

Together apart



Design can create communal bonds across huge distances.

Mattiazzi is a welcoming home for international pioneers, forming kinship out of intrinsic similarities.

Leon Ransmeier – New York
Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec – Paris
Konstantin Grcic – Munich
Sam Hecht & Kim Colin – London
Jasper Morrison – Berlin

Maybe it's the way you pronounce your vowels, just like your father. Perhaps it's a certain something in the way you bite your lip when you're nervous – your grandmother used to do that too.

Families create the basis of who we are, where we grow from and how we develop. Today, those closest to us aren't always around the corner, since our next of kin are often spread across the world. And the newest ways of connect ing might not even run into our blood, when there's so much else holding us together. Glued together by these weird, inexplicable affinities, it doesn't matter if you're miles away: kinship runs deeper.

Although MATTIAZZI is built from a family in the traditional sense, their community of collaborators and innovators is growing, welcoming those who share the urge in their DNA to produce to the highest level. The Italian clan is building the branches of its tree, based on what they recognise from themselves in others. Creative strength, persistence, and beauty in design.

Families create memories together, so we decided to record all the MATTIAZZI members in their respective international homes for a portrait of all these design relatives. Hold for the camera and say cheese.

CHRISTOPH MACK was charged with this international mission, to travel around the world capturing the true personalities in our new collective, as it spreads its roots from Northern Italy to an ever-growing roster of design collaborators, who find themselves playing the roles of beloved relatives (Konstantin Grcic raises an eyebrow as the family's sharp and winking uncle, Jasper Morrison is its refined and elegant patriarch). In his adventure, we brought out the designers' affinities, the simple and complex things that draw any community together, by asking them to place an object that means something to them on top of their design. An heirloom, one could say. After all, creativity is kinship.

Photography Christoph Mack

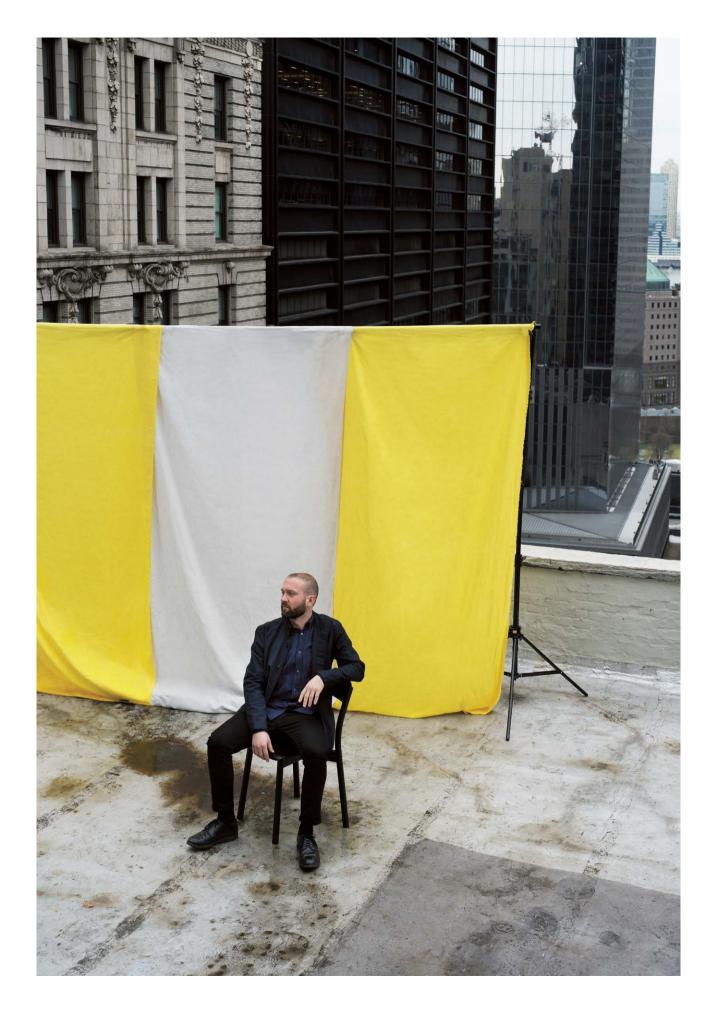
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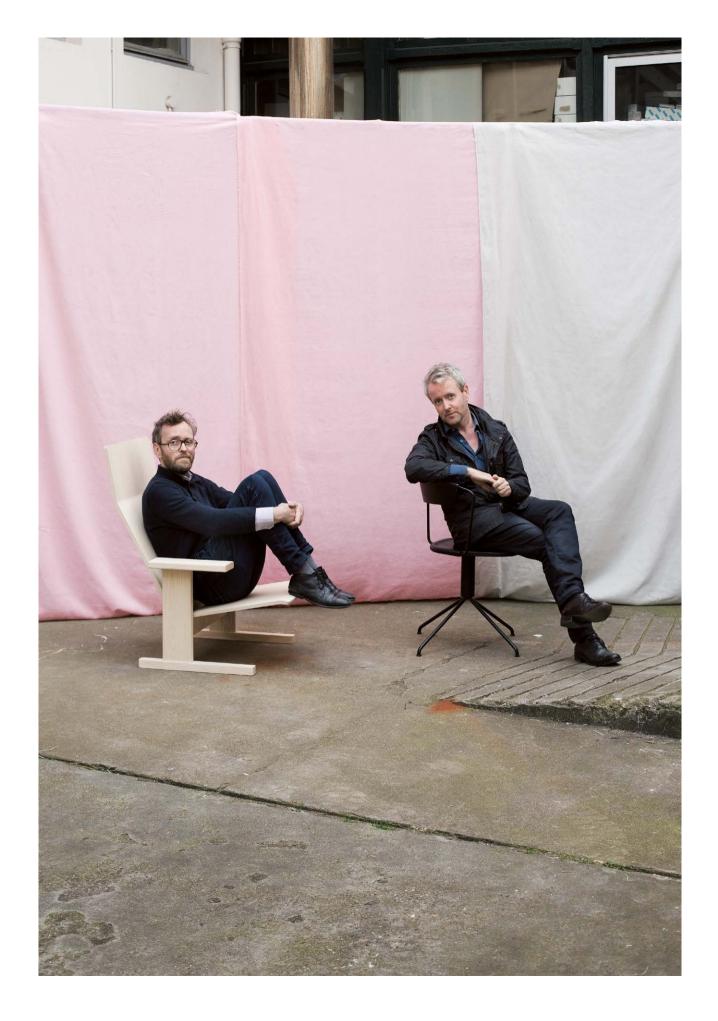












