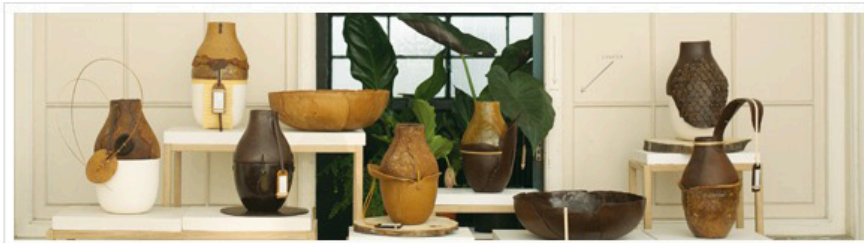




Posted on **October 25, 2012** by **Mole Leigh**

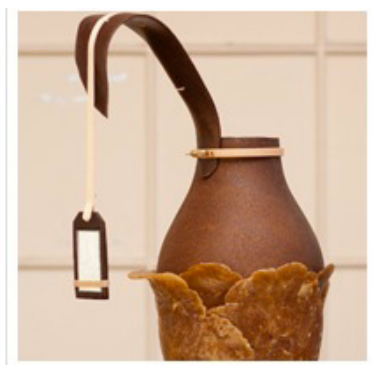
[← Previous](#) [Next →](#)

MARKER® October – Botanica by Formafantasma



Studio Formafantasma question and challenge our conventional perception of plastics and product design in this edition of our **Art of Design** series.

Plastic products are ubiquitous in our everyday lives – but what if the 'Oil Age' we are living in had never existed? How might our everyday products have evolved without oil-based plastics? This was the concept behind **Botanica**, a Formafantasma project which culminated in a unique collection of products created from naturally derived polymers.

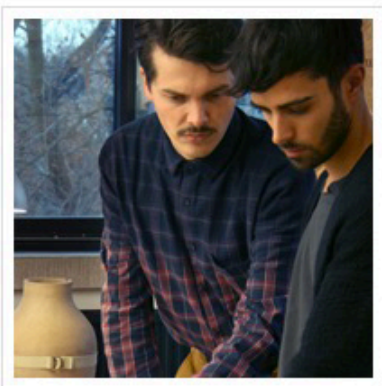




Today, we can be said to be moving towards a new post-oil era, and the pre-oil era is once again being explored in search for alternatives. Online blogs and archives are constantly collating and updating information, challenging consumers to produce their own plastics. An American University is currently importing Russian Dandelion flowers, to revive the lost tradition of extracting rubber from the plants roots. Accordingly, Studio Formafantasma has looked to the past for inspiration and delivered a relevant body of work with a contemporary twist.

Botanica has received wide critical acclaim in 2012, leading to finalist nominations for Formafantasma in the Dutch Design Awards, DOEN | Materiaalprijs, and the Fastco Innovation by Design Awards.

About Studio Formafantasma



Andrea Trimarchi and **Simone Farresin** are Studio Formafantasma – two Italian designers based in Eindhoven, Netherlands. Their collaboration evolved from communication design to product design during their MA studies at the Design Academy Eindhoven.

Studio Formafantasma's work explores design themes such as the role of design in folk craft, the relationship between tradition and local culture, a critical approach to sustainability, and the significance

of objects in modern culture.

Studio Formafantasma works on self-commissioned projects and in collaboration with companies to develop its unique design identity. Their work has been shown at high-profile design shows and galleries internationally and at the prestigious auction house Sotheby's.