

CATERINA TOGNON arte contemporanea

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Venetian Mirrors Collection at S.A.L.I.R., Murano, Venezia, Italia, 2019

Specchi Veneziani | Venetian Mirrors

Project by: Marco Zanini & Wendy Wheatley

Realization by: S.A.L.I.R Murano, Venezia, Italia, 1985-1990

Caterina Tognon presents a **unique series of mirror prototypes**, designed by Wendy Wheatley and Marco Zanini and produced in 1990 by S.A.L.I.R. in Murano, Venezia.

The historical company **S.A.L.I.R.** – Studio Ars et Labor Industrie Riunite was founded in 1922 by Decio Toso and Giuseppe D’Alpaos in Murano, with the dual aim of recovering particular aspects of the Muranese tradition linked to the production and decoration of mirrors, and seeking new artistic and technological solutions. It worked with personalities such as Franz Pelzel, Guido Balsamo Stella, Vittorio Zecchin, Tono Zancanaro, Vinicio Vinello, Giò Ponti, Giorgio De Chirico. Sons of the founders, Mario D’Alpaos and Luigi (Gigi) Toso have been owners since the 70s, promoting a fruitful relationship with numerous artists and designers including Riccardo Licata, Agostino Venturini, Ettore Sottsass, Fulvio Bianconi, Vincenzo Eulisse, Marco Zanini, Wendy Wheatley, Renato Guttuso, exhibiting at many national and international exhibitions and obtaining various prizes and awards. S.A.L.I.R. closed its doors in 2020.

The series ***Specchi Veneziani*** was designed in 1990 by **Wendy Wheatley** and **Marco Zanini** under request of S.A.L.I.R., at a time when the two designers were working respectively as assistant and partner of **Studio Sottsass Associati**, and part of the **Memphis** design collective.

In 1990, just after the mirrors’ prototyping the collection was photographed by **Santi Caleca** for a dedicated catalogueue, and exhibited by Mario Godani at the **Design Gallery** in Via Manzoni in Milan.

Marco Zanini was born in Milan, Italy in the 1971. He graduated in Architecture at the University of Florence in 1976 and completed his studies in the United States. In 1977 he began collaborating with Ettore Sottsass in Milan. Zanini was one of the co-founders of Gruppo Memphis in 1981 and designed works for all its collections. He designs ceramics, jewelry, furniture, and blown-glass objects. Together with Sottsass, he founded the Sottsass Associati and was the design manager for many projects: office furniture for well-known brands, residential interiors, showroom interiors, exhibition design, street furniture and industrial products for a wide range of clients in Italy and abroad. He worked as architect and designer in Japan, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Colombia, Chile and Spain. His works are to be found in numerous museums and private collections. Zanini holds frequent conferences on industrial design. Nowadays, he lives and works in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Wendy Wheatley was born in the USA in 1962 in Hartford, Connecticut. Her family moved to the Hague because of the job of her father, a designer of publishing machinery. They never returned to live in the US. Wheatley studied at the famous Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. In 1987, totally in love with the Memphis production, she went to Milan for a curricular internship at Studio Sottsass Associati in Via Borgonuovo. After 6 months of apprenticeship, she went back to Amsterdam for her degree with the promise of returning immediately to Milan in the same Studio with the three associated architects: Sottsass himself, Marco Zanini and Aldo Cibic. At that time, Matteo Thun and Michele de Lucchi had already embarked on a personal career. Wendy worked in particular with Marco Zanini, as the series *Specchi Veneziani* clearly demonstrates. A few years after the exhibition at the Design Gallery in Milan, Wendy left Studio Sottsass. She lives and works in Milan.



Wendy Wheatley

Fiolario

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio con lati curvi e con due animali incisi a sabbia, decorato con zucche e foglie di vetro.

Mirror with curved sides and two sandblasted running animals.

