

Alessandra Fumagalli Romario

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Curriculum Vitae

Information

Surname	Fumagalli Romario
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Social Media	Website ; Instagram ; LinkedIn ;
Nationality	Italian
Date of birth	10 November 1995

Education and Training

MASTER OF ART	
· Date (from – to)	2017-2019
· Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Royal College of Art - Design Products Programme
· Duration of the program of study	2 years, 240 credits
· Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Product design, critical questioning, experimental design, design futures, circularity, material design, pedagogical design, and relational design. Collaborative work and themed projects. Design research methodologies include workshops, focus groups, hmw methodologies, design through making, rapid prototypes, and material research.
· Title of qualification awarded	MA- Master of Arts (RCA) Design Products
· Final mark obtained	FHEW Level 7; Grade: Pass (No mark given)

Graduation thesis	
· Title	Imaginary Language
· Language	English
· Supervisor	Simon Hasan, Thomas Lohfert Wagner, James Tooze, Robert Phillips
· Thesis Summary	The Design Products program requires a Dissertation in the first year of Master's and a practice-based graduation project in the second year. " Imaginary Language " is the project that I developed as a final result of my studies at the RCA, it's a tool to foster creativity, new communication and

· Thesis Summar	intuitive code that allows expressive freedom. According to Irving Biderman's theory of psychology, the human brain recognizes objects by isolating them into basic geometrical forms named "Geons". People are able to assign functional meanings to abstract forms by projecting their own socio-cultural experiential knowledge onto them. This project's intervention relies on this skill. Imaginary language is composed of archetypical geometric forms that can be combined to create undefined and open-ended objects. Children, actors, and those who wish to improve their imagination can use it to boost their expressive inner potential. In a hyper-functional society where too often there's no space to see alternative realities, Imaginary Language is a portal to envision new ones.
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BACHELOR OF ART	
· Date (from – to)	2014-2017
· Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Politecnico of Milan , Bachelor of Art in Industrial Design
· Duration of the program of study	3 years, 180 credits
· Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Materials for design, Methods, and instruments for design, Design theories and practices, History of arts, design, and architectures, Material science and technology, Drawing and geometric representation, Social anthropology, Economics, Product life-cycle evaluation, Production technologies, Principals of physical computing for design, Wood design, Designing Thinking
· Title of qualification awarded	BA – Bachelor of Art in Product Design
· Final mark obtained	103 / 110

Graduation thesis	
· Title	Spettegola, designing the silence
· Language	Italian
· Supervisor	Paolo Bartoli, Marinella Ferrara
· Thesis Summar	The thesis project, composed of a written thesis and the creation of an artifact, resulted from a collaboration with Caimi Brevetti which was researching applications for a new patented material – the Snowsound Fiber- with sound-absorbing properties. The result of my research was "Spettegola" a ceiling light designed for shared spaces dedicated to dining and leisure where the noise pollution, caused by excessive propagation of sounds, negatively impacts human psychophysical balance. A pendant lamp that combines lighting performance with acoustic comfort, is designed to become a facilitator of dialogue between people by correcting the local's acoustics, thanks to its sound-absorbing properties.

Certifications

Certifications of languages knowledge	English; IELTS 7.5 - 2017
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Work experience, internship

· Date (from – to)	2024 Jan-Current
· Name and address of firm/university	Vaghi srl Via Brughetti, 16, 20813 Bovisio Masciago MB
· Type of business or sector	Furniture company – chairs and furniture for offices
· Type of employment	Product design developer – Fixed term contract
· Main activities and responsibilities	Technical development, Sustainability consultancy by improving the circularity of products, Workplace trend research, 3D modeling, Prototyping, Graphic design, and Dealing with suppliers and designers.

· Date (from – to)	2023 Nov-Dec
· Name and address of firm/university	Sofia Zevi Via Ciovasso, Via del Carmine, 19, 20121 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Design gallery, Craftmanship
· Type of employment	Product designer – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	Design of a glasses vase collection with an innovative technique developed by the artist Akira Hara and made in Murano. Design of a series of armchairs and their technical development.

