



HAND-CRAFTED PIECES

One of the show-stopping showrooms was in fact outside of the show. The American furniture atelier BDDW is found on Via San Marta and has puzzled many of its visitors who aren't used to a contemporary design store looking like a vintage gallery.

The values of makers like BDDW, Mark Albrecht, or Apparatus, another American company that showed its pieces in the BDDW annex across the road, are slowly but surely being assimilated into the more polished offerings of the big brands. Crafted items that show the natural beauty of their materials, combined with a certain almost industrial rawness can be seen in the rope, cord, natural edges and vintage inspired pieces that I saw elsewhere in the show. Mark Albrecht's bar was a particular favourite at the Wallpaper* Handmade exhibition.



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The Crono chair from Flexform and the Carmen Ottoman from Mood were two pieces that emphasised the more natural materials and unusual tailoring available from the Flexform Mood spectrum.

The Traveller from Porro and Notch by Lema speaks of safaris and a less polished world. Swing from Giorgetti highlighted the brand's manufacturing heritage also explored in its slow-motion roller coaster of pieces from their history.

The Yoroi sideboard by de Castelli is inspired by the armour of the Samurai with a nod to deco. This piece speaks of the craftsmanship and process of its making - simultaneously beautiful, useful and very personal.



Clockwise: Porro Traveller; Flexform Crono; Giorgetti Swing; BDDW's showroom; Carmen Ottoman by Mood; Yoroi by de Castelli; Notch by Lema