



LEFT AND BELOW: BINDOO MODULES LEELA, KAMA, AND NITYA COALESCE TO FORM A WHIMSICAL WALL TAPESTRY.

DESIGNED BY KUMAR LA NOCE FOR ALTREFORME, BINDOO IS A COLLECTION OF **WHIMSICAL MIRRORS THAT TAKE INSPIRATION FROM THE HUMBLE DOT.**

TEXT: VAISHNAVI NAYEL TALAWADEKAR
PHOTOS: COURTESY OF ALTREFORME

Inspired by the Sanskrit word for "dot", Bindoo, a trilecta of geometric mirrors by Indo-Italian design practice Kumar La Noce for Italian high-end aluminium furniture company Altreforme—unveiled at Milan Design Week 2024—is an object lesson in infinity. "The dot is a recurrent symbol in Indian philosophy; in cultural and philosophical realms, yes, but also in day-to-day life, as in the case of the bindi," says architect Bhavana Kumar, one half of Kumar La Noce, noting that the figure shapes shifts through the collection, manifesting within a triangle in the Kama mirror, and within squares in the Leela and Nitya.

Kumar avers that there are no rules when it comes to combining them, and Nicola La Noce, the studio's other half, adds, "It's a playful series of objects with endless possibilities: each mirror can be used on its own as a focal point or as part of a larger composition. Once you start putting the pieces together as your own graphic project, it's almost like creating your own mirror work tapestry."

Altireforme is an offshoot of Fontana Group, the producer of avant-garde aluminium parts for luxury car brands like Ferrari, Rolls Royce, and Jaguar. The collection is therefore born from the same know-how and technology, sculpted from the same aluminium as said automobiles, and even shares with them a production facility.

Kumar admits that the design process was equal parts visceral and cerebral, and that it took months of work, technical drawings, 3D modelling, and colour studies to realize the final product. "Every curve and fold was studied and precisely formed," she notes, adding that the collaboration with Altireforme allowed for a healthy and continuous exchange of thoughts and ideas that ensured every iteration was better than the last. Even so, for Kumar and La Noce, taking Bindoo to Milan is significant in more ways than one. "As a project of Indo-Italian heritage, it's special that we can give it wings in both countries," La Noce signs off. ■

