

Artist Aldo Londi.

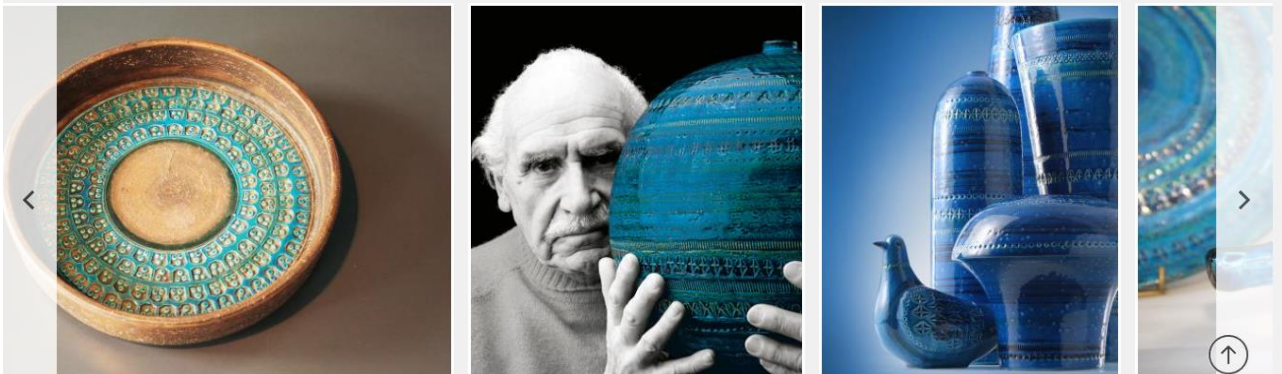
Aldo Londi (1911-2003) was an exceptionally skilled potter and produced ceramics from 1922-2003.

Aldo Londi worked both for the Fratelli Fanciulacci brothers and Bitossi in the city of Montelupo, Florentino, Italy.

The companies are located on the same street with approx. 500 meters distance on the road Via Antonio Gramsci, 50056 Montelupo Fiorentino FI, Italy.

He came daily until his death at the Bitossi factory to greet and see the day's productions.

Aldo Londi



Screenprint Pamono.

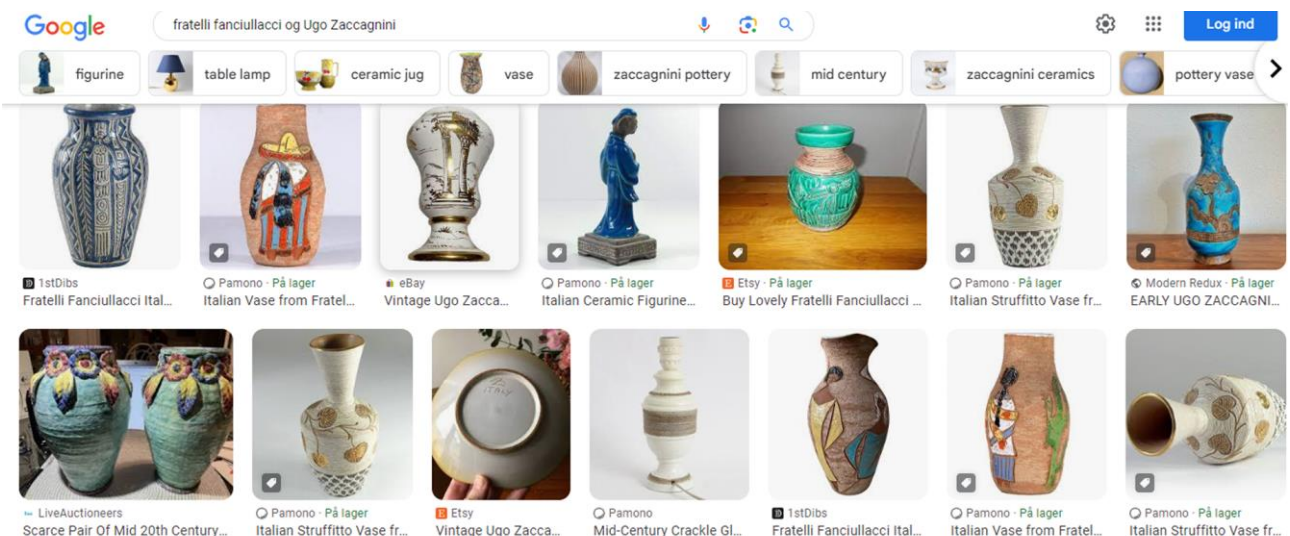
Aldo Londi - Fratelli Fanciulacci brothers and very inspired by Ugo Zaccagnini (Urbano Zaccagnini 1901-1964).