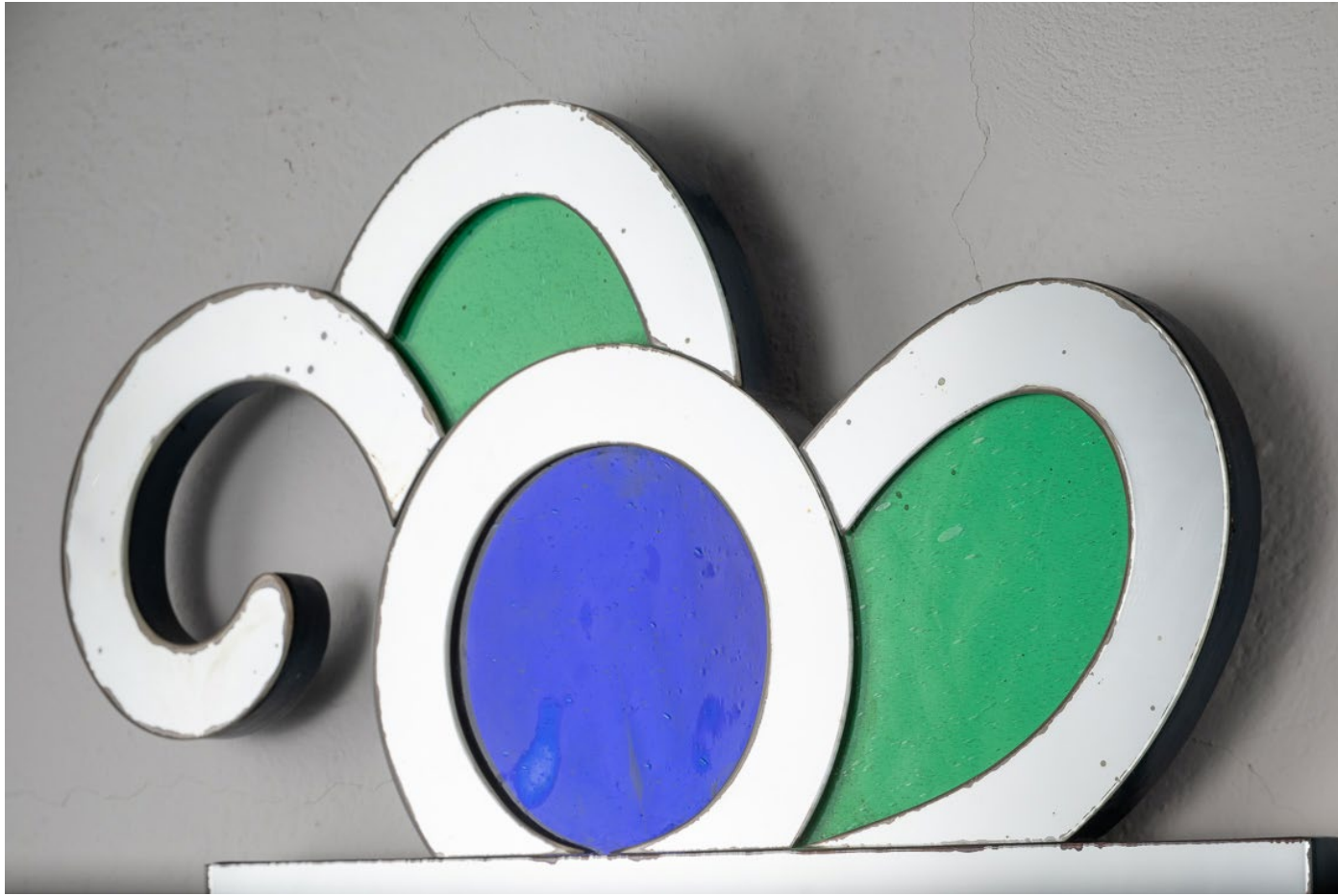
The top is decorated with glass pumpkins and the bottom with glass leaves.

80 x 45 x 6 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Wendy Wheatley
Reaolo

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio con cimiero traforato e vetro colorato.

