A large, solid yellow circle is centered on a black background. Inside the circle, the text "See light with different eyes." is written in a black, serif font, centered horizontally and vertically.

See
light
with
different
eyes.



PAGE 32

We do not just create lights with design around.
It is interior design with light shining inside.



PAGE 10

The unity of our family is the real
connective fabric that has enabled
us to become a company.



PAGE 22

Some call it know-how, others call it
skill or mastery.
We call it love for what we do. .

CONTARDI®



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09 1000 LIGHTS

10 I LEARNED HOW TO SHAPE A COMPANY

Achille Carcano - President

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YACHTS AND SUPER YACHTS.**

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Massimo Brigandi - Sales Director



“

**DAD HELPED THE CATERPILLARS
BECOME BUTTERFLIES.**



6

His name was Michele. At the time, starting working at the age of 12, wasn't considered as a scandal, as long as you had the chance to work for a serious company, which would teach you an honest job. This is how a young boy started his career as a prototype maker. In fact, he became so good at it that by the age of 17, Bruno Gatta - owner of Stilnovo back then, i.e. one of the first companies to build the reputation of Italian lighting design - asked him to work for him. Prototype makers not only need to know about materials, work processes, junctions, and heat resistance, etc., they also need to know how to make them. In fact, the sketch of a lamp is like a caterpillar: in order to become real - a butterfly must put the wings.

”

Prototypes were his vocation,

an almost obstinate passion in which he focused all his technical skills and ability to invent solutions, from which the entire company's production benefitted. Dad gave Stilnovo that extraordinary talent he had developed in a lifetime of work, at a time when after 42 years of work and social security contributions, he could retire at the age of 54. But he always did it in his own unique way, as only people who are obsessed by the thirst for new challenges really know how. He worked uninterruptedly until 1983 but already in 1978, on invitation of Stilnovo, he established what was then called Ditta Contardi Maria, which was named after our mother.





In fact, the entire 'production line' was held together by this tiny woman, who combined the love of an attentive mother with a great dedication to the enterprise that was being created, by myself and my sister Paola – who would get home from her day job and work on the business in the evenings – as well as our aunts, uncles and cousins. Obviously, in the beginning, the business had the strong technical imprinting of our father. All the processes that were too complex to be carried out at Stilnovo – starting from the 'Spinnaker' and later the 'Topo' by Joe Colombo – were outsourced to the new-born Contardi.

A good 11 of dad's prototypes were published in the volume, 1000 LIGHTS (Taschen, 2013).

Model no. A5011 hanging light. Gaetano Scolari - 1950 - Stilnovo

Suspended ceiling light. Desk light. '50s - Stilnovo

Lumi task light. Oscar Torlasco - 1961- Lumi

Nuvola ceiling/wall light. Roberto Lucci & Marcello Pietrantoni - 1966 - Stilnovo

Periscopio desk light. Danilo & Corrado Aroldi - 1968 - Stilnovo

Multipla table and floor lights. Jonathan De Pas, Donato d'Urbino & Paolo Lomazzi - 1970 - Stilnovo

Sinus table light. Ettore Sottsass - 1972 - Stilnovo

Valigia table light. Ettore Sottsass - 1979 - Stilnovo

Mini-box table light. Gae Aulenti & Piero Castiglioni - 1980 - Stilnovo

Nastro table light. Alberto Fraser - 1983 - Stilnovo




“
WHILE DAD WAS GIVING A SHAPE
TO LIGHT,
I WAS LEARNING HOW TO SHAPE
A COMPANY.