· Date (from – to)	2021 Oct - 2023 July
· Name and address of firm/university	Krill Design Via Marco D'Agrate, 42, 20136, Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Start up, Material innovation, Sustainable 3D printed objects
· Type of employment	Product designer – Full time, permanent contract
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing circular economy projects for clients in the food industry. Curating the entire process of product development: from the initial idea to commercialization. Designing for digital manufacturing with bio-based materials. Experimenting with new materials derived from food waste, such as orange peels, lemon peels, and coffee grounds, to find the right combination that results in a material that is printable, usable, and compostable. Exploring different areas of work, such as art-directing product shoots, designing packaging, and researching new trends. Giving lectures and coordinating workshops.

· Date (from – to)	June 2022
· Name and address of firm/university	MAGMA ExAlge Via Francesco Ferrucci, 5, 20145 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Promotion of sustainable design approach – both environmentally and socially
· Type of employment	Co-curator of the exhibition " Non fare un tavolo ," a project involving emerging designers and artists to promote a sustainable design approach—both environmentally and socially—in collaboration with ExAlge.
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing the exhibition concept and setup. Managing the designers and speakers for the talks. Researching sponsors and planning the week of events.

· Date (from – to)	March - 2021 May
· Name and address of firm/university	Claudio Bellini Via Francesco de Sanctis, 32, 20141 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Design studio, Furniture design
· Type of employment	Product designer – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing and developing furniture and interior projects for international brands such as Allosso, Kukka, Iloom, and Artis. Curating presentations for clients.

· Date (from – to)	Sept - Nov 2020
· Name and address of firm/university	Lorenza Bozzoli Piazza Castello, 20, 20121 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Design studio, Furniture design
· Type of employment	Product designer – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing and developing furniture and graphic projects for international brands such as Ghidini, London Paper, and Natuzzi. Curating presentations for clients.

· Date (from – to)	Jan - June 2020
· Name and address of firm/university	Federica Biasi Via Privata Giovanni Ventura, 5, 20134 Milano MI

· Type of business or sector	Design studio, Furniture design
· Type of employment	Product designer - Internship
· Main activities and responsibilities	Working on a series of projects ranging from furniture and graphic design to art direction and interiors. Managing suppliers, fabricators, and clients such as Manerba, Bolia, and Fèst.
· Date (from – to)	Jan 2016 – Feb 2017
· Name and address of firm/university	MUBA Via Enrico Besana, 12, 20122 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Childhood Museum
· Type of employment	Educator – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	Tutoring and accompanying children between the ages of 2 and 6 in the interactive exhibition “Vietato non toccare,” which explores the work of Bruno Munari. This exhibition was a playful journey based on discovery, tactile, and visual experiences, applying the methodology of learning by doing.
· Date (from – to)	September–October 2015
· Name and address of firm/university	Alessi spa Via Privata Alessi, 6, 28887 Omegna VB
· Type of business or sector	Design firm
· Type of employment	Assistant Metaproject Internship
· Main activities and responsibilities	Assisting Arch. Gloria Barcellini. Managing designers and selecting new concepts for products. I have acquired a broad understanding of the different phases of the production and industrial processes.

Design

· Date (from – to)	Nov 2022 – Oct 2023
· Name and address of firm/university	ADI Museum Piazza Compasso d’oro 1, Milano, MI
· Type of business or sector	Exhibition: “ Carissimo Pinocchio ” Product Design, Craftsmanship, Critical Design
· Type of employment	Product designer and Maker – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing and self-producing “Bambucchio” for an exhibition curated by Giulio Iacchetti, celebrating the 140th anniversary of Pinocchio’s novel.
· Date (from – to)	Nov 2023
· Name and address of firm/university	Cascina Nascosta and Lega Ambiente Viale Emilio Alemagna, 14, 20121 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Cultural Association
· Type of employment	Product Design, Craftsmanship – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing and creating a series of wooden structures for a temporary outdoor exhibition organized by Lega Ambiente.
· Date (from – to)	Nov 2022 – Oct 2023
· Name and address of firm/university	ADI Museum Piazza Compasso d’oro 1, Milano, MI
· Type of business or sector	Exhibition: ‘Italy: A New Collective Landscape’ Product Design, Relational Design, Pedagogical Design, Craftsmanship
· Type of employment	Product designer and Maker – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	Developing and creating “Imaginary Language” for the relational design section of the exhibition, where visitors could interact with it.