A Very International Family Portrait

We begin by travelling to New York, where we snap *Leon Ransmeier* on the roof of his studio, relaxing on his CHIARO chair. His eighth for MATTIAZZI, he's now an established member of the family. On top of his chair sits his heirloom: the original prototype of the one he designed, cheekily angled upside down. It's a hand-me-down that reminds us of where design DNA comes from, and where it can grow to: from prototype to final product.

Remember your cousins in Paris? The *Bouroullec* brothers play this role for the camera with aplomb (and of course, they look so alike that you need to check which one is wearing glasses to tell them apart). Luckily their mementos are different enough: *Ronan* adds his pens in multiple shades, and Erwan his trusty bag, smart enough for any occasion. On the gentle curves of their UNCINO and QUINDICI chairs, these objects hold the dignity and significance you'd want to pass on for future generations.

We travel east to Munich, and *Konstantin Grcic* has something special to add to our collection of heirlooms. A shiny, golden machine gun replica! Cradled by the bright scarlet of a prototype of his CLERICI bench, its heavy cast iron feels weighty and valuable. A design maverick, with a serious eye for detail, *Grcic* is the family's masterful uncle, who will pull cards from behind his ear to delight the younger

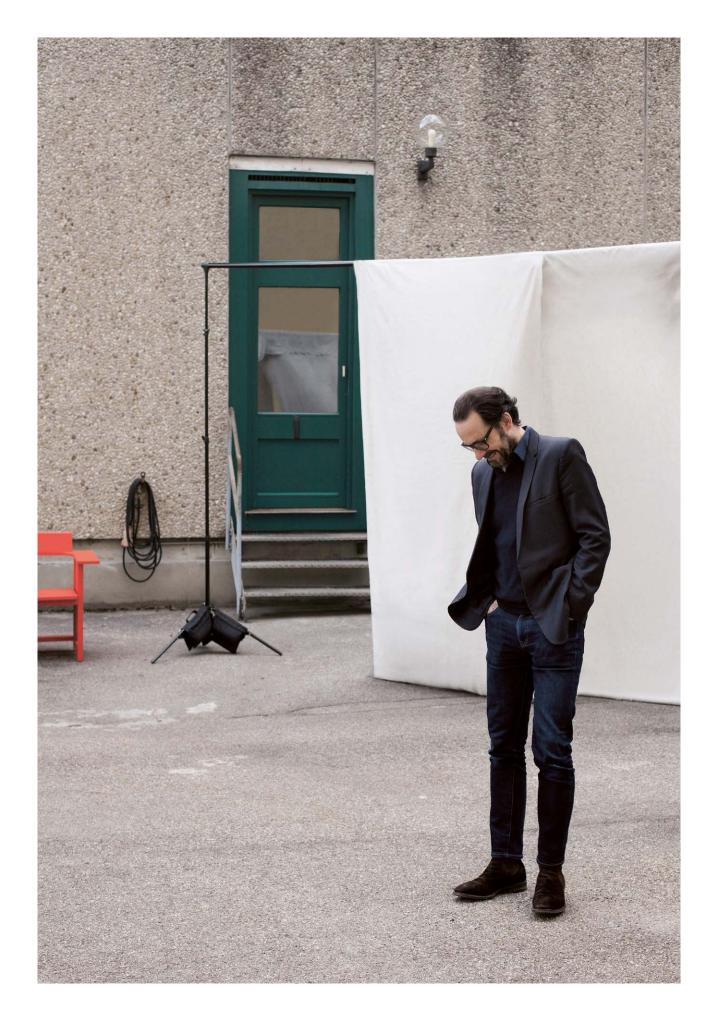