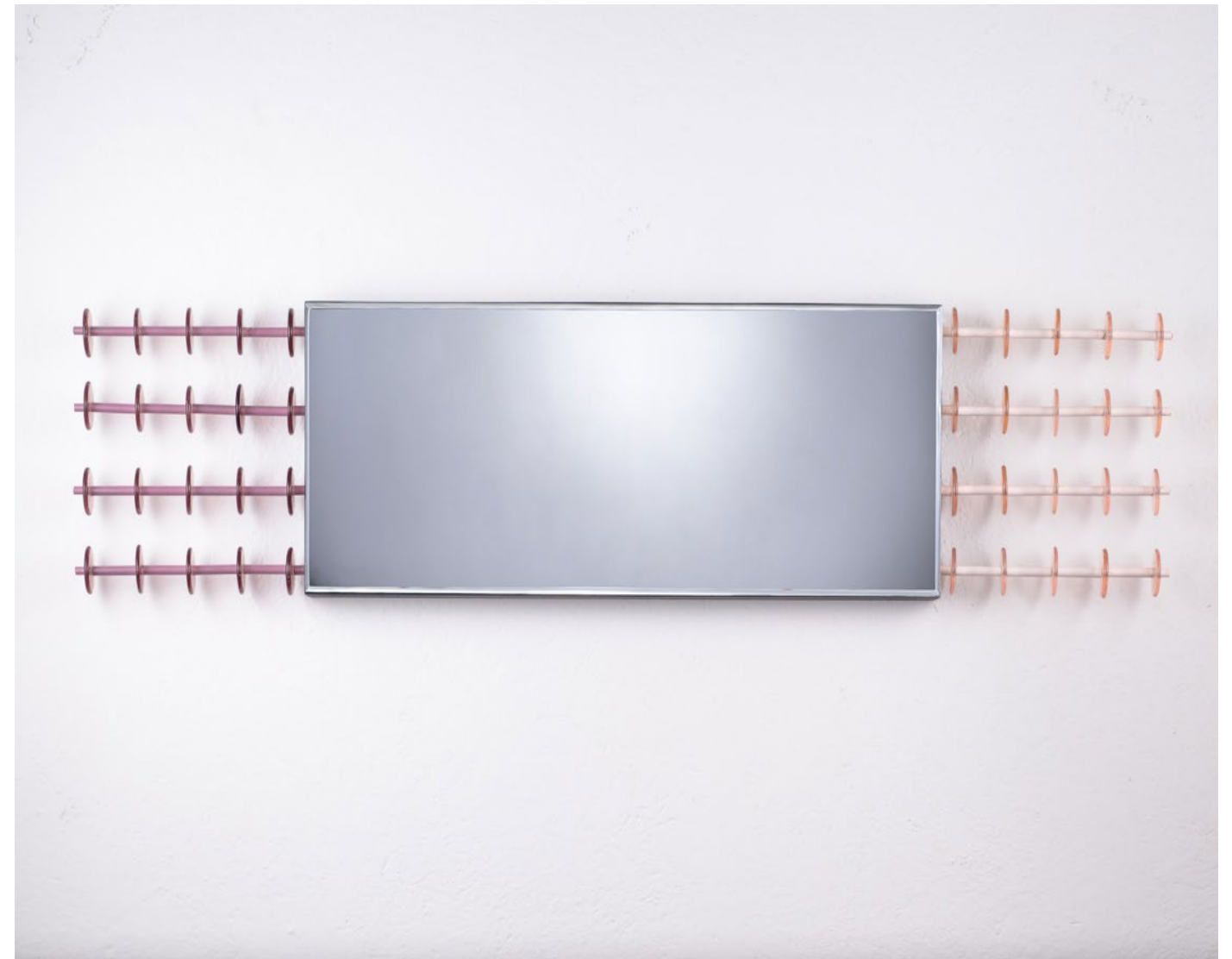
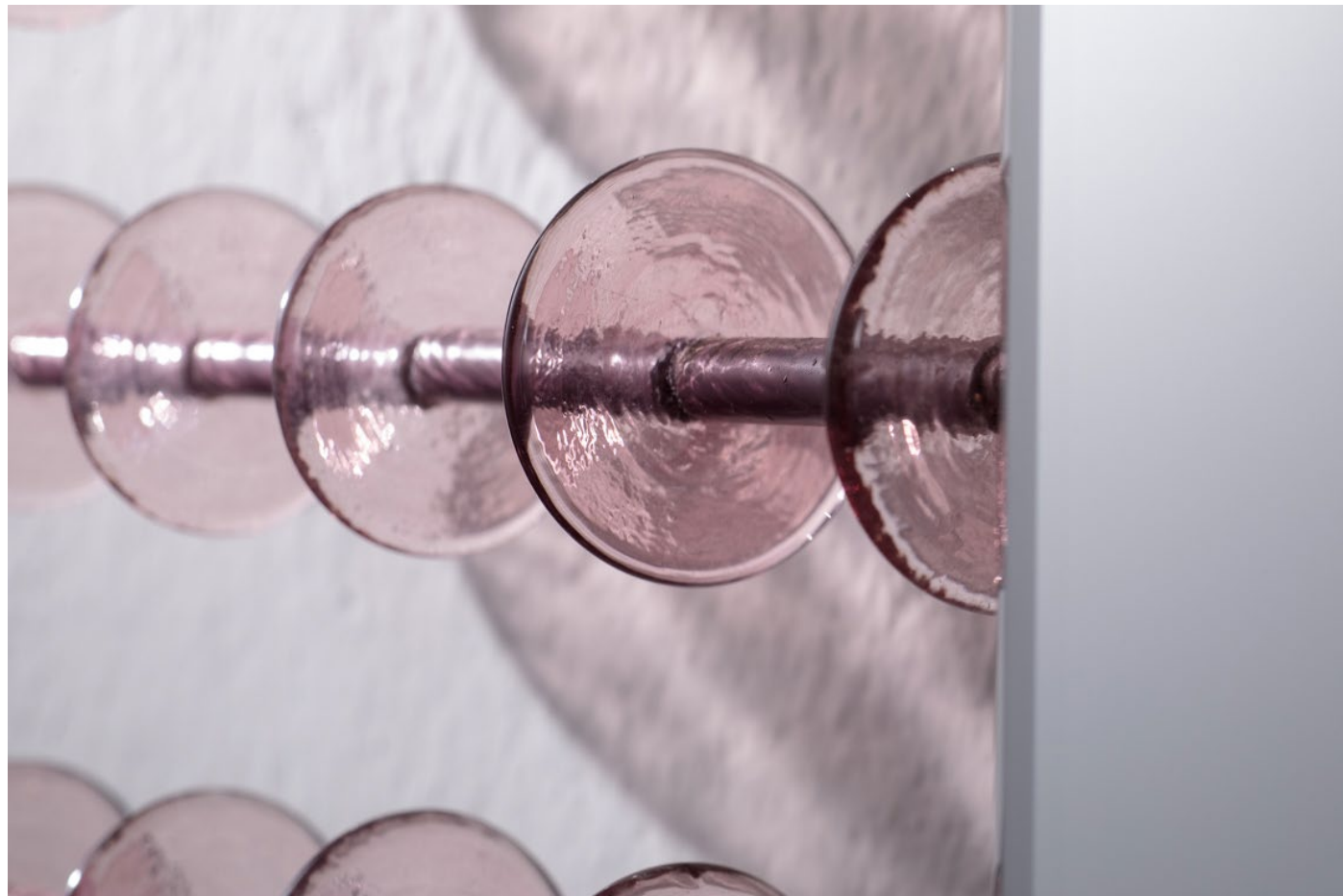
Square mirror with cut-out crest decoration on top showing colored glass.

