

**PAOLA
LENTI**

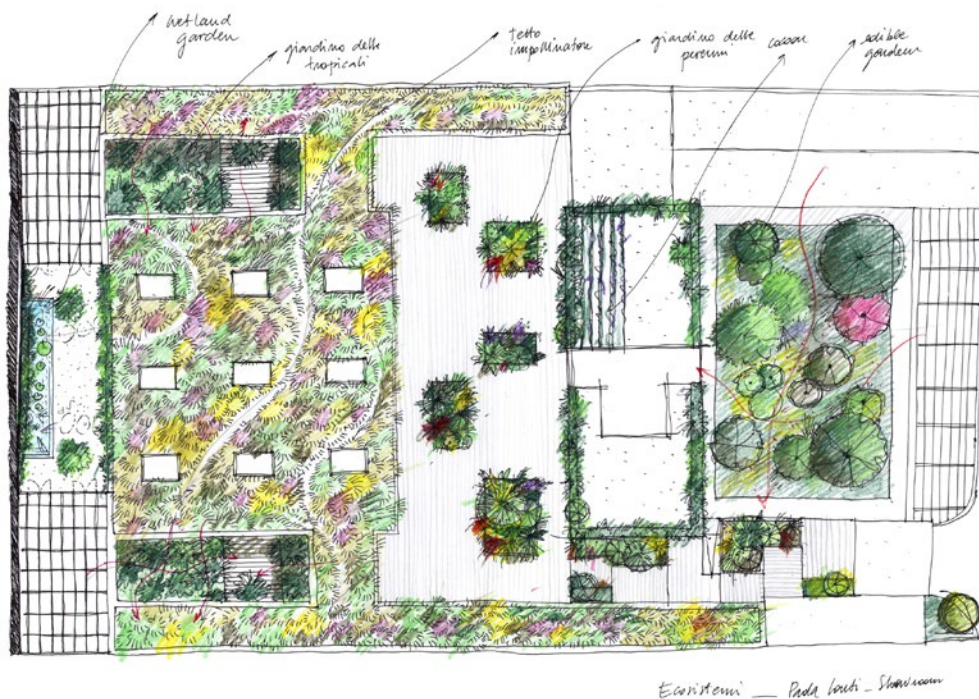
MILANO DESIGN WEEK 2024

Paola Lenti Milano

The green project

**«Oltre lo sguardo»
Paola Lenti Milano
The green project**

The green project distinguishes and make the concept of Paola Lenti Milano in via Bovio unique.



Entrusted to the multidisciplinary team of architects, scientists and plant researchers of Studio Pnat (Project Nature), based in Florence and coordinated by Professor Stefano Mancuso, the area of 4,000 square meters includes different habitats, guaranteeing an environment blurring the distinction between artificial and natural, where nature and built-up space interacts until they merge.

An area of urban fabric that, universally conceived as a place where nature is accepted within the limits of aesthetic and regulatory rules, becomes in this project a compelling and articulated system of experimentation, where built spaces intermingle with several natural ecosystems.

An unprecedented coexistence that Paola Lenti has strongly sought after and wanted to implement, since it leads to a deeper understanding of the way we relate to the world and its rhythms. This project contributes to fostering and promoting the idea of a nature that, although included in an urban context, retains its changing and wild multi-ecosystemic essence.

The design team, capitalizing on the sequence of the scenarios offered by the existing architecture, has been able to create different habitats, originating an unprecedented narrative, even more so when contextualized within an establishment with a commercial function as well.

The integration into a single architecture of different ecosystems creates a narrative path leading the visitors through natural environments that follow each other between the spaces, seducing them with a unique and always different multisensory and cognitive experience.

Each ecosystem, the primary element to give life to a variegated and changing nature, was conceived considering its botanic composition and designed to express its aesthetic value and ecosystemic potential, which is the capability of producing a biodiversity having beneficial effects for people and the environment. The juxtaposition of different ecosystems, the reciprocal aesthetic, functional ecological interdependence, represents the backbone of the project, from which the narrative begins.

At a time when natural habitats are often destroyed and the variability of nature stifled, the intervention in via Bovio in Milan commissioned by Paola Lenti, aims at reestablishing harmony between microclimate, biodiversity and landscape, hence representing an entrepreneurial approach based on an uncommon ethics.