generations. True to style, his bike helmet is added to our document of the new PRIMO chair at the last moment. And why not?

Over the channel and into the Big Smoke: Sam Hecht and Kim Colin are snapped on St. Patrick's Day in London, where the streets outside are full of green. But Sam and Kim are interested in a more natural kind of green, bringing their TRONCO, RADICE and BRANCA chairs over to Regent's Park where the pair go for a run every day. This branch of the MATTIAZZI collaborative family add glasses, a notebook, and a perfectly draped jacket to our growing collection of heirlooms. You can always rely on the British side of the family to bring perfect poise.

Our final destination is Berlin, where celebrations are in order, since *Jasper Morrison* has just opened an exhibition at the Bauhaus Archive. In the first few rays of spring, our renowned paterfamilias is calm and composed in his FIONDA chair. Browsing the greyscale pages of The New York Times, he nonchalantly spreads his newspaper out for the family photographer, before folding it neatly on the black cover of the camping-inspired seat. The last addition to our assortment of family treasures, its pages archive this moment, like a time capsule. A snapshot of all the different personalities who put their distinctive and irreplaceable stamp on MATTIAZZI today.

Text Josie Thaddeus-Johns

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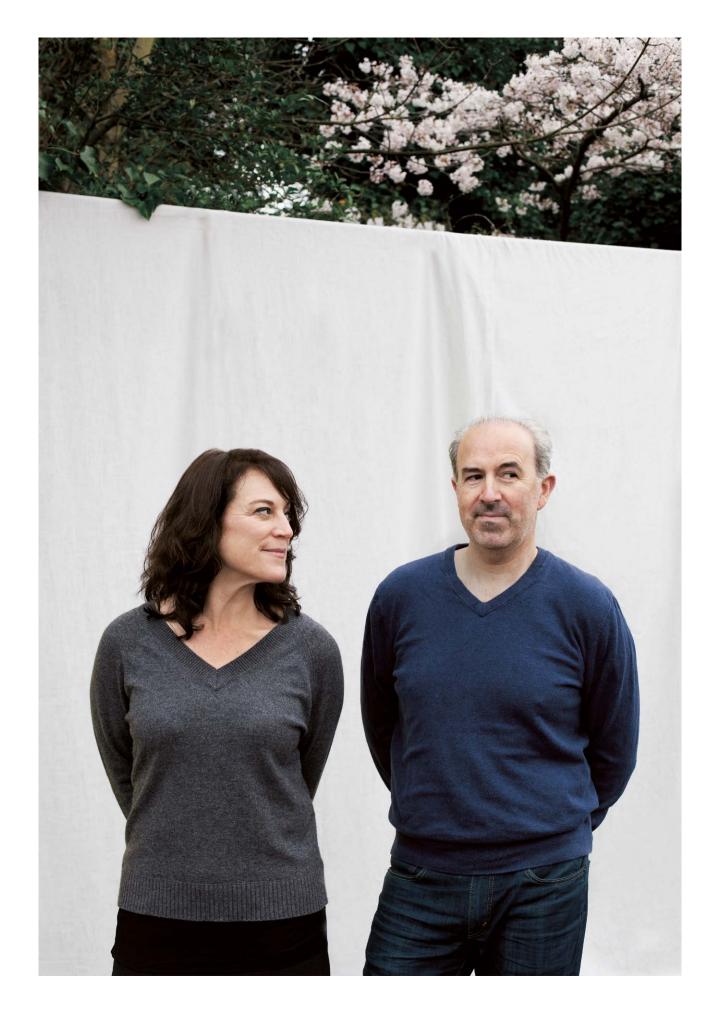
