· Date (from – to)	Nov 2020 – Sept 2021
· Name and address of firm/university	Wallpaper* Magazine & AHEC The Blue Fin Building 110 Southwark Street London SE1 0SU
· Type of business or sector	Exhibition: ‘Discovered Designers’ Wood Design, Critical Design
· Type of employment	Product designer – Freelance
· Main activities and responsibilities	I designed and collaborated with Benchmark, a wood workshop company in London, to create “Studiolo 2.0,” a wooden cabinet that explores how, in a post-pandemic world, we can regain control of our private space, which is becoming increasingly digitalized and involuntarily public.

Tutoring

· Date (from – to)	27–28 May 2024
· Name and address of firm/university	OTH Regensburg Seybothstraße 2, 93053 Regensburg
· Type of business or sector	Education in Industrial Design
· Type of employment	Visiting tutor; Visiting lecturer invited by the Professor Dr. Rosan Chow
· Main activities and responsibilities	Speaker of the lecture titled “Designing and 3D Printing with Bio-Materials.” Tutoring third-year BA students in Industrial Design in the development of their Bachelor’s theses.
· Date (from – to)	8 June 2022
· Name and address of firm/university	IAAD and Electrolux workshop held at Locanda alla Mano Piazza del Cannone, 20121 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Education in Design Product – Bravery Bar
· Type of employment	Visiting lecturer ; Visiting tutor invited by Marco Rainò, the Strategic Director of the Interior Design Department at IAAD.
· Main activities and responsibilities	Title of the workshop: “Sustainable Accessories for the Kitchen: Object Hacking.” Developer of workshop content, tools, and processes for idea generation and workflow, with a focus on producing a series of product proposals made from Rekrill (a material made from orange peels). Tutoring students in the production of their 3D-printed concepts.
· Date (from – to)	21 Feb 2022
· Name and address of firm/university	Scuola Paritaria dell’infanzia Nuova Educazione via Pace 10, 20122 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Education for the primary school
· Type of employment	Workshop developer and tutor
· Main activities and responsibilities	Illustrator and writer of a story about sustainability and bio-based materials, designed to engage children aged 6–8. Developed the workshop’s content and tools to enhance understanding of the themes and stimulate critical thinking.