Aldo Londi himself, at the age of 11, is looking for work with the **Fratelli Fanciulacci brothers** as a potter, first after school and then as a permanent potter. He works here until he was captured in Africa during World War II.

The FF brothers have stated that they could quickly see that this young boy had talent beyond the ordinary. The Fratelli Fanciulacci brothers are known for beautiful rustic oriental/roman/greek traditional and non-traditional in many styles.

You can see in Aldo Londi's later creations that he is trained and has collaborated with the FF brothers.

At the same time, Aldo Londi was trained as a painter, sculptor and ceramicist at the local Academy, where he, among other things, was taught by **Ugo Zaccagnini**, by whom he was greatly inspired.



The Fratelli brothers originally came from the island of Capraia, where the company was founded in 1862 and they moved Fanciulacci ceramics to Montelupo around 1911 for better distribution.

In 1966 they opened another factory in Florence, but world demand fell and they closed all activity in 1988 and went back to the island of Capraia, where you also find "Studio 4", pottermakers used to work at Bitossi and they made similar to Bitossi product, so look for the handsign marks!

The factory in Montelupo then stood empty until the municipality bought it and restored to the current city museum.

Aldo Londi, Bitossi Ceramiche.

Aldo Londi was related to Bitossi, probably his father was the brother of the then owner back at that time 1922. Returning from captivity during the Second World War in Africa, he starts working at the company Bitossi in 1946. After a short time, he is employed as artistic head designer together with other designer's at Bitossi and subsequently as a permanent partner.

<https://www.bitossiceramiche.it/en.>



Aldo Londi head designer and characteristic of the ceramics.

Aldo Londi expressed stories through ceramics about emotions and intuitions and lived dedicated to art his whole life. He mixed traditions with contemporary art.

Aldo Londi is best known for the series "Rimini Blue" designed in 1959, which continues to sell well all over the world. He has produced in many colors, patterns and shapes, smooth and mostly rye clay.

<https://www.bitossiceramiche.it/collections/aldo-londi-rimini-blu.>



The characteristic of his artistic ceramic craft is that it is eye-catching, it seems harmonious in the forms and you want to touch it;)

You can sense the cultural historical heritage Aldo Londi has also been inspired by and expressed in his ceramic works of art, which are timeless and continuously inspire worldwide.

During all his travels for Bitossi and sales of his creations in residential buildings, etc. worldwide, Aldo Londi himself was inspired by local potters, especially in the last 30 years.

He has been a lot in Scandinavia, where he was mostly in Sweden and Denmark. His feather series is inspired by Swedish-produced Easter roosters, his white lamps in the Ikano series with blue ribbons inspired by Danish Bartholdy Keramik, etc.



Aldo Londi ceramic colors and structure.

He used predominantly umber, sienna and ochre, along with primary colors to color the glaze.

All ceramics are handmade in clay from the local river, mostly mixed with small pieces of stone, so that the clay seems rustic, but Aldo Londi has also produced ceramics without stones in the Montelupo clay having the color of almost light umbra mixed with a tiny bit of cienne and sunyellow.

First Aldo Londi produced a new creation of the clay, which was left to dry until it was ready to work with patterns. It was then glazed in layers with first

white, then colored glaze and clear glaze on top. I assume that the glaze is from Murano;)

This process makes the glaze colors appear transparent clear and beautiful.

Not all creations have white as the basic color. Most often, red glaze has black at the bottom and some creations are without a base color, so the beautiful umbral forms the base color under the glaze layers.

All his creations are sculptures in themselves, but Bitossi has chosen to show the simple and beautiful ones on an architecture page.

<https://www.bitossiceramiche.it/collections/aldo-londi-arkitektura>.

<https://www.bitossiceramiche.it/en/pages/storia>.



13. mars 2024
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Design models as a template for reproductions of Aldo Londi creations.

Aldo Londi designed and produced himself together with other ceramists. Based on Aldo Londi's design's, Bitossi has produced moulds, so many of Bitossi's products are manufactured this way today. When it comes to impressed patterns, they have used and use stamps with the patterns on them.

<https://www.bitossiceramiche.it/collections/archivio-storico>.



Aldo Londi signatures for the Fanciulacci brothers and Bitossi.

Italian potters collaborate in cooperatives and decide for a given period how to sign Italian ceramics.