Mattiazzi Collection 2009 – 2017

MC1 He said/She said — MC2 Branca — MC3 Osso MC4 Medici — MC5 Solo — MC6 Fionda MC7 Radice — MC8 Chiaro — MC9 Uncino MC10 Clerici — MC12 Tronco — MC13 Facile MC14 Primo — MC15 Quindici

MC1 — HE SAID / SHE SAID Studio Nitzan Cohen 2009



"It's all about the basics, about carpentry work, an intuition for wood together with years of experience."

Nitzan Cohen

MC 2 — BRANCA Sam Hecht & Kim Colin 2010



"For Industrial Facility this was undoubtedly an unusual project."

Sam Hecht

MC3 OSSO Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec 2011



"Working with Mattiazzi is comparable to work with an organic farm."

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec

MC4 — MEDICI Konstantin Grcic 2012



"Designing for Mattiazzi was a sort of personal time travel which took me all the way back to my professional roots."

Konstantin Grcic

MC5 — SOLO Nitzan Cohen 2012



"Solo is more of a character, a bit hard but very round, very simple but also intricate, practical and pragmatic..."

Nitzan Cohen

MC 6 — FIONDA Jasper Morrison 2013



"I am attracted to the language of camping and campaign furniture. It's something about the lightness of structure and required efficiency."

Jasper Morrison

MC7 — RADICE Sam Hecht & Kim Colin 2013



"Radice finds its underlying beauty and simplicity in its structure."

Sam Hecht

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MC8 — CHIARO Leon Ransmeier 2014



"As with many words, Chiaro has several definitions: clear, bright, and straightforward."

Leon Ransmeier

MC9 — UNCINO Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec 2014



"Uncino is almost primitive. It's a wooden chair collection composed by two or three pieces of perfect numerically sculpted wood, held in place by simple metal rods."

Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec

MC10 — CLERICI Konstantin Grcic 2015



"Thanks to simple, solid construction that supports the most sophisticated cultivation of form, the benches in the Clerici collection radiate a calm intensity."

Konstantin Grcic

MC12 — TRONCO Sam Hecht & Kim Colin 2016



"Tronco has surprisingly natural comfort and works well in multiples, not just alone."

Sam Hecht

MC13 — FACILE by LHM 2016



"The elegant dovetail expresses a sturdy simplicity to complement the sophistication of all Mattiazzi products"

Florian Lambl

MC14 — PRIMO Konstantin Grcic 2017



"The strictly vertical orientation of its legs gives the chair a strong architectural presence."

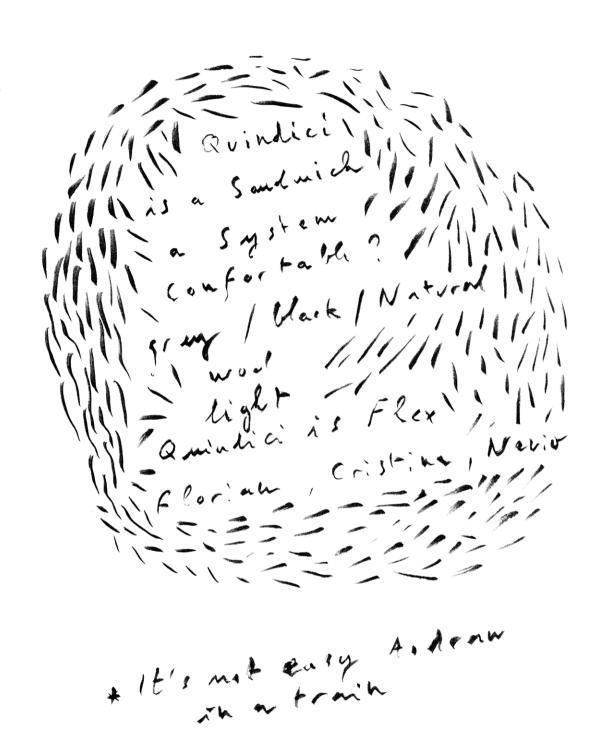
Konstantin Grcic

MC15 — QUINDICI Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec 2017



Quindici is a Sandwich / a System / Comfortable? / grey / black Natural / wood / light / Quindici is flex Florian, Cristina, Nevio