Lecturing

· Date (from – to)	21 Feb 2022
· Name and address of firm/university	ExAlge Via Francesco Ferrucci, 5, 20145 Milano MI
· Type of business or sector	Cultural Association
· Type of employment	Lecture Organiser
· Main activities and responsibilities	For Milan Design Week 2022, I organized and coordinated speakers and moderators for a series of talks on sustainable materials in design and collaborative design practices, together with my design collective MAGMA. The lectures were titled “Designing from the Existence” and “Creating Learning Spaces.” The speakers included Biova , Krill Design , Good Waste , Camposaz , Ex Alge, and Parallelo lab .
· Date (from – to)	19 Nov 2020
· Name and address of firm/university	Università della Campania Luigi Vanvitelli – MA course Planet Life Design Via San Lorenzo – Abazia di San Lorenzo
· Type of business or sector	Education in Product Design
· Type of employment	Visiting Lecturer - Intervention in the course named “ Planet Life Design ”. Invited by Professor Rosanna Veneziano
· Main activities and responsibilities	Title of the lecture: “Dialoghi, Interpretazioni e Opportunità: Progettare per l’Ambiente e le Persone.” I illustrated my project, Imaginary Language, detailing its design process, aims, difficulties, and achievements.
· Date (from – to)	13 Nov 2020
· Name and address of firm/university	Advanced Design – LENS (online)
· Type of business or sector	Education in Design Product AdvancedDesign (AD) is a community where designers can share, educate, learn, and connect. It is a place that supports students and professionals. AD explores a diverse range of topics including making, media, culture, and mental health, free of charge.
· Type of employment	Speaker invited by Hector Silva, founder of the platform Advanced Design
· Main activities and responsibilities	Title of the lecture: “ Designing to Push the Boundaries, ”. I spoke about my practice and my projects Imaginary Language and Creo, focusing on creativity: how it works, and how we can stimulate it.
· Date (from – to)	4 April 2023
· Name and address of firm/university	Politecnico of Milan Dipartimento di Design, Milano Bovisa via Candiani 72, 20158 Milano
· Type of business or sector	Education in Design Product
· Type of employment	Visiting Lecturer - Intervention in the course named “ Sustainability Strategies for Design Polimi ” Invited by Professor Mila Stepanovic
· Main activities and responsibilities	Title of the lecture: “ Biomaterials and the Experience of Krill Design. ” Curated the content for a lecture on biomaterials, showcasing our process of transforming food waste, our strategies for the circular economy, and various case studies.

Fellowship

· Date (from – to)	24 July – 6 August 2023
· Name and address of firm/university	Designer on Holiday - Gotland Katthammarsvik Ala
· Type of business or sector	DHO explores new ways for designers to reconnect with the natural and playful aspects of design. The campsite serves as a hub for creative activities of all kinds, encouraging designers to collaborate, share, and teach each other their trade secrets.
· Type of employment	Designer resident
· Main activities and responsibilities	I collaborated with designers from various backgrounds and skill sets on projects to create objects and spaces that foster community and develop small-scale architecture. These projects aimed to enhance the camp’s self-sufficiency while exploring cohabitation and self-organization.
· Date (from – to)	3 July – 9 July 2023
· Name and address of firm/university	Camposaz - Sagron Mis Via Parrocchia 9, 38050
· Type of business or sector	Camposaz is a wood self-construction workshop at a 1:1 scale. During the workshop, architects, designers, and carpenters work in close contact to design and physically build small wooden installations based on specific themes, with the goal of enhancing the landscape. Camposaz fosters diverse perspectives and innovative design approaches in challenging urban locations, aiming to develop an “instinctive architecture” characterized by a lack of prejudices and a high degree of collaborative improvisation.
· Type of employment	Designer Resident
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing and creating an installation with other participants to enhance a small corner of the village of Sagron Mis, integrating both architectural and artistic languages.
· Date (from – to)	11 – 17 Nov 2019
· Name and address of firm/university	IN Residence – Workshop#13 Proximity Factor Gam Palermo, Via Sant’Anna, 21, 90133 Palermo PA
· Type of business or sector	Education in Design. IN Residence is a non-profit cultural association dedicated to contemporary design research. It conducts educational activities while supporting and promoting creative talent. By utilizing Design Thinking, IN Residence fosters concrete cultural and social innovation.
· Type of employment	Designer Resident
· Main activities and responsibilities	Designing a digital tool that explores the relationship between our bodies and the digital world in the context of interactions with others. Using open-source facial mapping software, we have developed “Digital Veils”—tools that provide users with a protective layer in virtual spaces, enabling them to navigate digital communication with their own personalized armor.

