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ADI Dubai Expo 2020 Design Competition Special Award

At the Milan presentation of the ADI Design Index 2019, a **Special Award** given by ADI to one of the twenty projects chosen by the **Dubai Expo 2020 Design Competition** will also be presented.

The special ADI award goes to five young designers operating in Italy and the United Arab Emirates, who met at the Polytechnic High School of the American University of Sharjah: **Timothy Liddell, Mohammad Abu Al Huda, Luca Bussolino, Isabella Flore and Dima Srouji.**

Their project is called **Sikka** and the prototype was created by the Milanese company **Shapemode** which specializes in 3D printing.

It is a lightweight form of architecture composed of modular elements inspired by the shape of a sail, which can take on a number of forms and gives the possibility of creating different environments. Each one is made of a textile surface, a polymeric structure and a composite superstructure. The complex curvature of the surfaces is created at low cost through the selective tensioning of the fabric.

The **Dubai Expo 2020 Design Competition** was launched by the Lombardy Region and the Milan, Monza Brianza and Lodi Chamber of Commerce in collaboration with the Milan Polytechnic and ADI, and was open to young designers under 35 and Lombardy companies. Now in its seventh edition, it put out a call for the presentation of innovative projects and prototypes resulting from partnerships between Lombardy companies and designers under 35.

"Thanks to the Expo Dubai 2020 Design Competition we have had the opportunity to celebrate the ingenuity and creativity of many young professionals who represent the future of design both at Lombardy and national level," says **Lara Magoni**, Councillor for Tourism, Regional Marketing and Fashion, Lombardy Region. "On the occasion of the celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci, it is splendid to be able to see that his genius lives on in the 'knowing how' that is part of the creativity, innovation and pleasure of art. Design represents a sector of excellence not only for Lombardy but for the whole country, able to drive both the economy and employment forward. Encouraging our young talents to create innovative projects internationally fills me with pride and demonstrates the dynamism of Lombardy design".

In line with the theme of Expo 2020 – *Connecting minds, Creating the future* – the competition was subtitled *Connecting Spaces*: design objects to connect the spaces that call to mind the Italian tradition of craftsmanship interpreted in an innovative way (Innovative Crafting), spaces connected through digital, IoT or new home automation technologies applied to design and information design (Digital Connecting Spaces), or even as temporary structures to connect people (Design for Human Connection).

Design Competition Expo Dubai 2020: <http://www.deco.regione.lombardia.it>

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