| | riccardo blumer, italy | nick crosbie, uk | alfredo haberli, switzerland |
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| on arad, uk | tord boontje, uk | björn dahlström, sweden | isabel hamm, germany |
| hin + tomoko azumi, uk | bouroullec brothers, france | michele de lucchi, italy | thomas heatherwick, uk |
| mmanuel babled, italy | boym partners, usa | nick dine, usa | sam hecht, uk |
| ijs bakker, holland | julian brown, uk | tom dixon, uk | stefanie hering, germany |
| arber osgerby, uk | stephen burks, usa | james dyson, uk | matthew hilton, uk |
| ves béhar, usa | būro fūr form, germany | el ultimo grito, uk | geoff hollington, uk |
| ario bellini, italy | campana brothers, brazil | eoos, austria | richard hutten, holland |
| bastian bergne, italy/uk | david chipperfield, uk | for use, austria | massimo iosa ghini, italy |
| na bergström, sweden | antonio citterio, italy | norman foster, uk | james irvine, italy |
| ffrey bernett, usa | claesson koivisto rune, sweden | naoto fukasawa, japan | jonathan ive, usa |
| rgen bey, holland | claudio colucci, france/japan | christian ghion, france | jam, uk |
| nristian biecher, france | sebastian conran, uk | stefano giovannoni, italy | hella jongerius, holland |
| u dot, usa | matali crasset, france | konstantin grcic, germany | patrick jouin, france |
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Emmanuel Babled born 1967 in France Studio Location Milan, Italy

Emmanuel Babled graduated in Industrial Design from the Instituto Europeo di Design in Milan in 1989, and he has, by and large, made the city his home ever since

After a few initial jobs in art direction, Babled turned his attention to glass design, producing pieces for celebrated producers such as Venini, Wedgwood and Waterford Crystal. In 1995, he designed a collection for the Japanese design company Idee, which bought him international attention. Subsequently he has also developed partnerships with other respected producers, including Roserthal, Baccarat and Covo.

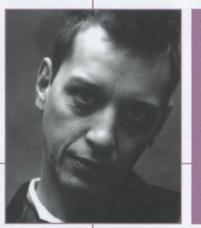
Often featuring bulbous forms, bright colours or bold patterning, Babled's fluid glass pieces show the designer's rapturous delight in the medium and his continued commitment to experimentation. Among the most spectacular of his recent creations has been the "Hypnos" collection (2002) of vases, bowls and clocks for Baccaral in which he set exquisite cut crystal into coloured Corian to create highly contemporary yet timeless pieces.

Babled maintains his creative freedom by producing independent limited series of glass and ceramic pleces alongside his consultancy work for private clients and companies, which encompasses not only glass but interior and product design.

In addition, he has curated many exhibitions and events, notably the successful "SMASH" travelling glass exhibition for Covo in 2001.

My inspiration Amongst other great masters, the harmony, grace, and elegant clarity of Oscar Niemeyer's architectural repertoire





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Q. What types of products do you design?

- A. I design objects connected to the decorative arts, from the functional to the emotional, using high-quality craft techniques as well as mass-production processes based on high technology.
- Q. What or who has been a significant influence on your work?
- A. I grew up in the 1970s, and I was deeply impressed by some of the design feel of that decade – the powerful graphic impact of things like wallpaper and imoquette carpets and fabrics vis-à-vis the use of optical effects and strong colours like orange, purple and green. Then, of course, I've been influenced by great artists, architects and designers, like Verner Panton, Andy Warhol, Arne
- Jacobsen, Oscar Niemeyer, Alvar Aalto, to give just a few examples...
- Q. What was your big break?
- A. My first contact with Venini in Venice in 1992, and my first glass exhibition for Idée in Tokyo in 1995.
- Q. What human emotions and necessities drive your designs?
- A. Happiness, modernity and freedom.
- Q. How important are trends in your work?
- A. Trends are by definition an already "recognised sign of our time" and I'm more excited by discovering new things.
- Q. How important is it for your work to reflect a national design characteristic?
- A. I was born French; I have been living in Italy for almost 20 years; my wife is Dutch and my children have

- different cultural backgrounds. They really don't know where they come from or where they belong, and they really don't care either... I don't think nationality is an important question.
- Q. Is your work an individual statement or a team solution?
- A. I'm used to working with a lot of different people according to the kind of job I'm doing... In the end, though, I'm the one who's responsible, so, in that sense, it's a personal statement. Of course, on other occasions... I need to work with a well-organised and specialised team.
- Q. What elements of the design process do you find particularly frustrating?
- A. My work is about playing and using all the relevant elements of the

- design process in order to avoid any frustration that might damage the final result.
- Q. To what level will you compromise to satisfy your client?
- A. I don't really see it as a question of "compromising". If you work with a client, it is because both parties have chosen to work with one another, which indirectly means that you agree with the rules of the game.
- Q. What do you still aspire to design?
- A. The list of my aspirations would be much longer than the list of what I've done so far...
- Q. How would you sum up your design approach?
- Listening and watching; analysing and trying; solving and enjoying.

