



Design of desire
May 5, 2024

Geovana Cléa, art with Galbiati in homage to Brazil



The Art of Geovana Cléa talks about the Sertão, a semi-arid region that embraces many states of the Brazilian north east. The homeland of the artist naturalized in Italy was the protagonist of a marriage between art and design together with the **Galbiati Fratelli** company which thrilled visitors from all over the world at the Salone del Mobile di Milano 2024.

At the 62nd edition of the event international which this year saw around 370 thousand visitors last April, an exciting exhibition of the roots of the town of Alagoas was staged through the works of the Brazilian artist Geovana Cléa. Present in Italy for more than two decades, Geovana was invited to this prestigious international event, where she presented her "Sertões" collection, marking her fifth participation in the Salone Del Mobile.



Details of two works from the new artistic series by Geovana Cléa presented at the Salone del Mobile di Milano 2024 at the Galbiati stand.

This year the Salone's focus was sustainability, a theme that resonates deeply with the work of Geovana, known for her abstract expressionist and naturalistic approach and fervent advocacy for environmental issues. Her collection featured a series of works inspired by the arid soil of Alagoas, made with natural clay from Emilia Romagna, Italy, mixed with Swarovski crystals. This touch adds a subtle glow that evokes the richness hidden beneath the arid surface of the interior areas.

In addition to visual beauty, each work carries with it a strong emotional component, being dedicated to important figures from his childhood, such as his father, Luiz Celso, and his mother, Dona Rita. Gold-plated metal frames, a specialty of Italian company Galbiati Fratelli, complete the pieces, combining the harsh reality of Sertão soil with a touch of luxury and sophistication.



Geovana Cléa with Lucio and Alessandra Galbiati. The company's exhibition also includes brass cages for free birds, a particular connection to Brazilian nature, masterfully completed by the works of Geovana Cléa.



Geovana Cléa with Alessandra Galbiati and Lucio Galbiati, CEO of the company. In the photo on the right, Geovana Cléa is with the Brazilian design duo of Mulapreta, André Gurgel and Felipe Bezerra. Their music-amplifying speaker delighted booth guests all week.



The artist Geovana Cléa with the curator Marco Frigerio.

The "Sertões" exhibition functioned as a cultural bridge between Brazil and Italy, allowing international visitors to appreciate the depth of the culture of the Brazilian northeast through Cléa's brushstrokes. The artist, who has collaborated with luxury brands and is the only Brazilian with works at Harrods in London, reaffirms her status as a cultural ambassador through her art.

Geovana Cléa continues to be a prominent figure on the global art scene, with recognitions that include participation in the Venice Biennale and exhibitions in prestigious venues such as the Louvre, where she has also been honored. With "Sertões", an exhibition curated by Marco Frigerio, already at his side in "Inhapi", an exhibition at Castello di Rivolta last year, he not only shared his art, but brought the heart of the Alago hinterland onto the world stage, proving that even the most remote places have universal stories worth telling.

COMPANY HISTORY – Galbiati (Cantù, Como) began its production in the 1960s with small classic furnishing items, such as coffee tables, mirrors, consoles, armchairs and chairs. In the 70s and 80s, the production of brass and wrought iron beds was introduced for the Italian and European markets, with a vast range of classic and modern models. Today the company has achieved the creation of "tailor made" projects. Unique pieces made to order, finely decorated balustrades, classic and contemporary furnishings are thought out down to the smallest details, worked with precision

Photo by Ludmila Falcão
Marco Frigerio, curator of Sertões by Geovana Cléa with Galbiati Fratelli



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