



PRESS RELEASE - APRIL 2026

Timeless Design in Use: Artifort Celebrates the Legacy of Kho Liang Ie at Masterly – The Dutch in Milano

During Milan Design Week 2026, Artifort presents a focused installation celebrating Kho Liang Ie (1927–1975), the visionary designer who helped shape the identity of the Dutch furniture brand Artifort in the second half of the twentieth century. The presentation not only underlines the enduring relevance of his work, but also serves as a prelude to the major retrospective exhibition *Kho Liang Ie: Mid-Century Modernist* at the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam.

ARTIFORT: KEEP THE ORIGINAL ORIGINAL

Reupholstery runs through the installation as a central theme, extending design into use and maintenance. Reupholstering furniture is approached as an inherent part of its life cycle: a way to maintain, renew and pass on design for future generations. High-quality materials, thoughtful construction and craftsmanship ensure these pieces can remain in use for generations. This approach aligns with a broader understanding of sustainability, where timeless design and long-term use take precedence. Not as a nostalgic reflection, but as a contemporary approach to circularity.

‘The work of Kho Liang Ie shows that heritage remains meaningful only when it continues to evolve with its time.’

ABOUT THE INSTALLATION: MODERN LINES, ENDURING IDEAS

In Milan, Artifort presents a carefully curated selection of iconic models by Kho Liang Ie, which remain part of the permanent Artifort collection today. Introduced in the 1960s, these pieces reflect a radically modern approach that continues to resonate. Their restrained formal language, technical clarity and human-centred outlook are still fundamental to the Artifort DNA.

Alongside the furniture, the installation also highlights the broader scope of Kho Liang Ie’s design practice. The tile collection he developed in 1963 for Mosa is shown once more, illustrating how his thinking moved seamlessly between object, interior and architecture. >

At Masterly – The Dutch in Milano, Artifort brings a historical perspective into dialogue with contemporary questions of sustainability and reuse. The presented works show how the design principles of Kho Liang Ie continue to evolve within a changing context.

PREMIÈRE

Milan, 21 - 26 April 2026

Masterly – The Dutch in Milano

Palazzo Giureconsulti (nearby the Duomo) - first floor

ABOUT ARTIFORT

Artifort was founded in 1890 and has grown into an internationally leading furniture brand, known for its forward-thinking collaborations with designers and its consistent focus on innovation, comfort and craftsmanship. The collaboration with Kho Liang Ie, who from the 1960s onwards acted as artistic advisor to the brand, marked a fundamental shift towards modernity and international recognition.

FOR PRESS

During Masterly – The Dutch in Milano, Artifort presents an installation dedicated to the work of designer Kho Liang Ie. Bringing together a selection of iconic seating for Artifort and his 1963 tile design for Mosa, the presentation expresses a restrained yet powerful design language, grounded in durability, maintainability, and material care. The installation explores how furniture can be extended through reupholstery and reuse, showing how circular thinking is embedded in timeless design, where sustainability is not an addition but a founding principle of the design itself.

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