



Il Tornitore Matto by Alessi presents The Last Pot, a project that redefines the concept of the urn. The Last Pot explores the subtle line between sacred object and everyday object, questioning which details and rituals transform a simple container into an urn. A deep reflection on the relationship between memory, space, and time.

#### THE LAST POT COLLECTION

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Michael Anastassiades

## **SWAN SONG**

In the cosmologies of many cultures and civilizations, an egg gives rise to the universe upon its hatching. In others it gives rise to a primordial being who, in turn, creates the universe. The egg is sometimes laid on the primordial waters of the Earth. Typically, the upper half of the egg, or its outer shell, becomes the heavens and the lower half, or the inner yolk, becomes the Earth. The motif stems from the basic elements of an egg, including its ability to offer nourishment and give rise to new life. Swan Song is a metaphor for a final gesture, effort, or performance given just before death. The phrase refers to an ancient belief that swans sing a beautiful song just before their death, having been silent for most of their lives. The urn has also been designed in a version for animals.

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<u>David</u> <u>Chipperfield</u> **TACET** 

With an essential approach to form, this urn features a flattened spherical shape that conveys balance and simplicity. Made of silver-plated steel, it subtly reflects the surrounding environment, allowing the object to exist silently within its context. The design avoids explicit symbolism, focusing instead on practicality and neutrality. It is conceived as a functional and lasting container for memory, offering a discreet presence for profoundly personal mo-



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Michele
De Lucchi



#### PRESENZE IN RILIEVO

"They are not just containers, but refuges to enhance the feeling that accompanies absence." Michele De Lucchi

The two urns, for humans and animals, are inspired by Michele De Lucchi's conceptual wooden models, becoming small symbolic homes for holding the ashes of those we have loved. Crafted from oak, birch, ash, and fir, they convey a sense of welcome and domestic warmth. The finish uses the Japanese yakisugi technique, which carbonizes the wood to enhance its durability and give it a unique appearance, before being waxed for added longevity. Each urn consists of a few stackable components. The upper shell, adorned with a carved design inspired by Renaissance buildings, connects to the base through a raised rim that seals the container and accentuates its presence.

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<u>EOOS</u>



## **TOTEM**

The Totem urn transforms a functional object into a symbol of memory. Its lid, inspired by paint cans, is reinterpreted as a circle engraved with the dates of birth and death, evoking the cycle of life and the Japanese *ensō*. The body is made on a lathe, highlighting the uniqueness of the handmade craftsmanship, while the lid is produced industrially, uniting tradition with innovation. Its stackability allows for the creation of commemorative totems, holding the ashes of people, animals, or significant natural elements. "Totem" explores the boundary between the sacred and the profane, showing how rituals and stories transform a simple container into an urn.

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<u>Naoto</u> <u>Fukasawa</u>



# **LAST HOME**

Delicate yet resilient, the urn takes on the essential form of a small home. Made of unglazed earthenware and handcrafted with care, it evokes the simple lines of Italian homes and Japanese zushi shrines. Fukasawa's design encapsulates the essence of a home: a container of memories, of lives lived and loved. The tactile, intentionally imperfect texture of the ceramic surface evokes humanity in its authenticity. Through a small window in the structure, a shiny metal container with personal engravings — a name, a memory — can be glimpsed. An intimate and discreet homage, framed by the ceramic form. Even after death, we long to be at home. A profound reflection on the sense of belonging and the universal need for a space to hold our most intimate essence. The urn has also been designed in a version for animals.



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Giulio lacchetti

#### TEARDROP AND MINITEARDROP

Teardrop consists of two separate elements: the marble base, which features a concave surface that supports the second element, a softly shaped urn with a curved bottom. The urn can be positioned at different angles on the base, creating a sense of movement that always feels unexpected. Designed to be gently lifted with both hands, it encourages a direct, affectionate connection with the departed. A small, recessed hole in the lid allows for the placement of an incense stick, inviting moments of ritual. Mini Teardrop is a smaller version and has been designed for pets.

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Audrey Large A SILVER CORD

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Audrey Large's urn is an inverted vase in marble, a portal that represents the connection between the physical and spiritual realms. Created using digital modeling and hand-sculpted, its fluid, organic form evokes an embrace between body and thread, symbolizing continuity. A delicate engraved metal thread, which can be personalized with an engraving, inspired by the "silver cord", marks the connection between the living and the deceased, while a small dish at the base holds a personal object, transforming the urn into an altar of memory. More than a container, it is a threshold where memory and presence continue to live.

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<u>Daniel</u> <u>Libeskind</u> **KHORA** 

"Life is a pure flame, and we live by an invisible Sun within us." Thomas Browne, Hydriotaphia (Urn Burial), 1658

The urn designed by Daniel Libeskind explores the concept of immortality through an essential and universal form: a cube within a square. Its structure plays with the perception of space: when viewed from the front, it appears two-dimensional, while from the side, it is revealed to be supported by glass panels that accentuate its depth. Conceived as an object of meditation and beauty, this urn blends harmoniously into contemporary environments, reflecting a current spirit in which death is no longer viewed as a transcendent dimension, but rather becomes a part of our time and space. The urn has also been designed in a version for animals.



Jasmine, Philippe Starck

#### THE LAST SPOT

The urn is reduced to its minimal and fundamental expression: a bare object, devoid of any artistic or cultural reference, capable of holding what remains of us when everything else disappears. The design emerges as natural next steps of our evolution, a pure mathematical equation that takes shape in a cube of memory. A pure form that holds not only the ashes but also the very essen e of memory, with sobriety, rigor, and poetic depth. "The most minimum and essential object to hold the minimum of Us, what is left when everything else has disappeared. Freed from any artistic or cultural reference, THE LAST SPOT is only the natural next step of our evolution: a mathematical equation taking the shape of a cubic souvenir." Philippe Starck

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Justice, Philippe Starck

# **BONE TO BONE**

Philippe Starck envisions the urn as a return to the core, to the backbone of our existence, where logic and poetry intersect. In this design, the pursuit of formal purity becomes a journey toward eternity, striking a perfect balance between matter and spirit. The urn is distilled to its essence, shedding the unnecessary to reveal its true nature: a timeless object, where the very essence (the bone) of things is found. A container that holds without concealing, and with its pure and absolute form, becomes a symbol of harmony and memory. "The only parameter to reach timelessenses and longevity is to look and search for the center, the square root, the bone of everything. It is only logical and poetical that we find eternal peace in one. BONE TO BONE is the backbone of our story." Philippe Starck

# Project



Mario Tsai



# HIDDEN IN LIFE

The urn becomes a discreet and intimate everyday object, seamlessly integrating into domestic life. When a loved one is placed in an urn, one wonders what emotions it might evoke: fear, solitude, or serenity? But what if an urn could convey the warmth of family, remaining present without imposing? This reflection inspired an urn that blends in among books, a symbol of memory and wisdom. Its form resembles a volume meant to rest on a bookshelf or table, to be held and treasured. The ashes are housed within a circular compartment, accessible through a rotating mechanism. Additionally, a slender space between the cover and the compartment allows for the safekeeping of letters, photographs, and personal mementos, creating a tangible connection to the departed. More than a container, this urn is an intimate and poetic object that merges with daily life and offers a new way to experience remembran-

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