Personal skills and competences

Mother tongue	Italian
Other languages	
English	
· reading	Excellent
· writing	Excellent
· speaking	Excellent
French	
· reading	Good
· writing	Elementary
· speaking	Elementary
Spanish	
· reading	Good
· writing	Elementary
· speaking	Elementary
Social skills and competences <i>Living and working with other people, in multicultural environments, in positions where communication is important and situations where teamwork is essential</i>	In my studies and professional journey, I have built a strong network of connections with colleagues and clients across various design environments. Beyond my professional experience, I have consistently dedicated my free time to learning new sports and engaging in artistic group activities. I was a member of a theater group and am currently part of a women's soccer team. Both experiences have taught me the importance of teamwork in achieving common goals.
Organisational skills and competences <i>E.g. coordination and management of people, projects and budgets; at work, in voluntary work (e.g. culture and sports) and at home, etc.</i>	Throughout my professional experience, I have worked in various settings: from startups with teams of 15 people to design studios with only a few colleagues, and also individually, working directly with clients. I am adept at working independently as well as being a valuable team player. I excel at planning tasks and scheduling them effectively to achieve results on time. During my time at Krill Design, I was responsible for overseeing the production of client orders, managing the production team, and mentoring interns under my supervision. I have also managed collaborative projects with private companies, institutions, and other designers. This includes curating exhibitions and shows, such as Blend House in Ventura Lambrate 2018. Additionally, I was part of the collective MAGMA, where I organized and curated the group exhibition " Non Fare un Tavolo " at ExAlge in June 2022. This exhibition brought together 15 designers, and I handled logistics and transportation, coordinated the designers' work, organized talks, and managed the speakers.
Technical skills and competences <i>With computers, specific kinds of equipment, machinery, etc</i>	My technical skills are advanced in the use of both digital and mechanical tools, as well as manual techniques. During my studies at the Royal College of Art in the Platform 22 program, specifically in the 'Design Through Making' course, I embraced a hands-on approach to design. This experience taught me how to materialize my ideas and emphasized the importance of experimenting with a diverse range of materials and processes. At Krill Design, I learned to design for digital manufacturing and to work with new materials, particularly those derived from the food industry. I gained experience in managing their imperfections and highlighting their potential. I am also a member of Bricheco , a social carpentry workshop in Milan. Recently, I contributed to the project for the exhibition "Carissimo Pinocchio" at the ADI Museum. This role allowed me to further develop my woodworking skills and to share my expertise with individuals pursuing personal projects.

Technical skills and competences <i>With computers, specific kinds of equipment, machinery, etc.</i>	I'm fluent in the following: Digital tools: Adobe package; Rhinoceros, Keyshot, Fusion360, Arduino (Coding) Premiere , Final Cut (video editing) Squarespace and Cargo (Basic coding and design websites) Social media (Communication and Marketing) Windows and MacOS systems Miro, Figma Digital fabrication tools: 3D printers Simplify 3D (3d printing softwar) Laser Cutting Tradition Tools: Woodwork tools Metalwork tools Clay tools Resins Sawing Photography
Artistic skills and competences <i>Music, writing, drawing etc.</i>	I have always been deeply attracted to various forms of artistic expression, and over the years, I have developed a significant skill set in different artistic disciplines that have greatly enriched my design practice. I participated in a theater class with the company Animanera for over three years, where I learned to use the body and performance as tools for design research. In 2022, I took a ceramic lathe course at Ceramic Studio , acquiring manual skills in clay design and object creation. In addition to these experiences, I work as a freelance illustrator. I have collaborated on projects such as the paper "Meditation's Effect on Anxiety, Anger, and Mindfulness in Inmates: A Study on a Liberation Prison Project's Protocol" (2023), and I have contributed illustrations for pedagogical activities at the "Scuola Paritaria Nuova Educazione" (2022), as well as for the art installation at Arengario of Monza for the exhibition "Le Immagini della Fantasia" (2015). My freelance work also includes private commissions for play cards, graphic projects, and games.
Other skills and competences <i>Competences not mentioned above.</i>	When I began my collaboration with MUBA in Milan for the exhibition "Vietato non Toccate" in 2019, I underwent training to become an educator. The training, conducted by Silvana Sperati, president of ABM, introduced me to Bruno Munari's methodology , pedagogical research, and the designer's experience. This experience sparked my interest and curiosity in the field of educational design. I continued my research during my Master's program at the RCA and through various workshops over the years. My focus has been on exploring diverse methodologies and activities aimed at developing creative thinking, fostering collaborative practices, and proposing innovative approaches to the education system.