52 x 45 x 2 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Wendy Wheatley

Perler

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio rettangolare con supporto in legno nero.

I due lati presentano quattro canne con dischi di vetro colorato.

Rectangular mirror with black wood backing.

Two sides have four horizontal rods beaded colored glass disks.

21 x 93 x 5 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto



Wendy Wheatley
Gialdolin

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio tondo con 5 dischi di vetro giallo in rilievo. Cornice di legno decorato con foglie di vetro.
Round mirror appliqued with 5 yellow glass disks. Wooden frame decorated with glass leaves.

Ø 60 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Wendy Wheatley
Millefiori

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio quadrato con angoli decorati con fiori di specchio in rilievo
 e canna di vetro ondulata rosa.

*Square mirror with extended corners decorated with flowers pinned
 to larger mirror and pink glass rod fixed to the edges.*

60 x 60 x 2,5 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Wendy Wheatley

Puliga

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio rettangolare con bordi decorati in vetro colorato tagliato ad onda, canna di vetro e fiori.

Rectangular mirror featuring sides decorated with cut green glass waves, undulated glass rod and glass flowers.

45 x 62 x 6 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto



Wendy Wheatley
Mariegola

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio con cornice di legno e decoro in canna di vetro bicolore.

Mirror set in wood, frame and decorated with stripes made of glass rod in alternating colors.

53 x 31 x 2,5 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Wendy Wheatley

Angastera

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio con quattro pesci incisi, pendagli bisellati di cristallo trasparente ed alghe di vetro verde.

Mirror featuring four engraved fish, two rows of bevelled glass pendants and green glass seaweed.

