

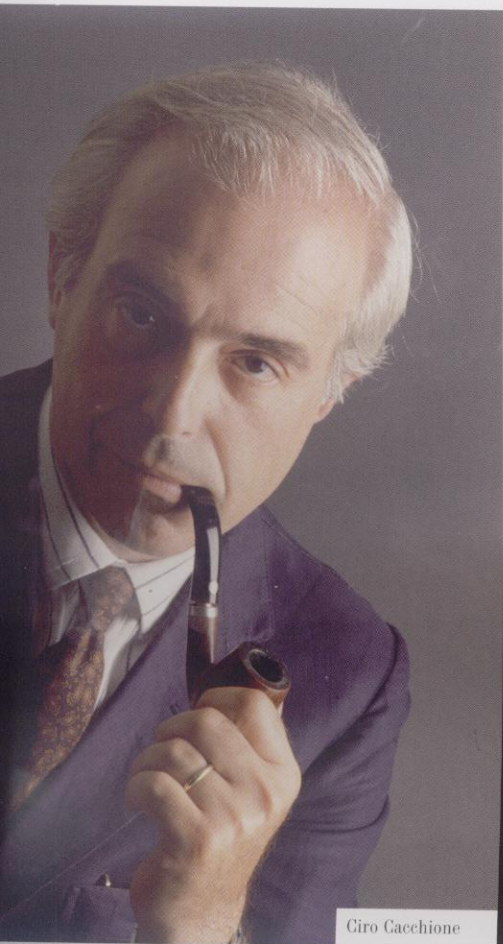
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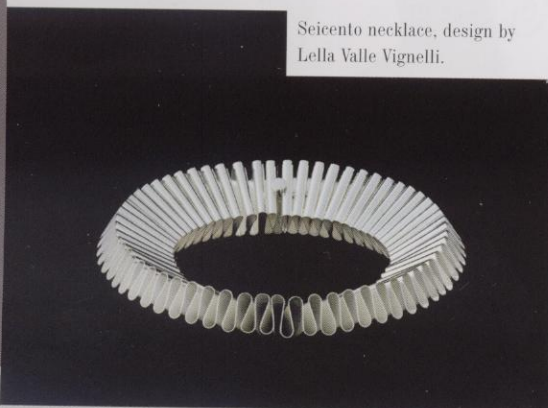
Ciro Cacchione / Milan

A lawyer renews his family traditions, enlisting Italy's leading designers to create finely crafted objects made of a metal prized for its purity and beauty.



Ciro Cacchione

Ciro Cacchione was born and studied in Milan, where he and his wife, Marinella, now live in the Navigli district. His family, which originally came from Switzerland, has been in the silver business for four generations, but Ciro chose to make his career in law, before returning to silverware and make it respond to the spirit of the times. In 1970, he established the Atelier San Lorenzo to create objects in 0.999 pure silver, ranging from jewellery to dishes, vases and tableware. Leading Italian designers, namely Tobia Scarpa, have made San Lorenzo the leader in its field. Now celebrating its fortieth anniversary Atelier San Lorenzo's future is as bright as their products.



Seicento necklace, design by Lella Valle Vignelli.

What makes Milan special for you?

I love Milan for its history, its people, and its capacity for constant renewal without betraying its own identity. There is a spirit of understatement here. In Milan, it is the truth of things, not appearance, that is paramount and this attracts people from outside who, together with its citizens, have made it great in art and sciences, and now in design and fashion. It is a city that reveals nothing – it has to be discovered and conquered – but it offers great opportunities to those who understand its spirit.

What are your favourite places?

Red brick is the leitmotiv of Milanese buildings from the third century B.C to the present day. It's present everywhere – from the city walls, to the numerous basilicas, the University cloisters, the Brera Palace and the Gio Ponti-designed apartment building where I used to live. And everything is crowded together and that puts me at my ease. Whenever I have guests from out of town, I take them on the red brick route.

Which shops provide something truly unique?

For furniture and fittings, De Padova is a spare showcase in a city that offers an abundance of riches (Corso Venezia, 14, T. +39 02 777 201). Lorenzi is unrivalled for knives and small special tools, as well as coffee makers (Via Monte Napoleone, 9, T. +39 02 7602 2848). Ravizza Sport is a venerable shrine for menswear (Via Ulrico Hoepli, 3, T. +39 02 869 3853).

When you have free time, what do you do?

For me, leisure and work are inseparable, so I often occupy myself with architecture and design, returning to places I already know in order to re-discover their fascination. Then I might go to the latest art exhibition – there is always a very good selection in Milan.

What do you think is special about the Hotel Principe di Savoia?

It is an icon of Milanese hospitality and a hotel that has constantly renewed the range of its services to preserve this quality. It's a perfect place to meet my friends and customers, and I often recall the refined wedding parties I attended there.

ATELIER SAN LORENZO, Via Melegari 4, Milan
www.sanlorenzsilver.it



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