

## **Grand Sofà**

### **Developed by Vitra in Switzerland**

### **Design: Antonio Citterio, 2017**

**Of all the designers Vitra has worked with, no partnership has lasted longer – or been more prolific and successful – than the one with Antonio Citterio. During the past 25 years of this cooperation, numerous office chairs, visitor chairs, sofas for waiting areas and entire office systems have continually set new standards. The Vitra Home Collection was also significantly influenced by the Milan-based designer. At Salone del Mobile 2017, Vitra and Antonio Citterio present the newest addition to the Vitra Home Collection: Grand Sofà.**

*When you think about a sofa, you have to really think about how people live. The sofa, up until 30 or 40 years ago, was mainly used for receiving guests or hosting conversations. In the eighties I started to work on a different approach to the sofa, aimed at redefining its role towards a more personal use. When I design a sofa I think about an element at the centre stage of the living area, as a sort of “island” dedicated to personal activities. Today a living room has developed into a family room, which is about relaxing and enjoying free time. Therefore, a sofa has become a soft surface that you use in many different ways: to watch TV, to sleep, to eat.’ – Antonio Citterio*

Grand Sofà is Antonio Citterio’s interpretation of luxurious comfort and contemporary design. The designer’s Italian flair for lightness and elegance is united with the trademark quality and precision of the Swiss company Vitra.

*We started from the DNA of Vitra as a furniture company; we wanted to obtain contemporary, simple pieces that can be placed side by side, next to one another. We adopted the modernist principle of a distinct separation between the supporting and supported parts, in which each element clearly declares its function.’ – Antonio Citterio*

The clean lines and geometric forms of the generously dimensioned sofa elements create a spacious platform for sitting or reclining. Despite its expansive proportions, Grand Sofà has a graceful silhouette: the slim, fabric-covered body is doubly angled to form a cascading seat, backrest and rearward ledge. The body is supported at two points under each end of the seat surface and behind the backrest by a bridge-like aluminium base frame, making the sofa appear to float above the floor. The seating elements are open on the sides, which emphasises the horizontal planes of Grand Sofà. Consumers can choose between a full-length backrest or a shortened version. This makes it possible to produce large seating arrangements with gaps and viewpoints – a sofa landscape with an almost topographical character, conveying an expression of lightness and variability.

*‘For me a sofa is a support and a cushion. When I started designing sofas 45 years ago, I soon began to see them in this way. This approach is simple, but not simplistic. I have seen many changes over the years, but it is the contemporary classic designs that are still on the market.’ – Antonio Citterio*

Thanks to the open composition of Grand Sofà and the spatial options this creates, it is possible to sit behind the sofa and use the fabric-covered ledge for laptop work or other tasks. The shelf-like ledge is also suited for storing books, magazines and accessories. To accommodate objects such as glasses, bottles or vases, it can be equipped with the Sofa Tray, which is angled along the sides to fit perfectly over the edges. Turned upside down, the Sofa Tray can be used as a practical surface on any flat area of the sofa.

Grand Sofà is available in a curated selection of fabrics, which come in a diverse range of colours. Together with the different elements, variable backrests, selection of cushions, and base finishes in polished aluminium or powder-coated in white or black, this opens up a multitude of possibilities for individual seating arrangements.

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