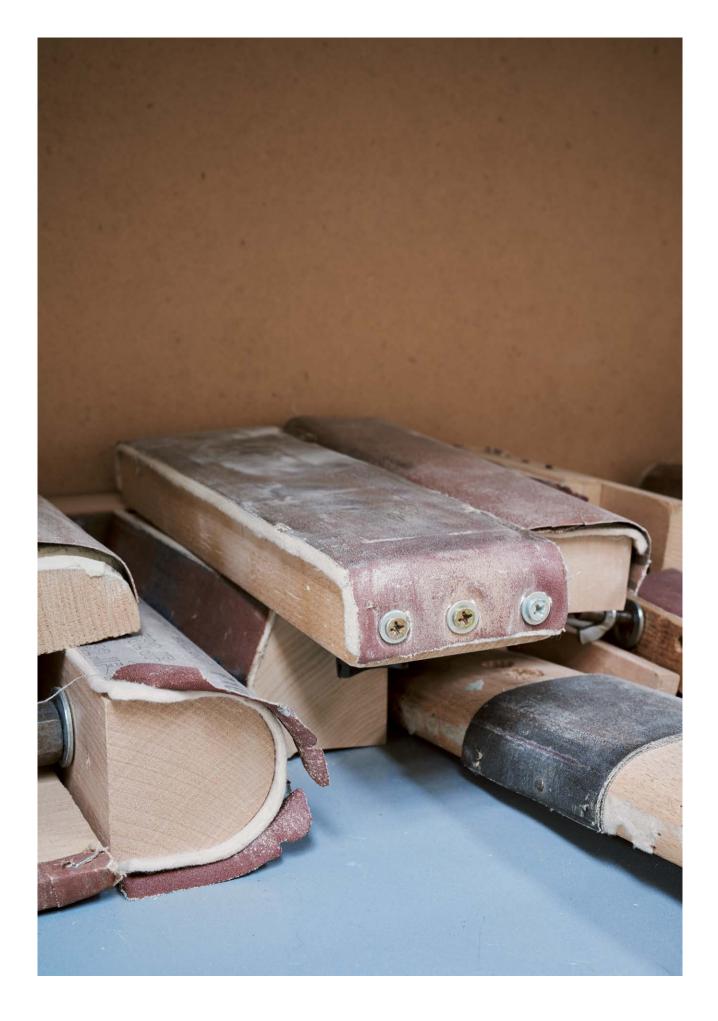
Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec

