

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Giovanni Botticelli**  
**HABITAT**

**Opening: Saturday, June 8, 2019 | 11:00 am**  
**Exhibition dates: June 11 to July 31, 2019**

**Swing Design Gallery**  
**Corso Garibaldi 95 | Palazzo Collenea Isernia | 82100 Benevento IT**  
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**Swing Design Gallery is pleased to present *Habitat*, designer Giovanni Botticelli's second solo exhibition at the gallery.** Giovanni Botticelli's new project returns to and expands on the dialogue forged with the space and the interaction between the spectator and object that he developed in *EQUILIBRISTA*, the collection of mirrors he made for Swing Design Gallery in 2016. *HABITAT* started to take shape in 2017, stemming from his in-depth research on applying techniques and materials for eyewear manufacturing to interior design objects. Botticelli revisits a material he knows well, cellulose acetate, striving to combine concepts, design, and formal purity. He specifically focuses on welding and bending techniques. He combines two or more colors by joining acetate slabs through compressed acetone. Thermal bending is the technique commonly used for curved-front eyewear. The color palette he uses also draws on independent eyewear design, featuring clean contrasts between tan, transparent monochromes, and opaline colors. The installation resulting from this in-depth investigation is presented as a scaled transposition of architecture's typical expressions and forms, suggesting correspondences between essential style codes and pure geometric shapes. Displayed in the gallery are wall bookcases, tables, and boxes — furnishings conceived as places where memories dwell, places meant to safeguard the precious memory of our things. Botticelli has created a family of interior micro-architecture that seems to emerge from the fragments of imagined buildings. In his collection, the absolute precision of design meets experimentation to raise the material's creative potential. The *HABITAT* collection was designed exclusively for SWING Design Gallery and produced in a limited and numbered edition. We would like to thank Mazzucchelli 1849 for its support. This long-established company in Castiglione Olona was founded in 1849 as a small factory for the production of horn and bone combs and buttons. Now it is a world leader in the production and distribution of cellulose acetate.

**Giovanni Botticelli was born in Rome in 1987. He lives and works in Rome.**

He studied Product Design at IED Rome (European Design Institute) from 2006 to 2009, focusing on eyewear design and the craft and industrial processing of ceramics, glass and sheet metal. He expanded his technical expertise through training at ENSA Limoges and Abate Zanetti Murano. Since 2009, he has worked with companies throughout Italy, designing and overseeing the production of eyewear and sunglasses for Mondelliani and other brands exhibiting at international fairs, including Silmo Paris, Mido Milano, and Tranoï Paris. In 2010, his design for the Oled lighting systems for PPML was chosen for the ADI Codex Lazio publication and won the competition put on by Alstom in collaboration with IED. After his thesis project, he developed products for DMG Spa's collaborations with Schindler Group and Otis Elevator Company. In 2016, he took part in the Salone Satellite in Milan and started to work at IED as an assistant and teacher.

**EXHIBITIONS/FAIRS: 2019** OSSERVATORIO, *Forma*, curated by Domitilla Dardi, Cantiere Galli Design, Roma **2017** OPERAE Independent Design Fair, curated by Alice Stori Liechtenstein (with SWING Design Gallery), Lingotto Torino, Torino; SaloneSatellite. 20 anni di nuova creatività, curated by Beppe Finessi, Fabbrica del Vapore, Milano; White Young Innovative | WHITE IN THE CITY, curated by Giulio Cappellini (*EQUILIBRISTA* Mirror for SWING Design Gallery), Milano; Ottovolante for Mondelliani, Silmo, Parigi **2016/2017** *EQUILIBRISTA* Mirrors, SWING Design Gallery, Benevento; Under35 - Italian Design, Triennale Design Museum, Milano **2016** OPERAE Independent Design Fair, curated by Annalisa Rosso (with SWING Design Gallery), Palazzo Cisterna, Torino; Mirror Mirror, Exworks, Vicenza; PERSONALE Mirrors, Salone Satellite, Milano-Rho **2010** Moa Casa Roma, NaturalMente

**COLLABORATIONS:** IED Roma, CRIED, Mondelliani Glasses, Officine Gullo, SWING Design Gallery, 2A+P/A