(Achille Carcano)

Even though I was a young boy, I also wanted to spread my wings and fly. I could sense that our strength lay in our profound work temperament and parental sphere, which could make that romantic adventure possible. In fact, the business, which started in the cellar of our home, involved most of our relatives, becoming a second job for all of us. The unity of our family was the real connective fabric that enabled us to become a company. But soon, it also became very clear to me that we would need more than one client if we wanted to be truly successful. This embryo of a business was growing inside of me. I was beginning to imagine the future, trying to give our enterprise more prospects and stability. I basically became more confident about the idea of an organised entity, which could offer

an oasis of know-how and experience from which the big names of the lighting design industry - both national and international - could draw from. Our collaboration with Stilnovo was soon flanked by our work with Quattrifoglio, Lucitalia, Lumina and, successively, the Armani Casa group and B&B Object Division. At the same time, we were also reinforcing our relationships - based on a deep trust - with our suppliers and soon our cellar was not enough, so we used our profits to invest in the purchase of our first warehouse and started taking on new employees, investing in training and growth of our collaborators. And it was a good investment too, because some of them are still with us today!



Paola and Achille Carcano

—
TODAY WE GIVE LIGHT INTO HOMES,
VILLAS, YACHTS AND SUPER YACHTS.





Silver Yachts



'Living' a space is not just about surrounding yourself with design elements, furniture and décor: it is about surrounding yourself with harmony.





BUT ALSO THE BEST HOTELS
IN THE WORLD.





Mandarin Oriental, Paris



Sofitel Casino, Mandelieu (FR)

Each hotel is a brand in its own. Personality is expressed through the content and tone of voice. We fully understand these briefs and work to provide the best solutions.



Hotel Arts, Barcelona



Grand Hotel Kempinski, Geneva

—

SOME CALL IT KNOW-HOW,
OTHERS CALL IT SKILL OR MASTERY.
WE CALL IT LOVE FOR WHAT WE DO.

—





**Our people are our strength.
For Contardi, 'Made in Italy' is not merely
a label of origin, it is our philosophy.**





AND THEN THERE WAS LIGHT.





2006

XXL FI Outdoor

Design by:
Gianluigi Landon

2007

Quadra Desk

Design by:
Alltogether

2009

Athena Ta

Design by:
Massimiliano Raggi

2011

Muse Lantern

Design by:
Tristan Auer

2013

Freedom

Design by:
Massimiliano Raggi

2015

Uffizi

Design by:
Massimiliano Raggi

WE DO NOT JUST CREATE
LIGHTS WITH DESIGN AROUND.
IT IS INTERIOR DESIGN
WITH A LIGHT SHINING INSIDE.

(Massimiliano Raggi - *Art Director*)



The Contardi lighting collection is an expression of its times. Times in which we need to pay attention to everything is around us. Our attention to our product range and design is the result of careful monitoring of international trends and market changes in both the residential and the hospitality sectors, but most of all of the evolutions in living in general.

A much-loved and evident theme in the Contardi collection is timelessness, which means creating lights that can be recognised but also expressing the idea of a new form of 'classicism', making the product contemporary regardless of the passing trends.

Lighting as symbolic objects that transcend time itself, enriching our homes and public spaces with new emotions. Product design is not only about creating something that is good to look at. As well as having a certain decorative style, which should never be overstated, it must also convey an intelligent use of forms, materials (sometimes even in completely innovative combinations), hiding avant-garde technology to ensure that the quality of the lighting responds to contemporary requirements.

Our company is highly client-focused, always paying attention to how they use the objects around them.

The designers that work for Contardi are mostly experienced professionals, who not only have excellent technical knowledge but also an articulate, in-depth vision of interior design world.

Attentive observers with an eye for details, who capably interpret international taste, within a product design matrix that expresses the pleasure of elegance, the poetry of luxury and the purity of the forms. Projects which are rich in stylistic meanings, with references from the history of design and decoration, created using refined and exclusive materials and finishes.

Contardi clothes spaces with 'light décor' - a concept I believe has become more important than ever before in the strategic creation of a collection with a unique style and a story to be told.

Massimiliano Raggi

Born in San Marino, in 1967, Massimiliano Raggi graduated in Architecture at the Milan Polytechnic, in 1993.

After many years of experience working overseas as designer and later creative director for Habitat International, since 1999 he has been living and working in San Marino as a product, interior and design consultant.