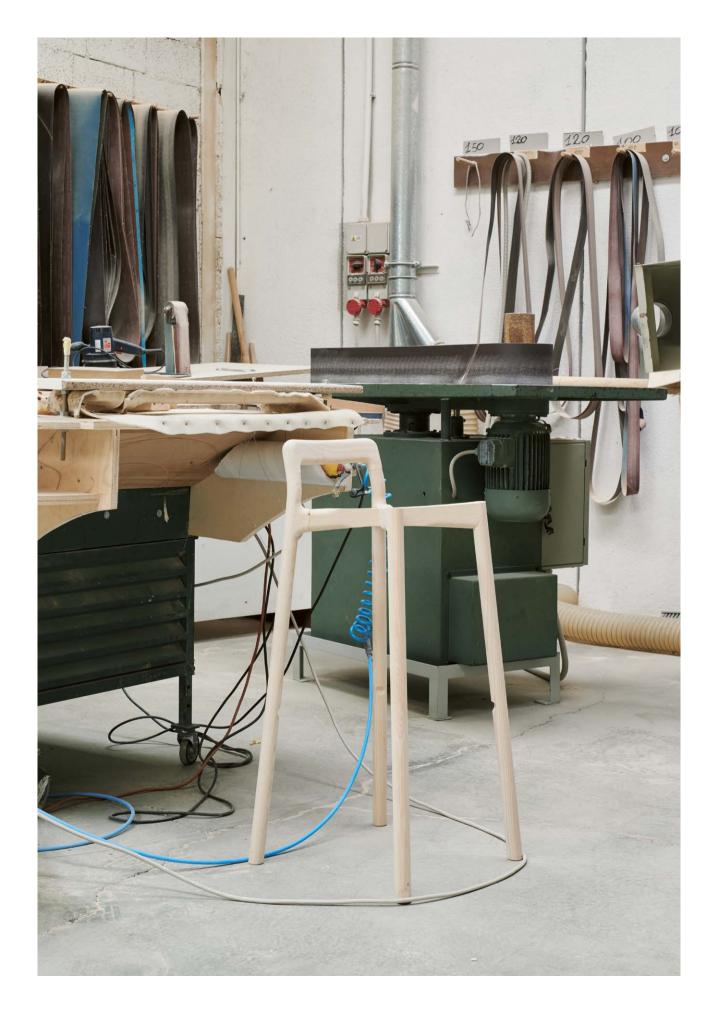


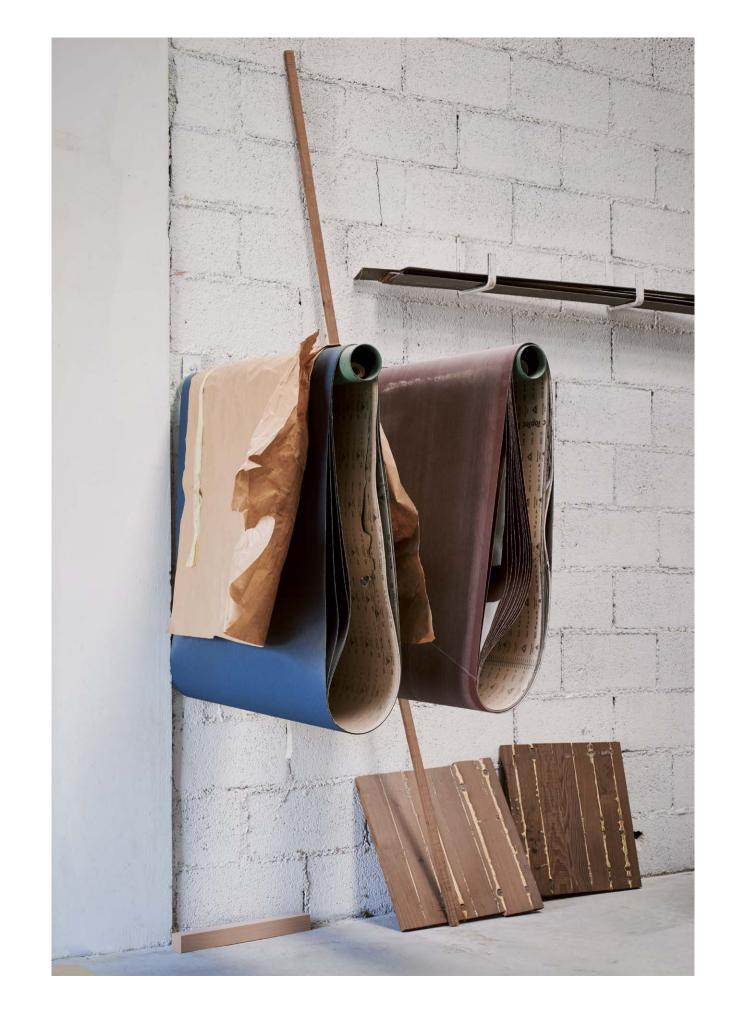
Mattiazzi Factory

