



Domestic Sculptures on a Large Scale...

PAOLA By: Marta Martinez PARONETTO

If you cross the fields of Pordenone you may find the internationally renowned designer Paola Paronetto in her workshop, perfecting the new technique she has set out to work with, always on materials as humble as paper, cardboard, or clay.

The skillful hands of the artist found their *raison d'être* after intense training in various workshops in Umbria and Tuscany: to find the forms that suit her sensibility. Vases, lamps, cups, bottles, and more. From this period she retains the tradition of stoneware and porcelain, made from the finest clay and decorated with organic-inspired motifs. But Paronetto's eclectic work really stands out for the innovation in ceramics—atypical and daring—that simulate the domestic while passing for sculptures.

In recent years, she has been carried away by the undulating possibilities of Paperclay, an unmistakable style obtained by mixing clay and cellulose fiber, which gives the pieces an imperfect but neat appearance. Every detail and texture is a symptom of the mastery she has acquired in this visual game, where the complex weave of horizontal and vertical grooves imitates the organic shapes and rough textures of nature.

Today, Paronetto's multifaceted, light and colorful work, besides being part of different lines of furniture and decoration, is regularly exhibited in international galleries, such as the center of contemporary ceramics in London or in the museum of Milan.



Paola Paronetto - SAFA



You studied at the La Meridiana ceramics school in Tuscany, was ceramics and art always the only option you contemplated for your future? It has always been a great passion of mine. First I studied in Deruta, Faenza, Florence... pivotal locations for classic Italian ceramics. Then, with a greater awareness of my abilities, I sought my own way.

For you, “creating ceramics means giving life to animated objects,” could it be said that you converse with your pieces? Yes, always, both during the creative process and after when I place my work in a setting. I like to discover their unique personality and create a dialogue between them.

“Cartocci” was your first collection with paper clay, what led you to try this style? What other styles have you tried? After having tried and honed all the various traditional techniques of ceramic processing, I wanted to try something completely new, outside the box, something light and dynamic. I wanted to create innovative ceramics, with bold and imaginative shapes, and with paper clay, I succeeded.

You set up your workshop in the fields of Pordenone. What is it like? I love the local countryside where my family is from, my roots are here and it is a calm place, surrounded by nature, which is my main source of inspiration.

Metaphors is your new project, a way to get to know you through your works. What else can you tell us about it? My new book *Metaphors* is a way to tell who I am through my works, bringing the public closer to my world.



*On the top-right: Paola Paronetto - GIANI.
On the bottom-right: Paola Paronetto - LE SIGNORINE.*

The second part of the volume, Scenes, presents your pieces in different places and contexts. When a piece acquires an owner, does its essence change? I created the second part of the book Scenes precisely because I believe that as we constantly change in relation to the place where we are and the people we spend time with, my artwork can change depending on where it is placed too. Furthermore, I have noticed that often people who buy my pieces like to show me where they have placed them and sometimes even ask me for some advice about it!

After so many years of trajectory, what would you say is the greatest lesson you take with you? Do you think your style will continue to evolve? My suggestion is to follow your instincts and never give up despite the fatigue, the difficulties, and always go as far along your chosen path as you can. I think this is important because it represents the search for ourselves, at first unwittingly then with more and more awareness. Yes, as long as I can work I will continue to evolve and with me, I hope, also my choice of expression.



Metafore Album



Paola Paronetto - Studio