

Martino Gamper ***Condominium***

September 22 – October 25, 2011

Galleria Franco Noero is pleased to present the first solo exhibition of the designer Martino Gamper in Torino. *Condominium* is a unique project expressly conceived for the gallery's peculiar spaces and underlines its commitment towards contemporary creative research, overcoming the boundaries between different artistic disciplines.

Martino Gamper's path is constantly marked by a great spontaneity that permeates all of his projects. These are rooted in a refined and precise knowledge of materials, processes, shapes and aesthetics that characterize the history of Italian design. After the first apprenticeship at a furniture maker in Merano, his native border town, followed then by studies in sculpture with Michelangelo Pistoletto at the Academy of Fine Arts in Wien, Martino Gamper finally entered the design world under the guidance of one of Memphis group's founders, Matteo Thun. In 1997 he moved to London where he joined the Royal College of Art studying with Ron Arad, and there he later taught from 2004 to 2010.

Gamper tackles the unusual building approaching it in a unique and personal way, conceiving the rooms at the various levels as individual homes owned by as many occupants, a real "condominium", in which the objects are displayed in the spaces as they were portions of houses, in order to create a total living space. The designer moved to Torino for a month to work on found pieces of furniture (cupboards, tables, nightables, chairs, lamps) which make reference to the middle class style interiors from the Fifties to the Seventies. Gamper builds unique pieces by hybridating the found pieces of furniture, cutting and assembling their parts in new forms, repositioning part of their creative and material history in a project fully orchestrated by him.

Martino Gamper's creative process is summarised in the words by Emily King (2009): 'Martino Gamper makes funny shaped furniture. Amalgams of odd angles, strange protuberances, unlikely surfaces and idiosyncratic features, his pieces perch uncertainly, as if waiting politely for an introduction to life on earth'.

Martino Gamper (Merano, 1971). Lives and works in London. Among his exhibitions and projects for public and private Institutions: '*Gesamtkunsthwerk*. Karl Fritsch, Martino Gamper and Francis Upritchard', Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth – New Zealand (2011), project for *Café Charlottenborg*, Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen (2011), 'Stanze e camere + 100 chairs in 100 days. Martino Gamper', Triennale Design Museum, Milan (2009), 'Wouldn't it be nice...Wishful thinking in Art & Design', Centre d'Art Contemporain, Genève (2007), 'Undiszipliniert/ Undisciplined: Phenomenon of Space in Art, Architecture and Design', Kunsthalle Exnergasse, Wien (2008), '100 chairs in 100 Days', 5 Cromwell Place, London (2007), 'Confronting the chair – Martino Gamper', Design Museum, London (2006/2007). Among the projects for private clients and companies, the chairs 'Vigna' for Magis.

Press | Margherita Sassone | tel +39.347.4457067 | press@franconoero.com

GFN Srl.
Via Giulia di Barolo 16/D, I-10124 Torino
Tel 0039 011882208
www.franconoero.com
info@franconoero.com