

## Triennale - Milan

### **A contatto con Alvar Aalto / Experiencing Alvar Aalto**

by Aki Davidsson

24 January 1995 - 16 February 1995

The architecture of Alvar Aalto and the messages in it seem to be more relevant nowadays than they have been for decades. There are many reasons for this, among others the interest that architects from all over the world begin to show towards environmental problems. It seems that in Aalto's architecture it is possible to find an answer even for the pressing problems of our age.

**The exhibition held by Alvar Aalto Museum "Experiencing Alvar Aalto" was completed in Winter 1992.** In this exhibition it has been attempted, for the first time, to analyze and put in evidence some of the main elements of Aalto's architecture. The exhibition aims at delving deep and examining his creative process and the foundations of his architectural philosophy. The part describing the complete works of Aalto is only a secondary theme of the exhibition.

Figuratively speaking, **the exhibition is an explorative journey through the humanistic interpretation of Alvar Aalto of functionalist ideology.**

In its main role there is **Paimio Sanatorium, heroic first work of the functionalist period (1929 - 33) and Villa Mairea, manifest of the new organic vision (1937 - 39).**

**These two works are widely and thoroughly presented with photographs, drawings and scale models. In addition there is also a fair selection of pieces of furniture designed by Aalto and a video program to complete the mix.**

On the occasion of the exhibition a book of 130 pages has been published, which completes the theme of the show and at the same time serves as the catalogue of the exhibition. In the book there are two written works by Alvar Aalto, the written works of the architect **Kirimo Mikkola "Alvar Aalto, man of thought" and "The tradition of rationalism"**, the written work of **Juhani Pallasmaa**, which concerns also Aalto, **"From tectonic to pictorial principles in architecture"**, the written work of the architect **Kristian Gullichsen on Villa Mairea**, the original technical description of Paimio Sanatorium and, in addition, the written work of the curator **Kaarina Milkonranta** on the design of Alvar Aalto's furniture.

**The exhibition, which will take place at Palazzo della Triennale in Milano - Viale Alemagna, 6 - from 24 January 1995 to 16 February 1995, is organized by Alvar Aalto Museum (Finland) and by the Council of Milan, in partnership with Kone Italia Servizi.**

Exhibition Comitee: Aki Davidsson, architect; Markku Lahti, Director of Alvar Aalto Museum; Kaarina Mokonranta, head curator. Exhibition designer: Aki Davidsson. Editing and page setting: Aki Davidsson and Pirkko TuukkanenBeckers.

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