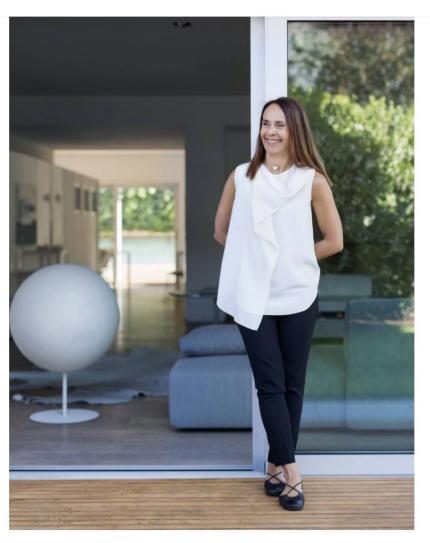
### **MONICA ARMANI**



# Which product design or architectural work from the past 40 years do you find most iconic and why?

For me, a timeless reference is the Seagram Building by Mies van der Rohe. It remains an icon for its formal clarity, precision of detail, and the strength of a language that stays contemporary without losing relevance. It is a work that turns technique into poetry: the steel structure, the bronze cladding, and the glass curtain wall become instruments to create an environment of freedom and light. It teaches us that true creativity comes from reduction to the essential, from the courage to remove what is unnecessary, until reaching pure harmony. This idea of rigor and lightness, of precision and humanity, is a principle I feel very close to in both my architecture and design practice.

# In what ways can design address pressing global challenges, and how do you see the role of design evolving to meet these needs?

Design has the responsibility to face global challenges with an integrated vision, offering solutions that genuinely improve people's lives and respond to authentic needs. A responsible project is inherently sustainable because it is conceived to last: pure in form, functional in use, and able to endure across generations without losing value or meaning.

The future of design will be about weaving ever deeper connections between culture, technology, and everyday life, raising the quality of existence through intelligent design. It will not only be about solving immediate problems but about creating enduring solutions that transform global challenges into opportunities for a better future, placing excellence and beauty at the center as universal values.

#### Is there a core principle or philosophy that has consistently guided your work?

Yes. I have developed a design method I call "Design in Molecules."

It represents the DNA of my creative process: a unique alchemy of "molecules" shaped by years of experience, where magic and logic come together. The secret of every original creation lies in their rigorous and harmonious application.

Each of my projects is born from this balance—forces interacting to give life to objects with both strong aesthetic presence and functionality.

## What design innovations do you envision having the greatest impact on how we live in the next 40 years?

The most significant innovations will not be exclusively technological, because design has the unique ability to remain relevant and transcend time. A well-designed object or space does not age: it stays alive, like noble materials such as marble and wood, which retain their beauty over centuries. The most authentic value lies in merging heritage and progress: using precious materials shaped through advanced technologies that highlight their intrinsic qualities. In this way, technology becomes a tool at the service of matter, enabling increasingly refined and precise craftsmanship that enhances what nature has created.

Contemporary design finds its strength in this synthesis between memory and future, accompanying people's lives with continuity, coherence, and lasting quality.

www.monica-armani.com