

[Current Issue](#)[Past Issues](#)[DIGITAL EDITIONS](#) new![Home](#) » [The Magazine](#) » [Current Issue](#)

Current Issue



To Salini, the *Lost Splendour* earrings are most representative of the collection



A geologist by training, Salini had previously worked in the creative departments of Cartier and Bulgari

SOLITAIRE DESIGN

FABIO SALINI & CAMPANA BROTHERS – Raw Beauty

By Carol Lee

BUILDING A LEGACY WITH NATURE'S FINEST MATERIALS

In jewellery pieces, not many choose bamboo or materials like *capim dourado*, a protected Brazilian grass, also known as golden grass. For Roman jeweller Fabio Salini and Brazilian furniture designers Fernando and Humberto Campana, both share equal importance. This resulted in their collaboration to create rare jewellery pieces that challenge people's perception of luxury.

The Dangerous Luxury collection is the product of Salini's and the Campana brothers' artistic vision and desire for the extraordinary. The brothers are known for creating whimsical furniture by reinventing and reusing unexpected items, and reinterpreting the ordinary with contemporary design. Previous designs include reusing stuffed animals and Kidassia goat fur for chairs and cabinets.

The collection combines both 'poor' and 'rich' elements, comprising two necklaces and bracelets, three pairs of earrings and a headpiece. Brown diamonds and rose gold are juxtaposed against golden strands of straw and natural bamboo.

For Salini, the collection is much like "two worlds meeting together", referring not only to the materials, but also conveying the social, cultural and ecological message. The jewellery is part of a larger collection of works by the Campana brothers of the same name. Salini explains: "It's dangerous when you forget the real value of our world — nature, explaining why we use bamboo and grass." Jewellery, commonly seen as luxurious, was specially chosen to convey the meaning.

The collection is also proof something beautiful can come from what may appear to be non-luxurious materials — illustrating luxury can be defined by preciousness. Salini realised what seemed like an impossible union via producing jewellery for Galleria O. It showcases 20th century Italian and international contemporary designs — including those by Campana brothers.

FOR SALINI, THE COLLECTION IS MUCH LIKE "TWO WORLDS MEETING TOGETHER", REFERRING NOT ONLY TO THE MATERIALS, BUT ALSO CONVEYING THE SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ECOLOGICAL MESSAGE

The creative process was not always smooth. It took Salini over eight months to create eight unique pieces, especially in those cases where he could not use traditional goldsmith techniques. Though Salini previously worked on other unusual materials like wood and leather, straw and bamboo required an entirely different approach. "From the



Condor bracelet

technical perspective, it was very difficult. You cannot melt, use water or acidic solutions. I had to engineer a different way to construct the pieces," he adds. Some experimental techniques include burning to inlay precious metal elements into bamboo, and using little gold screws to secure them together. Making the raw materials appear integral was the challenge.

The result is a fine blend of light and wearable pieces. Salini's expertise can be seen in all eight pieces, including the *Dangerous* necklace featuring strands of straw carefully linked with diamonds; and *Condor* bracelet with *capim dourado* discs interwoven with strands of gold and diamonds. *To Catch A Thief* cuff features diamond-tipped bamboo, while the *Big Sun* necklace and *Ematiara* headpiece have sleek modern lines.

Among all the pieces, the *Lost Splendour* earrings are his favourite and most representative of the collection. "You see a perfect balance between the upper part which is jewellery, and the bottom part which is simply made with straw," said Salini. It exemplifies the perfect dialogue and balance of proportions, not just of materials but between contemporary art and the jewellery industry.



Big Sun necklace



Mi piace [iscriviti](#) per vedere cosa piace ai tuoi amici.

« [BACK](#) | [TOP](#)



To Catch A Thief cuff

All pieces are made with gold and *capim dourado*