

ARTS&CRAFTS, EXCLUSIVE FURNITURE, LIMITED EDITIONS

Exclusive Furniture Brand Showcases the Natural Wonders of Mauritius

1 WEEK AGO by FÁBIO OLIVEIRA



One of the most **exclusive furniture** brands that caught our attention during **Milan Design Week** was **CYPRAEA**, a Mauritius-based company that reflects the country's tropical environment, aiming to become the first ambassador of **Mauritian Luxury Style** that blends design with nature in perfect harmony.



Founded in 1974, the company – the oldest furniture manufacturer in Mauritius – was rebranded in 2016 to **Mavenci** ("Maven" meaning timber experts and "Chi" being the Chinese word for energy) by **Cedric Lincoln** who took the helm two years earlier.



In 2017, Cedric started contemplating an export line with the vision of bringing Mauritian Soul to the international stage but to do so he needed to find an open-minded designer who would bring a different perspective to the table. Enter Italian architect & designer **Francesco Maria Messina** who joined the company in 2018 and together with Cedric created **CYPRAEA** as a unique and *exclusive furniture* brand exporting and introducing Mauritius' 'best of' to the rest of the world.





A capsule collection of 19 **exclusive pieces** were presented during **Milan Design Week**, each of which has a **limited edition** of 9 items. The collection aims to celebrate Mauritius, its luxuriant nature through its unique materials and **unconventional design**, entirely inspired by the Island's natural features.

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Each piece of **exclusive furniture** is characterized by the use of high-quality materials and completely respectful of the local environment: solid Wenge and Walnut wood, lava and coral stones directly selected from the quarries, sand, premium leather, solid bronze, brass and high-quality marbles.



Cypraea's manufacturing process of their **exclusive furniture** is based on very fascinating techniques. For instance, some of its wooden furniture is composed of more than two thousand pieces, assembled one by one, through phases that require about ten days per unit. In particular, the unique sand finish has required about a year to be finalized. Lastly, bronze work involves the casting of moulds onto real tree branches, an **artisanal process** that is done entirely by hand with **local craftsmen**.



The **exclusive furniture** collection is closely linked to the luxuriant nature of Mauritius and pays tribute to its fragility: in the name of this inspiration, the brand aims to support the environmental associations Reef Conservation International and Mauritian Wildlife, active in safeguarding the local natural ecosystem. Hence, a percentage of sales will be used to finance initiatives aimed at preserving the island's exceptional natural heritage.



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