



**Living Divani at "The scheme of things", the retrospective for the 20 years of Nathan Yong
National Design Center of Singapore**

September 13th 2019 – October 6th 2019

Every day from 9am to 9pm

Scenography curated by Nathan Yong Design

Living Divani participates in "The scheme of things", the large retrospective dedicated by the **National Design Center of Singapore** to **Nathan Yong** for his first 20 years of career.

The exhibition offers a glimpse of the designer's prolific activity by selecting 30 of his most iconic works from the past and 10 new projects: objects that at first glance reveal the designer's original point of view and continuous research on materials and production methods, recognizing him the creativity and the important contribution to the diffusion of design in the Asian country.

Graduated from Temasek Polytechnic with a diploma in Industrial Design in 1991. He began his career not as a designer, but as a buyer as well as engaging in product development for various companies in Singapore.

*"We started collaborating with Nathan Yong in 2009, he was one of the first foreign designers I decided to involve for the enlargement of our collection: a perfect balance I believe due to the theme of harmony and delicacy of forms typical of his Asian aesthetic, which however hides a profound reflection on the project that has conquered us" - explains Carola Bestetti, second generation and head of marketing and communication dept. of Living Divani. "From the **Bolle** low tables, an airy composition of small circular tops repeated in sequence, of which I completely fell in love, to the **Stack** tables, characterized by a touch of poetic design, handicraft construction and vibrant nuances, to the **Off Cut**, the bookshelf conceived in 2012 by piecing together bits of solid walnut or oak".*

Even the evocative setting that accompanies the exhibition is imagined by Nathan Yong Design studio: a gallery of large white canvases hanging from an invisible frame, a wall of floating white sheets of paper in which objects are placed as paintings that come to life. Guiding the exhibition is the idea of layering, of a storytelling that oscillates between intentions and meanings, between ingenuity and engineering construction, guided by concepts of transparency, clarity, intellectual honesty and sustainability.

Visitors are encouraged to walk through the various works, enjoying the experience of entering into thoughts and long reflections that have characterized the designer in his 20-year career, immersing himself in a creative process full of continuous discoveries.

The exhibition is embellished with 10 unpublished works that will be narrated through a weekly talk program, aimed at promoting collaboration between industrial designers and local companies using the National Design Center as a platform.

Nathan Yong

After a graduation in Industrial Design in 1991, he began his career developing products for various companies in Singapore. Through these jobs, he travelled to various countries including India, Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia to source for quality manufacturers and craftsmen to develop and manufacture furniture and home accessories, learning various production techniques and crafts. In 1999, Nathan started his first retail store called Air Division, selling his own creations made by Asian craftsman. Nathan subsequently sold Air Division and pursued a Master degree from the University of New South Wales, Australia.

For two consecutive years (in 2006 and 2007), Nathan won the prestigious Red Dot Concept Design Award. Subsequently in 2008, Nathan received the prestigious Singapore President's Design Award as Designer of the Year, the highest honor accorded to designers from all creative disciplines in Singapore.

Currently based in Singapore, Nathan runs a multidisciplinary design consultancy practice. His work spans across industrial design, graphics, interior design, architectural design, strategic planning in product development and manufacturing processes as well as branding. Nathan's work has been exhibited globally in various cosmopolitans such as Singapore, Shizuoka, Milan, London, Koln and Taipei.

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