67 x 70 x 4 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Wendy Wheatley

Rabico

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

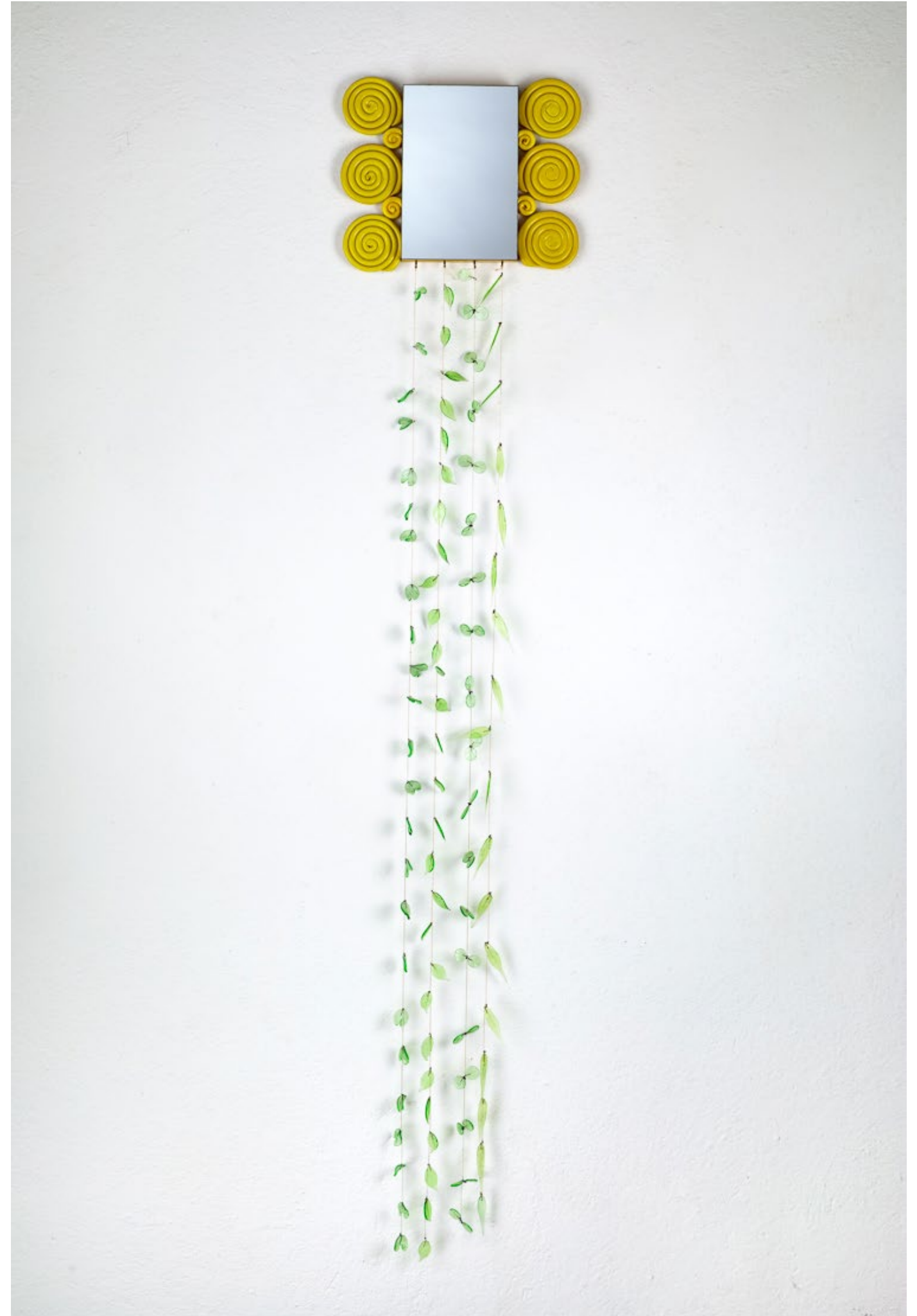
Piccolo specchio con spirali in vetro giallo ai due lati e quattro fili lunghi di seta con foglie di vetro infilate.

Small mirror with yellow glass coils at both sides and four long trailing silk strings full of green glass leaves.

120 x 32 x 13 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini
Anzinello

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio luminoso, con cornice girevole in legno di pero e due specchietti appesi.

Lo specchio principale presenta un decoro a foglie inciso a sabbia.

Lighted mirror, with a smaller rotating part on top in a pear wood frame.

Two small mirrors are hung from the bottom.

The big mirror is decorated with a sandblasted foliage décor.

90 x 76 x 15 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini
Bularminio
 Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio luminoso, decorato con bottoni di vetro azzurro. Cornice di vetro verde chiaro.
Lighted mirror in a pale green glass frame and decorated with blue glass disks.

88 x 68 x 15 cm
 courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia
 ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini
Zaffaro

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio da tavolo con sipario in seta cangiante viola e 4 colonnine di vetro ametista e azzurro.

Struttura in legno grigio scuro.

Decorato con una piccola pagoda laccata in rosso, bianco e nero.

Selfstanding mirror with purple silk curtain and four amethyst and light blue glass columns.

Frame structure veneered with dark grey briarwood.

Decorated by a small red, white and black lacquered pagoda that sits on top.

60 x 35 x 14 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini
Cesendello
 Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio da tavolo con cornice in legno di pero e due colonnine di vetro blu.
 Decorato con due cipressi in vetro.
*Tabletop mirror in a pear wood frame with two glass columns
 and two small glass cypress trees on top.*

55 x 40 x 8 cm
 courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia
 ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini

Averlino

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio con mensola in marmo macchiavvecchia e colonnine in legno di pero.
Incisioni sabbiate a onde e testo "People of the world unite".