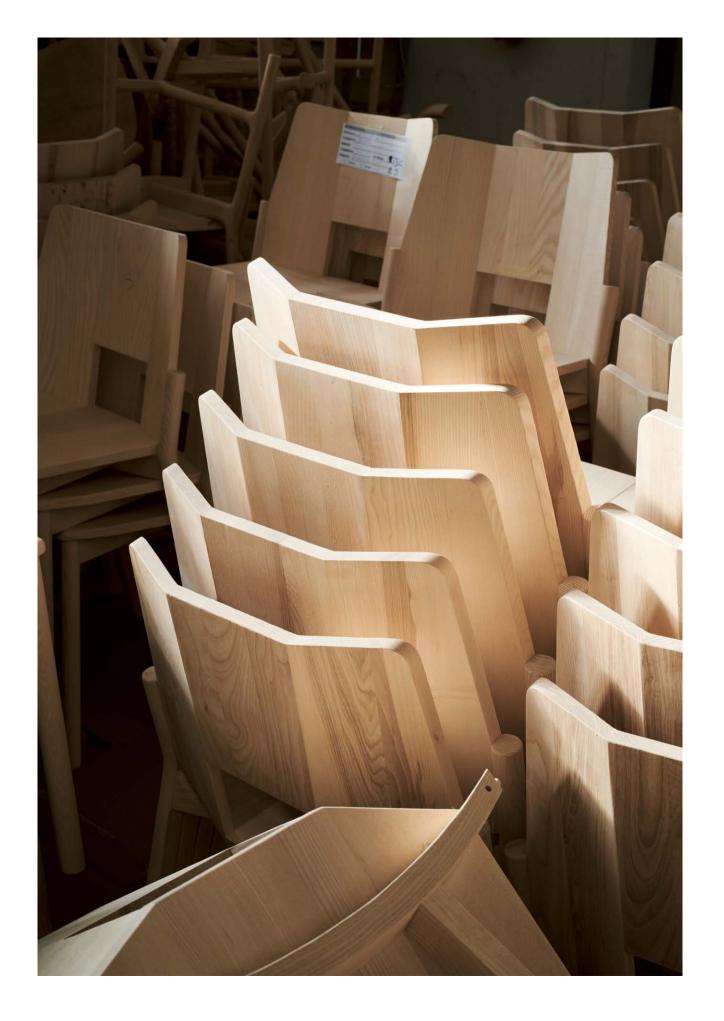


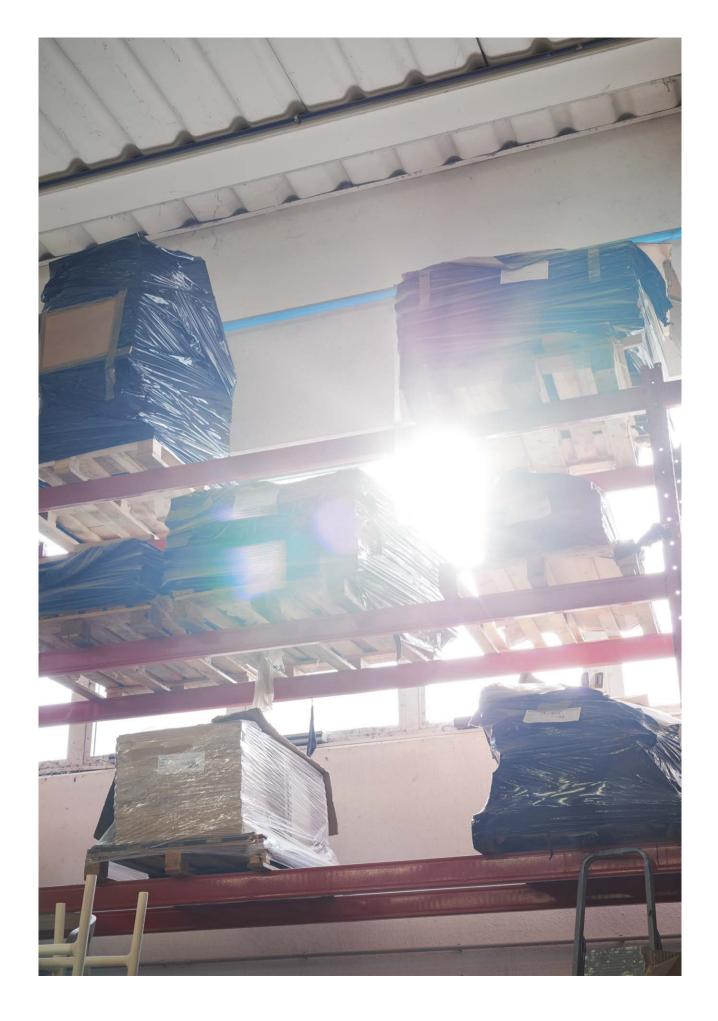


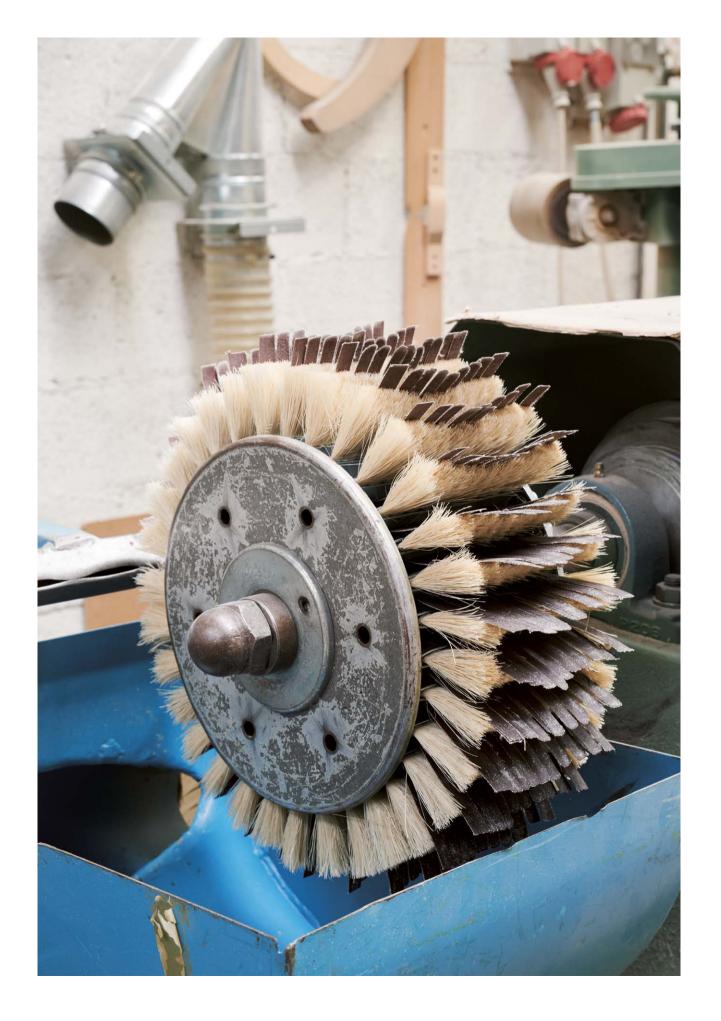


