

FIGURE, DESIGN: LUCA NICHETTO

Pebbles, gemstones or a lady's shoe? The shapes that define Luca Nichetto's FIGURE series instantly spark the imagination. FIGURE takes its cue from nature just as much as it does from Josef Hoffmann's extraordinary jewellery designs, becoming an iconic object in its own right that is not only aesthetically captivating, but supremely comfortable and inviting, too. A balancing act that Wittmann pulls off effortlessly.

Like pebbles seemingly randomly thrown together by nature, colourful gemstones coalesce in harmonious patterns and, framed by precious metal, are transformed into brooches and pendants – Josef Hoffmann's Wiener Werkstätte-era jewellery had already provided the inspiration for Luca Nichetto's ANTILLES table series. Now, FIGURE is taking the idea to the next level. And into the third dimension. The sofa and lounge chairs in the series elevate the oval stones from the two-dimensional surface onto a three-dimensional plane. Together, Nichetto and Wittmann have worked up a statement piece, a design object with an organic and sculptural aesthetic.

In the generously proportioned sofa, which consists of five elements, oval remains the defining shape. A pair of differently sized backrests abut two seats, each with a different depth. On one side, the armrest hovers over the seat. This opens up the option of bringing the sofa – which initially appears to be a stand-alone piece – into a more communicative setting in which two pieces are positioned adjacent to one another and share an armrest. Also part of the family, the lounge chair adheres to the same design principle. Likewise comprising two elements, a backrest stands protectively behind the seat, lending the single-seater additional stability and support.

The seating comfort provided by these aesthetically engaging and organically flowing sculptures is scarcely imaginable for such artful forms. But in a display of consistency, Wittmann has endowed FIGURE with a high-quality pocket spring core – an unseen expression of the state of the art synonymous with the company's upholstered furniture. Located in the substructure, this core is covered by a precision-cut polymousse foam structure for a gently yielding seating surface. The frame is manufactured in Wittmann's metal workshop, while the unusual shape of the feet is achieved using a sophisticated layering technique rooted in boat building.

The idea of the differently coloured gemstones is brought to its natural conclusion by leaving the choice of cover material to individual preferences: on request, the elements can be upholstered in different colours and delineated with precision piping executed in the same shade as the upholstery.

FIGURE is the product of consummate development work, premium materials and flawless craftsmanship. All prerequisites for creating the greatest possible comfort without making any concessions when it comes to the integrity of the pieces' eye-catching shape. The outcome is unprecedented latitude for a wide variety of contract and home situations where bold and extravagant colours can come into play, a clear statement of intent is called for, and expectations of outstanding comfort are always a given.

"FIGURE is a design object with original aesthetics that makes a strong statement – a three-dimensional jewel inspired by Hoffmann's pursuit of the Gesamtkunstwerk, or total work of art."

Luca Nichetto

Variants & dimensions:

- Sofa: W 290cm x H 77cm x D 85cm; seat depth 57-61cm, seat height 44cm, armrest height 56cm; total seat width 231cm (smaller element: W 84cm, larger element: W 147cm)
- Lounge Chair: W 101cm x H 77cm x D 83cm; seat depth 55cm, seat height 44cm, seat width 80cm
- Fixed cover with piping; cover material only in fabric
- Cover standard single colour, multicolour for a surcharge
- Sofa max. 5 colours, Lounge Chair max. 2 colours
- Piping in same material and colour as upholstery
- Feet: black stained beech with felt glides

Combining distinctive design with masterful craftsmanship – the core of the Wittmann vision. Skillfully blending traditional craftsmanship with contemporary design departures, the Austrian family business has always set trends and continues to create milestones in furniture history to this day. Rather than prescribing a particular style, Wittmann instead allows global inspiration and an optimistic, open-minded attitude to guide the process, creating those distinctive products of eclectic style that reflect individuality and originality. True to the central brand promise of *Making the Difference*.

The Austrian family business, now in its fifth generation, produces the highest quality designer upholstered furniture using traditional handcrafting methods. For more than 125 years, Wittmann has stood for quality, individuality and unparalleled craftsmanship. In collaboration with internationally renowned designers, Wittmann creates precisely crafted furniture enriching private interiors and exceptional projects in hospitality, retail and corporate offices around the world with its originality.

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