For many years almost everyone wrote **ITALY** though one company wrote **ITALIA**.

Aldo Londi signed with ITALY both for the Fanciulacci Brothers and Bitossi.

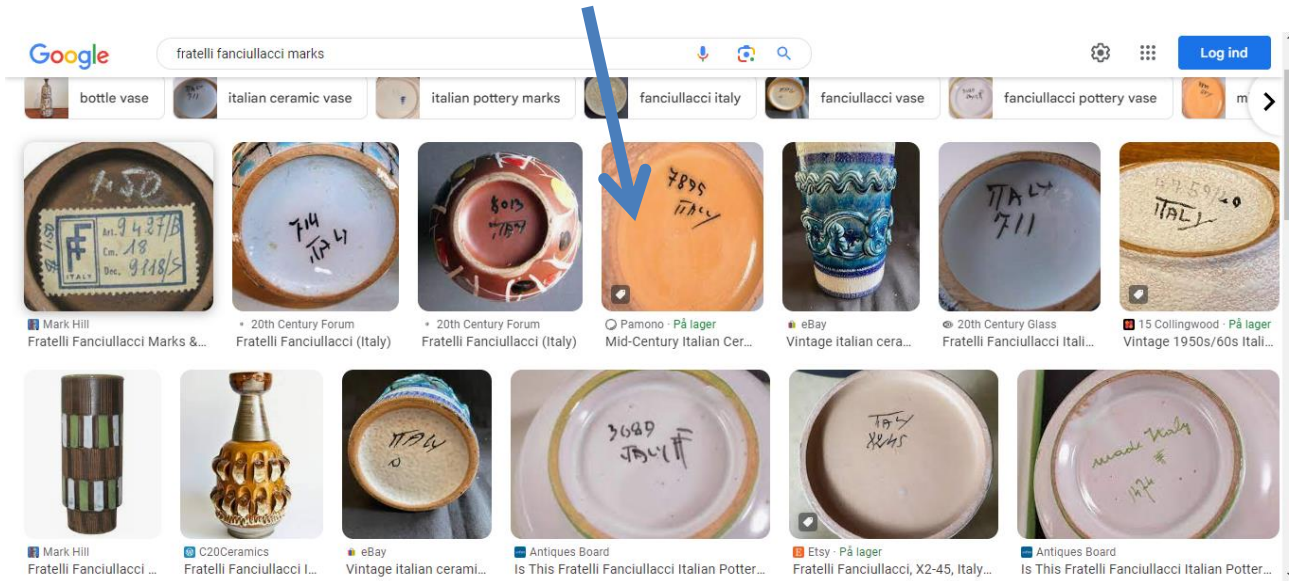
Therefore, precisely Aldo Londi creations must be found in the way Italy is written.



The Fanciulacci Brothers signed as handwritten **ITALY** with each letter standing on its own and possibly a production number and one or two **FF**

There is a similar signature with iTA as described, but then there is air between **ITA air LY**, so that the letters **A and L** become prominent. These one's signed that way is for sure Aldo Londi signing.

On the fourth picture below with the red X you find Aldo Londi way of handsigning Italy as he was working for FF I asume.



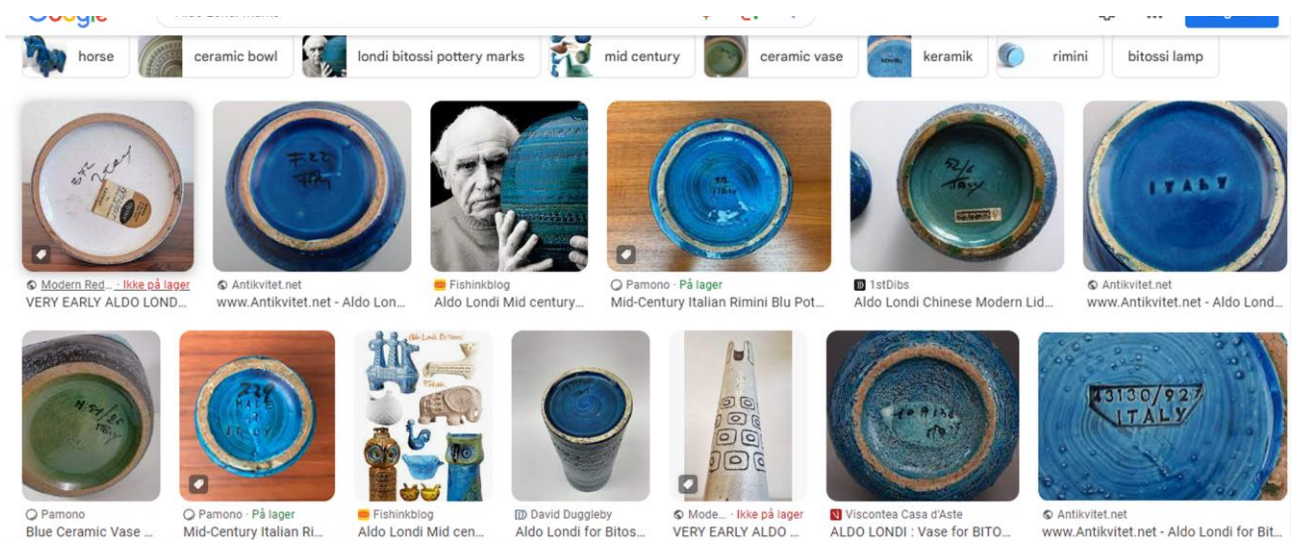
I assume it may be Aldo Londi's signature for the Fanciulacci brothers before WW2 where he distinguished himself by designing his signature ITALY special?

