggetti Onesti has also
mounted a joint exhibition, for no less than three
years. They investigate the potentialities of DIY, as
developed by designers: Randi Kristensen designed
a funny clothes-stand, assembling some trowels,
while Christophe Pilet designed a chandelier,
joining a hula hoop with some emergency plastic

pagina: a sinistra, dall'alto, per Agape,
di Marco Ferreri e per Sol-Levato, Toshihiko
house sgabello; a destra, per Equilibrium,
Edward van Vliet.

om top left, 'Barralibera', designed by
ri for Agape, and the Doghouse stool, designed
Sakai for Sol-Levato; right, 'Bombori',
Edward van Vliet for Equilibrium.