

character study

ITALIAN DESIGNER IVAN PARADISI BRINGS LUSCIOUS TEXTURES TO THE FOREFRONT WITH THE STELLA ROSSA CABINET

TEXT LUIS R. RIGUAL

ONE OF A KIND

A bespoke piece in every way, the Stella Rossa cabinet was conceived by Ivan Paradisi, a singer turned furniture designer. The piece is marked by straight lines and wooden inlays that come to life with different layers and curves. As Paradisi puts it: "The idea was to create an elegant and unconventional piece that would catch the eye with its peculiar silhouette. I wanted to break the standard for bar furniture."

INSIDE STORY

Beyond the Stella Rossa's impressive shell is a leather-lined interior with three shelves. "I couldn't just concentrate on the appearance," says Paradisi. "I understand that furniture still needs to be practical."

IN THE MIX

The front doors of the Stella Rossa feature colored maple, ebony, and brass in an eye-catching mix. "Maple is flexible, malleable, and easy to color, so it allows me to realize a lot of my ideas," says Paradisi. "Ebony is more capricious, but it's the most noble of the precious woods and I wanted to add this elegant touch. As for brass, it was a way to combine stability and infuse some character."

TIME & PATIENCE

A piece like the Stella Rossa cabinet takes about 13 to 15 weeks to complete. "All my furniture is 100 percent hand-made," says Paradisi. "I start from the base and grow it piece by piece. All this time is worth the end result."

SUPPORT GROUP

"The legs had to be able to hold a heavy asymmetrical structure, the body if you will," says Paradisi. "I found the solution with these elegant legs that look thin and weak, but are actually very sturdy." ivanparadisi.com