Also seen Aldo Londi's recognizable signature TTALY as described below for Bitossi, but with FF in front or behind or FL in front.

Aldo Londi signature for Bitossi.

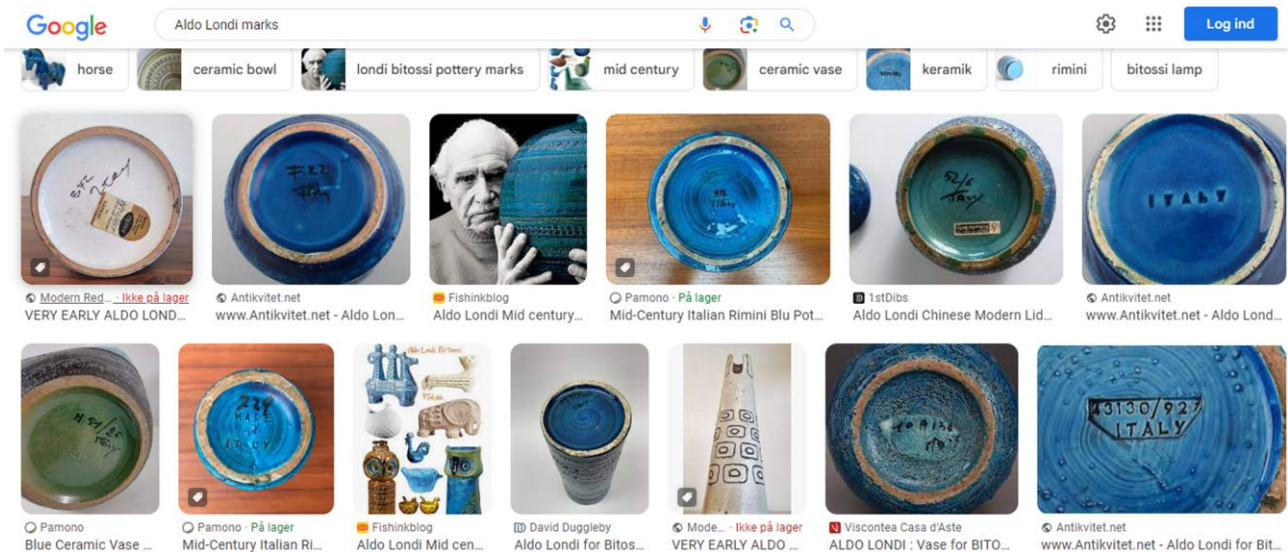
The ceramic signature has had different forms with and without a signature, which are described below, but predominantly first number out of number ex. 302/18 numbering series/number of product type and underneath Aldo Londi hand signature **ITALY**.

So if the signature only shows number and nothing after the / or no / there is only one of its kind.



Aldo Londi's signature – his unique way of writing Italy.

When he started at Bitossi he had a short period where he wrote **Ztaly**.... perhaps with his inspiration from **Ugo Zaccagnini**? Seen in the first picture above with a white background.



Generally, Aldo Londi signed with TTALY.

- He wrote i and T under the same very long line without a dot over the i, so TT.
- Most seen together with a round A at the top.
- Next, a smaller L and finally a Y, where the downstroke is very long and goes to the left. Have also often seen that L and Y are written together. Over time, it is all written together, almost like old handwriting. Depending on the size of the pencil he wrote from left to right or from right to left. If he used a small pencil he wrote from left to right and the opposite.

