

ROBERTO SAMBONET LA TEORIA DELLA FORMA THE THEORY OF FORM

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Roberto Sambonet's work ranges across design, graphics, and painting, eluding any facile classification. Instead of following him in his various fields of action, in the Electa catalogue that accompanies the Triennale Milano exhibition (17 May – 8 September 2024), we sought for a common denominator to bring together his many-sided interests. Going beyond biographical annotations on an adventurous life, we have focused on the outlines of a way of thinking driven by a scientific interest in the creative act embodied in the project. Having accepted his suggestions and retraced the principal contours of a working method that comprised paintings, drawings, watercolors and objects, we have perhaps found the rules for a general theory of form.

Not an array of formulas, but the pleasure of observing what happens if we expose the rigorous order of geometry to the challenge of freedom.

Texts and essays by Nina Bassoli, Stefano Boeri, Elisa Camesasca, Matteo Iannello, Daniele Ledda, Enrico Morteo, Guia Sambonet and Marco Sammicheli

Enrico Morteo 1957, architect, critic and design historian. He has written books (Grande Atlante del Design-Rizzoli; Mario Bellini-Phaidon; Nelle Case. Milan Interiors 1928/1978-Hoepli) and curated exhibitions and catalogs (Olivetti, Sambonet, Compasso d'Oro, Arte Programmata, Sottsass Olivetti Synthesis). Author and radio host for Radio3 RAI. He taught at the IUAV and was curator of the Historical Collection of the Compasso d'Oro.

CONTENTS

ENRICO MORTEO, NOTES FOR AN EXHIBITION.

WORDS TO SEE

22 CAUSE + 1

GUIA SAMBONET, A POSTCARD COLLECTION

POSTCARDS

ELISA CAMESASCA, BRAZILIAN CHRONICLES: SAMBONET'S LETTERS TELL THE STORY OF AN EXTRAORDINARY FORMATIVE EXPERIENCE BRAZII

MATTEO IANNELLO, ROBERTO SAMBONET: NOTES TOWARDS A BIOGRAPHY MADNESS CIRCULAR STRUCTURES ORTHOGONAL STRUCTURES TRIANGULAR STRUCTURES ORGANIC STRUCTURES PSYCHOLOGICAL STRUCTURES CHROMATIC STRUCTURES SEAS

DANIELE LEDDA AND ENRICO MORTEO, THE EXHIBITION DESIGN

NINA BASSOLI, FOR MILAN

MARCO SAMMICHELI, ART ON THE TABLE. A STORY OF FOOD AND WINE COMMUNICATION

ROBERTO SAMBONET, ART ON THE TABLE

BIOGRAPHY BIBLIOGRAPHY