

# BASTONI

A project by the students of the Faculty of Design and Art



Research Area: Design education and promotion | Project Timespan: 2019-2022

## **BASTONI - Design education in Bozen/ Bolzano - a case study**

The stick was an object with which power was expressed, a symbol of social status. The paintings and photos of the era often depict genteel summertime strollers with their sticks, proudly held in their hands as a way of expressing a certain superiority. A group of 20 students has now given the stick a contemporary makeover, designing and developing practical objects: tools for work or leisure, with sticks that express the owner's personality, interests and values.

### **Team**

PI: Kuno Prey

CI: Luca Martorano, Alvisè Mattozzi

Collaborator: Irene Nitz

External partners: Italbastoni artplast s.n.c.

More information: <https://www.unibz.it/assets/Profiles/Kuno-Prey/Publications/bastoni.pdf>

Last update: 31/12/2022


In the case of 'BASTONI', the research of urban sociologist Lucius Burckhardt, who coined the term promenadology, provided the impetus for a semester project. The students were accompanied by product designer Kuno Prey together with the anthropologist and sociologist Alvisè Mattozzi and materials and manufacturing expert Luca Martorano. They analysed the relevance of walking sticks historically and in other social structures, researched old walking stick shapes with the project group

and helped them to understand how different old and new materials are processed by analysing their manufacture.

They started the semester with a series of small day hikes around Bolzano to allow our students to experience walking in natural surroundings. However, as they as project supervisors had requested and encouraged, the students went further and began to look around in their environment: what other type of stick might be helpful – for which professional groups, for what occasions, in which situations...? Over the course of this interdisciplinary project it was of course fascinating to learn, together with the anthropologist and sociologist Alvisè Mattozzi, about the relevance that walking sticks had in past social structures. Along with materials and manufacturing expert Luca Martorano, they researched old forms of sticks and analysed their manufacturing so as to understand how different materials are processed. For technical support they were assisted by a small manufacturer of canes and sticks, the Italbastoni company from the Val di Non. Italbastoni produces sticks using different materials and techniques, ranging from classic steam-bent walking sticks of beechwood through to high-tech poles of carbon fibre-reinforced plastic for use in extreme sports.



A book was developed for the 'Bastoni' project, which highlights both the students' individual products and the background to the project.



**BASTONI**  
A project by the students of the Faculty of Design and Art

**MILANO**

Salone Internazionale del Mobile 2022  
Salone Satellite - PAD 3 - S17

Fiera RHO - Milano  
07.-12.06.2022

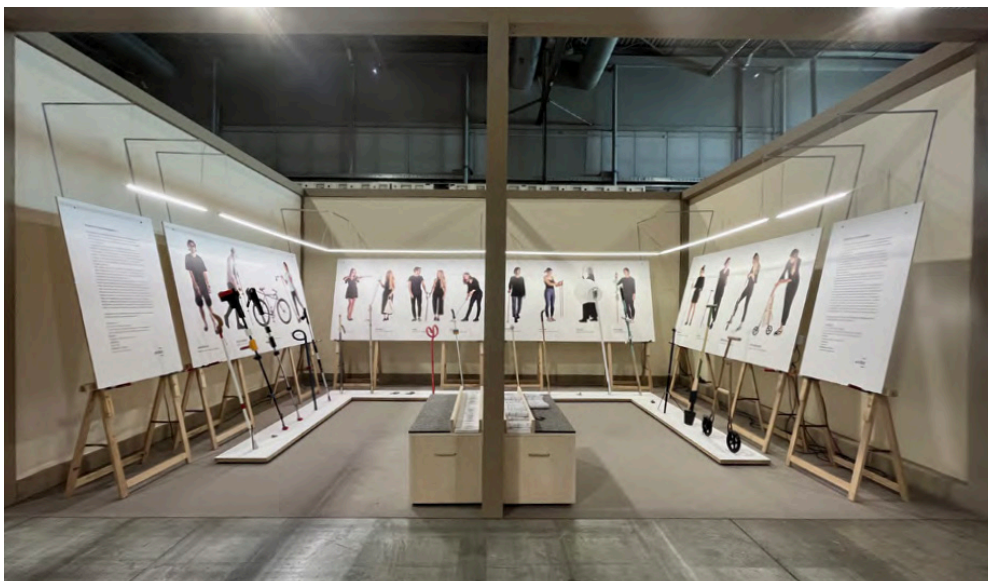
*IAUD International Design Award 2021*  
*Universal Design GOLD Award 2022*  
*Universal Design EXPERT Award 2022*

**unibz**

The “Bastoni” were exhibited at the Grassmesse in Leipzig in October 2021, at the MCBW in Munich in May 2022 and at the Salone Satellite – Salone Internazionale del Mobile in Milan in June of the same year. The crowning glory for a project is, of course, a design award: and “Bastoni” was awarded with the 2021 International Design Award in Tokyo by the IAUD (International Association for Universal Design) for “the outstanding achievement of BASTONI – 16 interventions of modern walking”, as well as by the IUD - Institute of Universal Design with the Gold-Award 2022 and the Expert-Award 2022.



Bastoni at Munich creative Business week, May 2022



Bastoni at Salone Satellite - Salone Internazionale del Mobile, Milan, June 2022