

PRESS RELEASE MDW2025

**MATERIA ESOTICA**  
**a dialogue between inside and outside, art and design**  
*installation by Patrick Tuttofuoco*  
*curated by Luca Molinari for Lualdi*

Milan, 8 April 2025 – From 8 April, the Lualdi showroom transforms into a place of connection and metamorphosis with *Materia Esotica*, the site-specific installation by Patrick Tuttofuoco, curated by Luca Molinari. The installation redefines the concept of threshold and passageway, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in an experience that blends inside and outside, art and design.

Lualdi's historic Milanese space becomes a boundary line between the city's dynamic life and the showroom. The shopfront creates a visual connection between the inside and outside, turning the passageway into a space-time gateway that amplifies the act of seeing and discovery.

Patrick Tuttofuoco's work explores the relationship between our bodies, gazes and the unpredictability of encounters. In science, "exotic matter" consists of rapidly decaying, fleeting particles that generate a surplus of energy, thus altering and redefining their current state. An idea that captures the uniqueness of human nature and our capacity for self-reinvention through creativity.

"*Materia Esotica* is an intervention that redefines the perspective of the Lualdi shopfront," explains Luca Molinari, "because it no longer simply leads inside, it creates a proactive connection between the inside and out. It is a mutual exchange of glances that creates a dialogue. Building relationships is essential, and this installation strengthens them, transforming the showroom into a place of passage, reflection and experience."

Patrick Tuttofuoco's installation explores the concept of the threshold as a space of transition and transformation, represented through a human figure in flux. The face, superimposed on multiple levels, gradually becomes a layered image in which each passage is a moment of growth, exchange and the redefinition of space.

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“The concept of the threshold is at the heart of everything,” says Patrick Tuttofuoco. “It is a point of passage, of transformation. I wanted to give shape to the threshold through a human figure in the making. It’s not just the portrayal of a face but a changing image. This work speaks to the human capacity for transformation, to dialogue with others as a force that defines and reshapes us.”

With *Materia Esotica*, the Lualdi showroom becomes more than just an exhibition space – it becomes a place of connection, where visitors are invited to slow down, reflect and take part in an experience where art and design contaminate one another. It is an installation that doesn’t merely invite observation, it returns the gaze, prompting a continuous dialogue with the city and everyone who passes through it.

This initiative perfectly embodies the spirit of Lualdi’s spaces and the company’s commitment to exploring the contaminations between creative disciplines. The showroom becomes a place of connection and experimentation, and the threshold a sensory and symbolic experience.

This year, Lualdi will also exhibit at Salone del Mobile.Milano, **Hall 9, Stand H11**, presenting a vision of contemporary living that reimagines the concept of interior space division, enabling the creation of self-contained, flexible environments.

Through this dual initiative – between design and art, technical innovation and aesthetic research – Lualdi interprets the evolution of living and architectural space, proposing solutions that place humanity back at the centre.

## **MATERIA ESOTICA BY PATRICK TUTTOFUOCO**

Lualdi Showroom, Foro Buonaparte, Milan

Showroom opening hours: 8–13 April 2025 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Invitation-only event 8 April 2025, 6.30 p.m. – 10 p.m.

## **LUALDI AT SALONE DEL MOBILE 2025**

Hall 9, stand H11 – Rho Fiera Milano

8–13 April 2025

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## LUALDI company profile

Founded in 1859 as a carpentry shop, Lualdi is an illustrious Italian design company specialising in interior doors, custom furniture and contract furniture, now managed by the fifth generation of the founding family. Its industrial turning point came about in the 1960s thank to a collaboration with some of Milan's foremost architects at the time. With showrooms in Milan, London, Los Angeles, New York and Miami, the company currently collaborates with some of the world's most renowned architects and enjoys international acclaim. The company's core values are product and processing quality, with skilled manufacture that combines artisan tradition with the most sophisticated aspects of industrial production. Social responsibility is one of the cornerstones of its philosophy and daily commitment to protecting the environment. Its socially and ecologically sustainable use of materials and resources has led to it becoming an FSC®-certified company.

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