Habitats at Paola Lenti Milano:



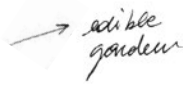
Wetland Garden

The *Wetland Garden* includes a pond able to sustain a rich biodiversity of plants, insects and little animals. A healthy and lasting *wetland garden* contains the right mix of swamp, floating and submerged plants, enabling them to grow rich and beautiful in all seasons and water to require limited or no filtration. At Paola Lenti Milano the space reserved to the *wetland garden* is featured, in addition to the pond with aquatic plants, by two pools containing trees and shrubs. The southern border wall sees a massive presence of climbing plants with a delicate fragrance with the function to mitigate temperature during the warmer season. From the roof, a fringe of drooping plants will give lightness and movement to the space. Some of the species planted include *Schinus molle*, *Osmanthus Burkwoodii*, *Cyperus papyrus*, *Lespedeza thunbergii*.



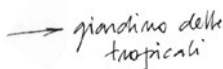
Pollinator rooftop

The *Pollinator rooftop* is an ecosystem composed of plants that provide food and shelter to pollinating animals such as bees, birds and butterflies. These species represent the base of food production and safety and are steadily decreasing. The spontaneous and wild garden in the space of Via Bovio is brought to life on the central roof, visible from the other buildings of the estate, generating an unprecedented visual impact. Its presence guarantees the health of all the other ecosystems. Plants are selected according to their limited water needs and include more than 30 species with different blooms, offering this way an always different landscape and an oasis regenerating urban biodiversity. Among the different plants giving life to the roof of Paola Lenti Milano are *Gaura lindheimeri*, *Muhlenbergia capillaris*, *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Rosmarinus officinalis*, *Lavandula angustifolia*, *Helichrysum italicum*, *Salvia microphylla*, *Perovskia atriplicifolia*.



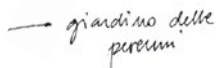
Edible forest garden

The *Edible Forest Garden* is a natural habitat mimicking the ecosystem of a natural forest capable of supporting the biodiversity and created with the juxtaposition of plants of different species, including fruit trees, medicinal, and edible plants. In the design of an edible forest garden different levels are taken into consideration, characterized by plants with different heights: tall trees with large foliage, bushes of medium height, up to herbaceous and mushrooms. Its function at Paola Lenti Milano is also the creation of synergies with the hospitality activities of the showroom, supplying edible and fragrant seeds, flowers and leaves that may contribute to the gourmet offer.



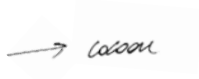
Tropical courtyard

The *Tropical courtyard* is an environment where people can rest and relax surrounded by plants. The space is occupied by vigorous banana trees and luxuriant palm trees. The space, protected on four sides, provides the ideal climate conditions for such plants to thrive. Here, man is the guest and plants are the host. An enveloping space aimed at fostering the guests' psychophysical well-being, preparing the mind for creative thinking. In the Tropical Courtyard the plants are: Washingtonia robusta, Musa ensete maurellii, Butia calpitata, Leucospermum Ayoba pink.



Perennial garden

The *Perennial Garden* is the central pathway of the showroom, where all visitors and guests converge. Greenery here is conceived as a dynamic system, constantly evolving. Perennials possess the characteristic of regeneration, change, and colonization, generating the space where they are inserted, generating ever-new patterns and dispositions. The garden will never appear bare because it is designed with species of varying seasonality and includes some evergreens. The presence of large trees will mitigate the heat peaks across the entire area during the warmest season, creating environmental comfort and physical well-being. Among the selected species are: Cinnamomum camphora, Ginkgo Biloba fastigiata, Acer palmatum, Cotinus coggygia (Young lady).



Cocoon

The *Cocoon*, or the green set up of the terraces, thanks to the selection of evergreen plants, aims to offer guests a cozy and enveloping shelter from noise and prying eyes in every season. The inclusion of some spring-flowering species ensures a sense of seasonality and change.



Founded in 1994, Paola Lenti is renowned worldwide for the innovative twist it has given to design products and for its unmistakable interpretation of colour. In thirty years of activity, the company has created a collection of exclusive fabrics and technical materials, eco-friendly and available in hundreds of hues. Paola Lenti indoor and outdoor collections and complements for the architecture are displayed in the most important international showrooms.

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