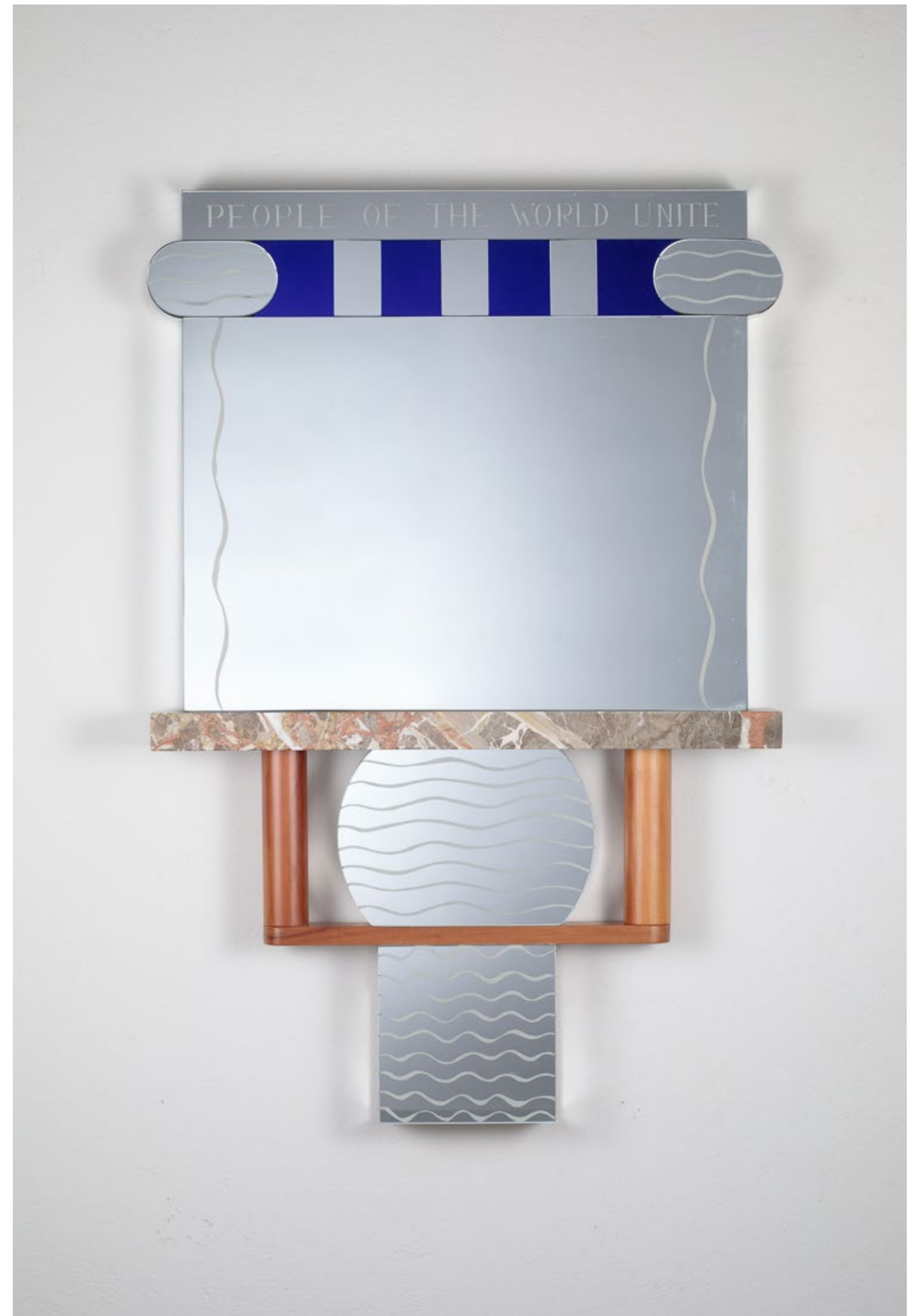
Mirror with marble shelf and pear wood columns.

Sandblasted serpentine décor and engraved text "People of the world unite".

100 x 68 x 8 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini

Moiolo

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio con due colonnine di legno verde all'anilina e elementi di vetro azzurro.

Piccoli specchi laterali incorniciati da canna di vetro bianco e verde "zanfirico".

Mirror with two green wooden half-columns and two blue glass elements. On each side there is a small mirror framed with white and green "zanfirico" glass rod.

