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ALL SYNTHETIC
WOVEN FIBER



HOW DOES
THIS
SEAT
SIT?
-
WHAT TYPE
OF FIBER
SIZE-SHAPE
IS POSSIBLE

Musings and sketches from the personal collection and travel journal of Janice Feldman, alongside images from Janus et Cie's outdoor collections like Duo (at right) and Quadrat (bottom right).



DRAWN TO SCALE

THE CREATIVE FORCE BEHIND THE BELOVED OUTDOOR FURNITURE BRAND JANUS ET CIE, JANICE FELDMAN DESIGNS HER OWN LEGACY THANKS TO A COUPLE OF MUCH-BUZZED-ABOUT NEW PARTNERSHIPS.

WRITTEN AND PRODUCED BY BRIELLE M. FERREIRA

Share your recent decision to join Haworth and the Poltrona Frau Group. Well, it's been a journey, but I wanted very much to ensure the future of my business: that when I've retired, to that great drawing board in the sky, my life's work will be cared for and regarded with admiration and respect, and that I'll have created a good, safe place for the people who have helped me get to where I am. Poltrona Frau is a great bastion of luxury furniture, and they're super-respectful of the autonomy of their individual brands, so I feel honored to be the little sister of their group. They're going to help us grow globally much quicker than I could have as a standalone company.

Is there anything you'll miss about going at it alone? Truly, I was never really "alone." When I was a little girl, my mother always said, "You can do anything." I've lived with that in my head and heart, and she helped and encouraged me every step of the way. The best part about being independent for so long was that I got to prove my mother right. I've always made decisions based on my own feelings and my own definitions of what's good or bad, so it might be challenging at first to be more collaborative and sensitive to other people's visions, but Dario Rinero, Poltrona's CEO, is a wonderful leader, and I'm confident we have a lot to learn from each other.



What led you to tap Piero Lissoni to design an upcoming collection for Janus et Cie?

I've been tracking him for a long time, and I just think everything he does is beautiful. He's also a total character. Every time I look at Piero, I'm struck by his physicality: I want to draw him. He's got this long, linear, Giacometti thing happening, and it's in his drawings and product design, too. I trust the collection will be something very special and that it will be refined and long-lived—something where, 20 or 50 years from now, people will still say they want to buy pieces from the collaboration.

How do you keep your creative mojo alive and well?

I love to sketch. It helps me think—to take things out of my head and put them down on paper. I started drawing at a very young age, and I was hooked the moment I took my first art class. The instructor made us look at the model and draw without referencing the paper in front of us at all. It was kind of amazing to let your brain communicate directly with your fingers and the pen and to not be burdened by having to check in on yourself. It stuck with me. Today, I often keep a journal or a notepad when I travel; sometimes, I jot down ideas, and other times, I'll paint a portrait or a chair—anything really. I'm extremely visual, and I edit the world in my own way every day.