His innate curiosity, his love for details and constant research have led him to work on interior design projects in private and public spaces all over the world, as well as numerous product design and display projects, collaborating with the likes of:
Sicis, Casamilano,
Contardi-Lighting,
Cooperativa Ceramica d'Imola,
Oasis Group and Room.





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37

“

**DIVERSITY IS NOT JUST A DISTINGUISHING
CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR PRODUCTS.
IT IS THE DNA OF OUR COMPANY.**

(Massimo Brigandì - Sales Director)



Over the last few years the company strategy is the result of a 'vision' that is predominantly based on knowing and understanding both our limits and the great challenges we can face. On our side we had our yet unexpressed potential and our knowledge of the global market, not only concerning lighting, but also furniture and hospitality sector.

In such a fast-changing world we felt the need to identify a professional figure, a director of style development, who could interpret our 'value - territory' - the Contardiland-, becoming a director of style development. Unlike the traditional lighting world, which normally rotates around the designer,

in Contardi this role is represented by an interior designer, a well-established practice on the international market, especially in companies with an Anglo-American matrix. This is precisely what has allowed us to strengthen our international profile and introduce ourselves on the market as a global company proud of its Italian origins.

Our experience and the new context have allowed us, quite naturally, to develop the business on two fronts: high profile home design and, at the same time, hospitality, especially 4 - and 5-star hotels: in these sectors, each decorative project takes shape with the help of an interior designer.

In just a few years, Contardi has become a reference point in the market niche of elegant and refined décor, where timeless style prevails over the current fashion trends. This is undoubtedly a distinctive element that has led to Contardi's collaboration with some of the most famous design studios in the world, working on projects for international hotel chains, such as Hilton, Mandarin Oriental, Hyatt, Starwoods, supplying, at the same, time the products of Contardi's collection to the high-end lighting and furniture distribution network. Armed with this knowledge, the company is now focused on a desire to expand into a number of what we consider to be priority markets.

In 2014 we founded CONTARDI USA Inc., based in New York, i.e. one of the crucial points in the world. The commercial development of our company in the American market and in general the activity of CONTARDI USA are only the first step of our company's internationalization process, that will also take places, in the near future, in other areas of the world, as South America, Asia and other European countries.

Our presence at international tradeshow (in both the residential and hospitality sectors), is part of our operating strategy for the future and will be supported by communication and branding tools that will help make Contardiland a tangible reality.

“

As one of our **MAJOR SUPPLIERS**, Contardi fully understands the needs, materials, aesthetics and durability that the Hospitality and **CONTRACT SECTOR** requires.

40

As our **DESIGN PARTNER**, they complement us perfectly, proposing new materials and **CREATIVE SOLUTIONS** that exceed our expectations and, more importantly, suit the **CLIENT'S BUDGET**.

It is a real **PLEASURE** to work with Contardi on our **PROJECT RANGE**.

”

Tarek Hegazy - Living Consulting

41

“

We always operate
with a sense

of being in a reciprocal emotional relationship
with our physical surroundings,

and light is

the key component
in creating that emotion.

42

Our partnership
with Contardi

also embodies this collaborative spirit,
and our award-winning

Ongo Lamp

would not have been possible
without their contribution.

43



”

Alison Chi, Tzelan

“

Contardi's philosophy encompasses many of
the same design principles
as **MKV Design.**

High-level of craftsmanship,
attention to detail,
and innovation combined with
timeless style.

We have worked together
on many **high** profile projects
and will continue to do so
in future.

”

Maria Vafiadis - MKV Design

“

GCA Architects (Barcelona)
has been working with Contardi lighting for years
with great **SATISFACTION.**

We really appreciate the **QUALITY**
of the product, Contardi's **FLEXIBILITY**
in adapting to the changes proposed by clients
and the fact they always have
an accurate budget breakdown
for each **CONTRACT.**

Furthermore,
Contardi always **RESPECTS**
the delivery deadlines
of the materials.

”

Anna Trillo - GCA Architects.

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