46 x 140 x 11,5 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto

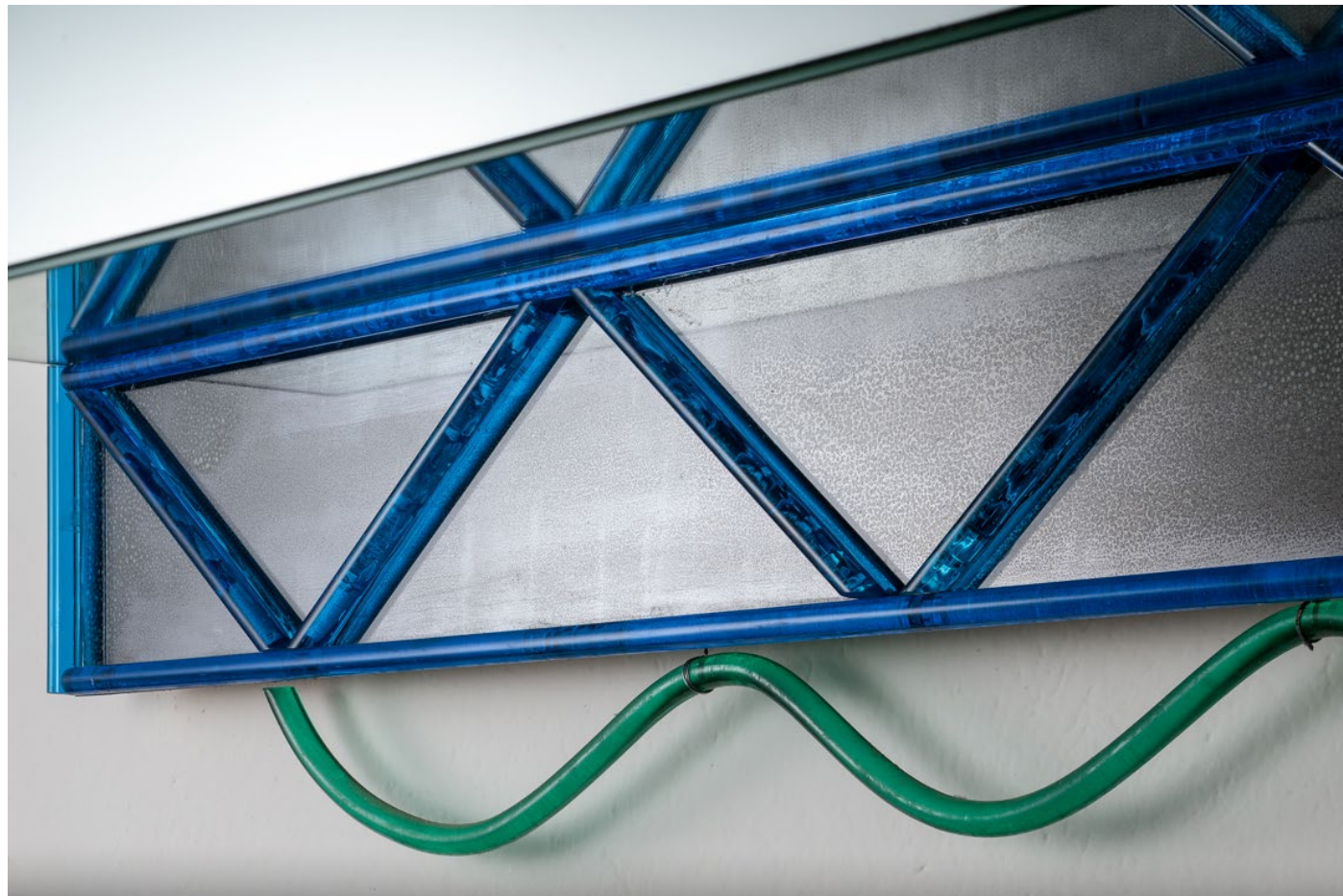


Marco Zanini
Moretto
 Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio con fasce curve in marmo bianco statuario.
 Decorato con due vetri dipinti incorniciati da canna di vetro bianco.
Mirror with curved white marble sides.
Decorated with two airbrushed plates of glass framed by white glass rod.

93 x 51 x 13 cm
 courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia
 ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini

Zenabrio

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio in due elementi con colonnine luminose di vetro rosa.

Il piano superiore è in legno di pero. Decorato con foglie e canne di vetro verde e blu.

Mirror in two parts with lighted pink glass columns.

The top piece is made of pear wood. Decorated with glass leaves and green and blue rods.

100 x 106 x 10 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini

Zembola

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio a due volumi girevoli e struttura in metallo laccato rosso.