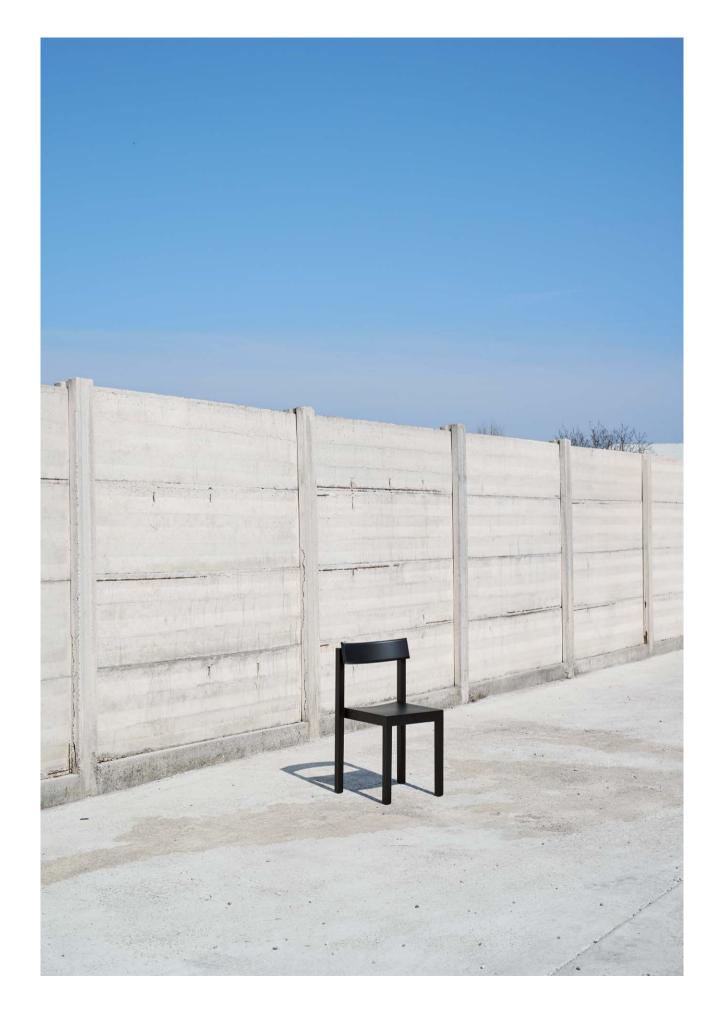














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