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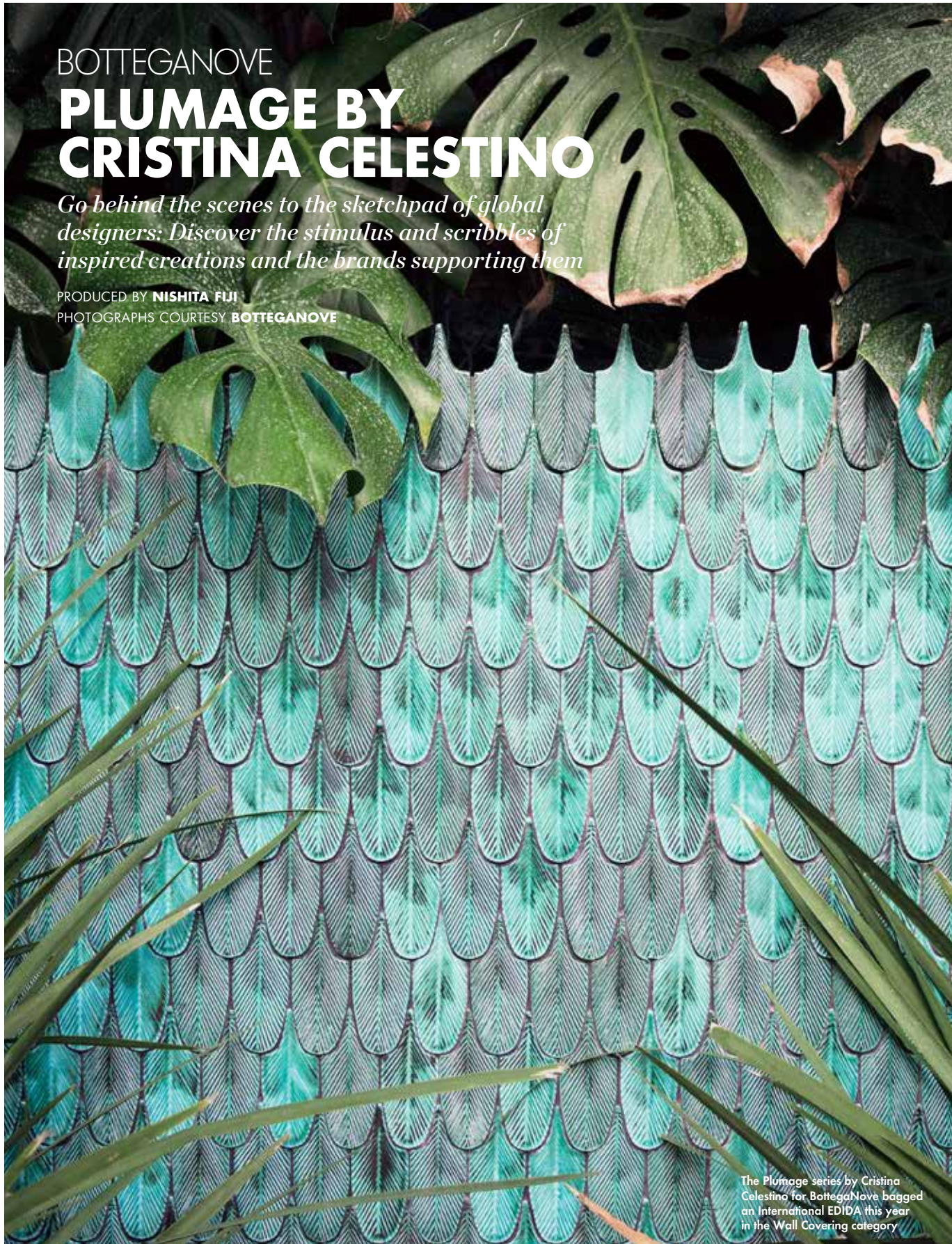
FEATURING ERGONOMIC SEATERS, STYLISH DESKS, SLEEK SHELVING SYSTEMS,
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BOTTEGANOVE
**PLUMAGE BY
CRISTINA CELESTINO**

Go behind the scenes to the sketchpad of global designers: Discover the stimulus and scribbles of inspired creations and the brands supporting them

PRODUCED BY **NISHITA FUJI**

PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY **BOTTEGANOVE**



The Plumage series by Cristina Celestino for BottegaNove bagged an International EDIDA this year in the Wall Covering category



DESIGNER SPEAK: CRISTINA CELESTINO

THE INITIATION

When I first visited BottegaNove's studio in Nove, Italy, I was stunned by what I saw. There was an enormous amount of production potential because of the materials used and design possibilities, as everything is handcrafted. The company works with various types of clay carefully sourced from national and European caves. This project demanded grounded materials like traditional ceramic, porcelain mosaic as well as artistic pottery skills.

They are made in ceramic with handcrafted decoration as well as in Limoges porcelain.

THE PROCEDURE

Most of the processes are applied manually such as casting on plaster, decorating and glazing. In BottegaNove's factory, I was instantly fascinated by how the liquid clay was able to transform into intricate panels. The procedure is absolutely precise, almost ritualistic and follows the rules of a nearly alchemic knowledge conveyed by tradition. I have found that this natural process pays little heed to the technician's constant struggle for perfection.

THE MAGIC

For potters, opening the furnaces after firing is the most cathartic moment. The kiln is akin to a goddess who decides the destiny of production. This mix of precise technical notions, experience conveyed knowledge and ritual, a nearly magical element, has enthralled me deeply. ♦

INSPIRATION Different patterns on a bird's feathers
MATERIAL Ceramic or Limoges porcelain

CHRISTIAN PEGORARO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BOTTEGANOVE

"I noticed a growing nature of standardisation in shapes and styles of products these days. That made me realise we should make objects by mixing traditional techniques with newer ones. This is why we teamed up with Cristina – we push each other to do better, trying to reach new creative heights"

THE REFERENCES

I was inspired by a strongly evocative idea of a bird's feathers for this range. Just like a plumage, the illusion of a single quill is achieved through the overlapping of patterns, shapes and decoration. The three dimensional pieces with delicate striations are highly customisable and come in two styles: One is thin and long, and the other short and fanned out, influenced by different feather patterns.

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CRISTINA CELESTINO The Milan based creative's work spans everything from limited edition pieces for galleries and museums to special commissions for globally renowned brands. Most of her projects have an underlying commitment to well-defined, geometric shapes.
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