Additional information

Awards	2019 Kids Design Award Design Nominated for "Imaginary Language"
Grants	2019 KI Award Fund awarded in financial support for the developing of "Imaginary Language"
Accomplishments	2023 The project Imaginary Language became part of the permanent collection of the Young V&A museum in London
Exhibitions	<p>2024 17-21 April "Seat Feast on your life" DOPO? - Via Carlo Boncompagni 51/10</p> <p>2023 30 November-18 February "Carissimo Pinocchio" ADI - Piazza del Compasso D'oro 1, Milan Italy</p> <p>2024 19 Jan - 19 May "ITALY: a New Collective Landscape" ADI - Piazza del Compasso D'oro 1, Milan Italy HKDI - Hong Kong Design Institute, Hong Kong</p> <p>2022 June "Non fare un tavolo" ExAlge - Via Francesco Ferrucci, 5, 20145 Milano MI</p> <p>2021 September "Discovered Designers" The Design Museum - 224-238 Kensington High St, London W8 6AG, United Kingdom</p> <p>2019 Oct "Young Furniture makers" 12 Austin Friars London EC2N 2HE United Kingdom 12 Austin Friars London EC2N 2HE United Kingdom</p> <p>2019 September "Design Kids Award" Kind&Jugend Fair - Cologne</p> <p>2019 September "KI Europe Award" London Design Festival, New Fetter Place, 8-10 New Fetter Ln, London EC4A 1AZ, United Kingdom</p> <p>2029 July Royal College of Art Graduation Show Kensington Gore, South Kensington, SW7 2EU, London, UK.</p> <p>2019 9 - 14 April "RCA Design Product 's show" Milan Design Week, Fuorisalone 2019, Ventura Future, Via Tortona 54, Base,</p> <p>2018 July 'The Future is...' Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, South Kensington SW7 2EU, London, UK.</p> <p>2028 17- 22 April BLEND HOUSE Milan Design Week, Fuorisalone 2018, Via Ventura 15, MI</p>

Press-Interviews	<p>Jan 2024 Published on Domus n1086 written by Silvana Annicchiarico on pag. 20 "Talenti / Il Pinocchio di Alessandra Fumagalli Romario disobbediente fino in fondo" talking about my design practice and my recent project Bambùcchio</p> <p>April 2023 Published on Elle Decor written by Alessia Musillo "ANGELA RUI RACCONTA "ITALY: A NEW COLLECTIVE LANDSCAPE", LA MOSTRA-MANIFESTO DELL'ADI DESIGN MUSEUM" featuring Imaginary Language</p> <p>April 2023 Published on Corriere della Sera - Design written by Silvia Icardi pag. 59 "Un faro sulla creatività di domani" featuring Imaginary Language</p> <p>April 2023 Published on il Venerdì written by Alba Solaro pag. 74 "Siamo il nuovo made in italy" featuring Imaginary Language</p> <p>Sept 2021 Published on Domus written by Lorenzo Ottone "American wood to imagine the post-pandemic design"</p> <p>Sept 2021 Published on Financial Times an article about London Design Festival 2021 featuring Studiolo 2.0</p> <p>Sept 2021 Published on Wallpaper* Magazine written by Rosa Bertoli Discovered champions new talent at Design Museum featuring Studiolo 2.0</p> <p>Janu 2020 Published on Wallpaper* Magazine written by Rosa Bertoli Graduate Directory 2020: the world' s brightest new talents featuring Creo</p> <p>August 2019 Published on Dezeen written by Calum Lindsay "Imaginary language is a set of geometric shape that foster creativity" featuring Imaginary Language</p> <p>August 2019 Published on Afilii written by Katja Runge "Imaginary language educational toy for children by Alessandra Romario" interview about my design process and Imaginary Language</p>
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