Or with numbers and FLAVIA stamp.

Or Handwritten with perhaps an initial from different living companies, ex. I.B. for Illums Bolighus, number/number and stamped Flavia, which Bitossi was called for a number of years.

Or with sticker's only. Ex. Bolighuset Illums, so many products are missing marks, because the stickers have fallen off or been removed or washed off.

Since 2003

From 2007-11 Bitossi have their own stamp, which can be seen on their website below.

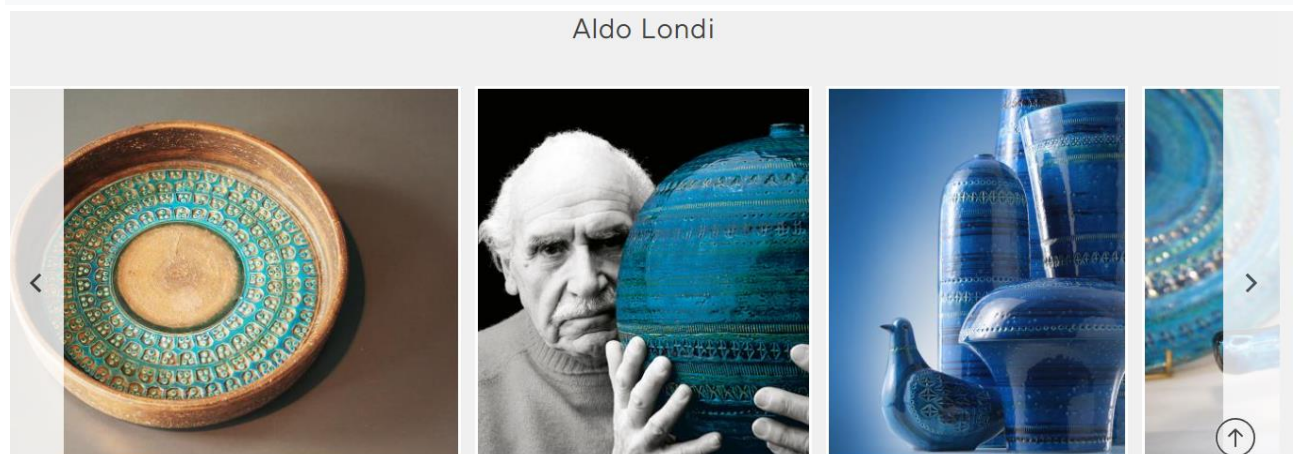
<https://www.bitossiceramiche.it/collections/archivio-storico>

You can buy new reproductions of Aldo Londi on the link above.



You can also buy Aldo Londi vintage, which they sell via Pamono.

<https://www.pamono.eu/designers/aldo-londi>.



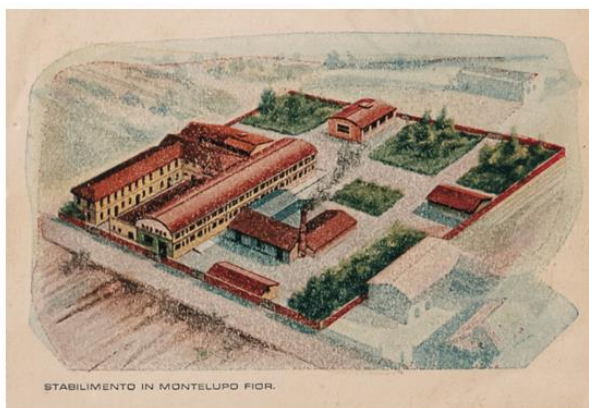
Two Ceramic Museums in the town of Montelupo.

Today's city museum [Ceramics Museum of Montelupo](#) Fiorentino is the company Fratelli Fanciulacci brothers renovated and owned by the municipality.



If you then walk 500 meters further down the street, Via Antonio Gramsci, 50056 Montelupo Fiorentino FI, Italy, you come to the Bitossi company with the Bitossi Museum as an extension and also production continues with many different designers employed.

<https://www.fondazionevittorianobitossi.it/en>



You can see a tour on the youtube link here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XtQYfDqTVLI>.



Søg



A TOUR OF THE BITOSSO MUSEUM! | Italian Pottery | Over 7,000 Pieces! | Montelupo Fiorentino, Italy



Laura Caldwell ✓
189.000 abonnenter

Abonner

3.589



Del



Best regards,

Birgitte Volkert