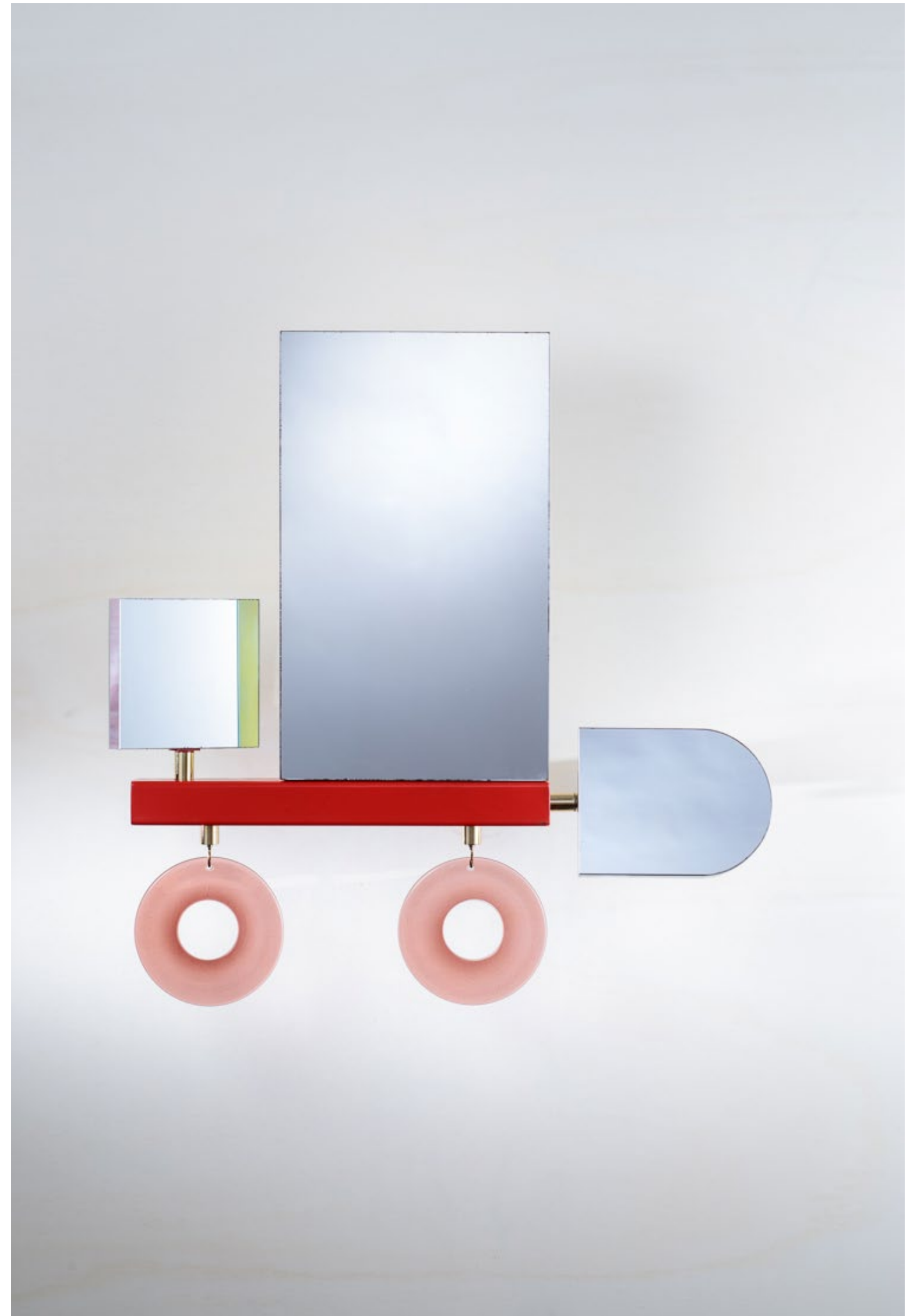
Lo spessore degli specchi è in vetro colorato, dischi di vetro viola appesi.

Mirror with two rotating parts on a red lacquered metal structure and two hanging purple glass disks. The sides of the mirrors are made of colored glass.

67 x 67 x 16 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Francesco Allegretto





Marco Zanini
Venturino

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Grande specchio composto da diversi volumi, struttura in metallo verniciato argento e un elemento ad anta girevole con profilo in legno naturale.

Large mirror composed of several volumes, constructed on a metal frame painted silver and featuring one hinged element with natural wood border.

108 x 140 x 25 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia

ph: Studio Shapiro





Marco Zanini

Caramal

Unique Piece, S.A.L.I.R. Murano, Venezia 1985-1990

Specchio dipinto con smalti vetrosi e foglia d'oro. Cornice bicolore in frassino tinto all'anilina.
Mirror painted with glass enamels and gold leaf. Frame made of two-tone dyed ash wood.

53 x 63 x 6 cm

courtesy: Caterina Tognon arte contemporanea, Venezia