

Press release
Centenary of the birth of Bruno Morassutti

Bruno Morassutti
1920-2008

December 8, 2020 marks the centenary of the birth of Bruno Morassutti, Paduan architect by birth, Milanese by adoption. Graduated from the IUAV of Venice in the very first post-war period, he is one of the few Italians to have attended the studio / school of Frank Lloyd Wright, a key figure of twentieth century architecture, of which Bruno Morassutti becomes one of the witnesses in Italy of his architecture, documented in some hundreds of slides taken during his stay in the States in 1949-1951 and published in Italy in those years. After a happy partnership with Angelo Mangiarotti, 1954-1960, Morassutti continued his activity individually until associating himself with the architects Memoli, Gussoni, Benevento from 1970 to 1980. Among his most significant achievements are the iron warehouse in Padua, the Morassutti hardware store in Milan, the houses in San Martino di Castrozza including villa Morassutti, the condominiums in via Gavirate and via Quadronno in Milan, the Mater Misericordiae church in Baranzate (Milan), the villa von Saurma in Termini di Sorrento, the Fontanelle condominium in San Martino di Castrozza, the industrial building in Longarone (Belluno), the IBM education center in Novedrate (Como), as well as numerous projects and realizations in the building prefabrication sector (including residential settlements for the post earthquake in Staranzano, Gorizia, 1978-79, and Castelnuovo di Conza, Salerno, 1980-83) and industrial design. In the second part of his professional life he engages in numerous national and international competitions among which the proposal *A door to Venice* for the V Architecture Biennale in 1991 and the project for the dock in Milan, international consultation by invitation in 2004. In his design approach, Morassutti stands out for what we could define as a pre-minimalist approach, but always attentive to the centrality of the individual, his needs and the surrounding context in an already sustainable dimension. The attention to the technological aspect leads him to relate architecture and industrial design in many of his creations according to the principle of industrialized architecture understood as a "prototype", in the sense well defined by his friend Gillo Dorfles in his *Introduction to Industrial Design* of 1966. Starting from the American experience with Wright, Morassutti's projects and achievements focus on sixty years of activity, collaboration, relationship with the protagonists of the Milanese and Italian cultural scene of those years, such as Buzzati, Cosentino, Fontana, Scarpa, Masieri, Cavalli Sforza and Dorfles himself.

In 2018 the BMP association, Bruno Morassutti Project was born, promoted by the sons Sebastiano, Valentina and Antonella with the architects Nicola Agazzi, Alessandro Colombo, Roberto De Biasi, Gerolamo Ferrario, Paola Garbuglio, Francesco Scullica, with the aim of promoting the studio and the search for his work and his figure.

www.brunomorassuttiproject.it

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