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LA PLE

Spanish skiing's kept se

WATCH SPECI

8 top watch brands pro including factory interviews and rev

EVERLANDS

We head to upper New York state to a new club's latest property

WINTER GOLF

Don't let the English weather stop you playing a great round of golf

PANER! FERRA

Two powerful brands of together to create some of world's most distinctive timepi

TRESSERRA







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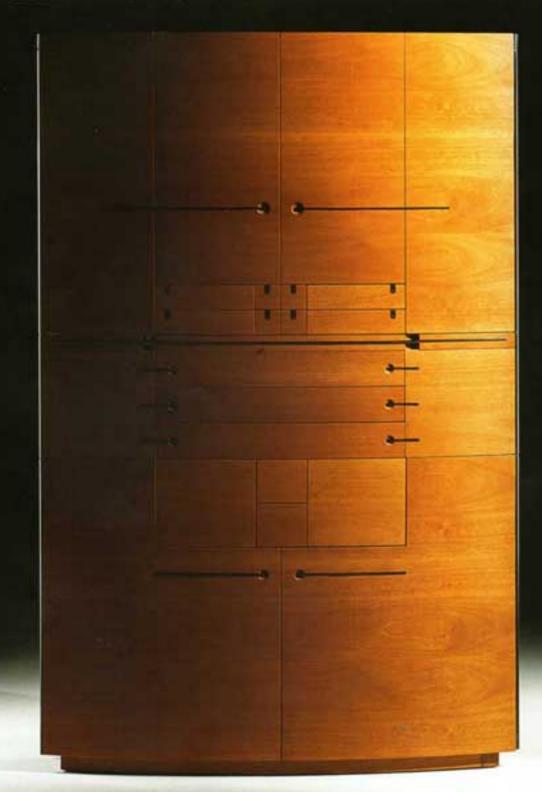
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TRESSERRA



Denis LeBorg looks into the world renowned Spanish designer's history and product range



Although the name is not exactly a household one, in the world of design Tresserra is well established, and equally upwardly mobile. With a distinctive look and feel to the pieces they are becoming better and better known, and as a consequence demand for them is also increasing at a fast pace.

Jaime Tresserra was born in Barcelona in 1943, where he grew up and later studied law. After qualification he took a different route, and worked as an interior designer, eventually starting to create individual pieces of furniture for his customers. As his reputation grew he decided to start up a dedicated furniture and design company in 1987, named after himself. So Tresserra Collection S.L. came to be.

It did not take long for the work to be recognised globally, and in 1989 his work was being exhibited at the Milan International Furniture Exhibiton, as well as two other exhibits in Tokyo and New York. In that same year Hollywood came knocking, and his secretary "Carpett" and armchair "Casablanca" were used in the film Batman. Finally, the huge and intricate piece "Samuro" (see previous pages) was awarded the prestigious Nuevo Estilo award at the end of the year.

This was the best possible start for a young company, and the awards kept on flowing in. As well as regular exhibitions around the globe, several museums in Europe and the US have pieces of his furniture in their collections.

The distinctive appearance of Tresserra's pieces are largely down to the materials used – normally a naturally varnished Spanish white walnut. Upholstery is either un-dyed cotton cloth, or in the more luxurious pieces. Catalan calf leather. These are combined with metallic fixtures which can be gunmetal chromed or silver plated.

As well as the standard collection of

furniture there is also a collection of accessories available, which go under the name of "Variations". These accessories are designed to fit in seamlessly with the company's other pieces such as the desks; amongst the available items are vases, letter openers and candle holders. Most recently, and a real favourite in the Lusso office, is a pool table named "Boleto" – a really stunning piece of design.

Of course, even though Tresserra's work is hardly commonplace, some people want even more exclusivity. Here the company has not lost sight of its origins, and it is still possible to commission either one off pieces, or an entire harmonious interior design. If you choose to go this direction you will be in good company – one former recipient of a custom made Tresserra wooden case was the King and Queen of Spain.

More information is available either at tresserra.com or by calling +34 93 200 49 22





SAMURO, 1989

The Samuro, pictured on the first two pages of this article, is perhaps Tresserra's most well known and iconic pieces. Atter winning multiple awards in its first year, both the Museo de Artes Decorativas de Barcelona and the Museum für Kunst und Gewebe in Hamburg now exhibit copies.

As is usual in the company's work the wood is Spanish white walnut, and the gunmetal fittings are decorated with Taoist symbols which were traditionally used in Japanese and Korean furniture.

When closed the piece looks almost lie a solid sculpture, and so the amont and variations of spaces inside come as a real shock, as does the rotary shelf positioned in the middle. On the back are two secret compartments.

CARLTON-HOUSE BUTTERFLY, 1988

This desk (left page) was created before Tresserra burst onto the international design scene, but it is obvious how strong the companies DNA is by how much it look like all the pieces that have followed it.

Whilst the exterior is made of the conventional (in these circumstances) white walnut, the interior is set off with contrasting natural sycamore. The gun metal finished fittings set off the whole shape into one cohesive design by creating eye catching points of focus.

The strongest theme in this desk is obvious just by the name - the curved "wings" and metal antennae are instantly recognisable as a butterfly

NUEVA YORK, 2002

This chair (below) is one of the company's more recent designs, and the differences from earlier chairs, such as the Casablanca, is very interesting. The totally rounded and slightly bulbous shapes of the earlier chair (which was designed in 1987) are gone, and replaced by a much more clean cut and sharp edged metal look.

The trademark colour palette remains as the chair's vaquetilla leather is in a familiar chestnut shade. The metalwork is stainless steel, giving a slightly less glossy finish than that found in most of the other pieces.

One interesting feature of this piece is that the back reclines to three set positions, meaning it is useful for anything from work, when documents can be stored in the side pouches, to a more relaxing pass time.

