

VINCENZO DE COTIIS

ARCHAEOLOGY OF CONSCIOUSNESS

LONDON | 10 OCTOBER – 28 JANUARY





Vincenzo De Cotiis was born in 1958 in Gonzaga, Italy. He studied architecture at the Politecnico di Milano and founded his studio in 1997. Considered a pioneer of the contemporary collectible design scene, De Cotiis creates one-of-a-kind and limited-edition projects by hand in his atelier. Select works are available through Carpenters Workshop Gallery, an artist's gallery in Milan, and at leading global design fairs.

As an architect De Cotiis creates sculptural spaces that evoke physical and intellectual experiences on the cusp of art and architecture, defying traditional categorisation between artistic disciplines. A fertile dialogue between the old and the new is a cornerstone of his work; history breaks free into spaces where the line between past and future blends. Vincenzo De Cotiis seeks new manifestations that can conflate archaic idioms with futuristic expressions. His creations are born out of an assembly of recovered materials and reflective, futuristic surfaces and appear evocative in their final form. A form of art and design that is not replicable. His work represents a winding path that often doubles back upon itself, one fuelled by parallelisms of space and time, cultural layering and quantum leaps. A process imperceptible to reason and intellect yet manifested through the materiality of his countless works.

VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→](#) VIEW ONLINE

DC2329
2022

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted
Recycled Fiberglass
55 x 70 x 30 cm
21 5/8 x 27 1/2 x 11 3/4 in

Unique

Vincenzo de Cotiis' artworks include a temporal aspect that speaks to both past and future simultaneously. *Archaeology of Consciousness* is a series realised as a contemporary ruin, with each artwork positioned as an archaeological artefact from the future. Combining materials like black onyx and fiberglass, as seen in *DC2329*, De Cotiis artificially processes their surfaces to imbue them with a condensed history, communicated through the textures of each finished piece. This indicates a future where nature has acted upon, interpreted, and transformed each work in this collection.





VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

UNTITLED 43
2022

Hand-Painted Recycled
Fiberglass, Rhodonite
60 x 120 x 50 cm
23 5/8 x 47 1/4 x 19 3/4 in

Unique

Untitled 43 is a unique sculpture from Vincenzo de Cotiis' new collection *Archaeology of Consciousness*. The piece combines rhodonite stone with hand-painted fibreglass, imperceptibly joining the two materials into one arched structure that symbolically links the natural and human worlds. De Cotiis chose Rhodonite stone for its rich pink colour scheme, and the reclaimed fibreglass elements for their versatility and specifically industrial associations contrasted against the natural stone.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

DC2325
2022

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted
Recycled Fiberglass
55 x 180 x 45 cm
21 5/8 x 70 7/8 x 17 3/4 in

Unique

DC2325 deconstructs the architectural function of the arch, reinterpreting its structural, aesthetic and historic value. Deliberately unlike the forms of idealised, neo-classical arches, *Archaeology of Consciousness* presents the arch as a vestige of a future civilisation separate from our own human timeline. The low form of *DC2325* suggests it is a partially rediscovered relic, not yet fully uncovered from the ground, with the idea of historic sediment built up over time signified in its layered and striped colour scheme.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

DC2323
2023

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted
Recycled Fiberglass
75 x 195 x 75 cm
29 1/2 x 76 3/4 x 29 1/2 in

Unique

The idea of the arch infers a sensation of transition or passage beyond the mundane, towards the ancestral and heavenly. *DC2323* encapsulates such a transition, resonating with allusions to both past and future. Black onyx and hand-painted fibreglass are layered together to expose material variations on both sides of the curved piece.





VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

UNTITLED 49
2022

Hand-Painted Recycled
Fiberglass, Rhodonite
245 x 135 x 80 cm
96 1/2 x 53 1/8 x 31 1/2 in

Unique

Vincenzo de Cotiis deconstructs and deforms the venerated notion of an arch as a perfectly conceived structure, prioritising a strong sculptural presence above symmetry and balance. *Untitled 49* is a unique sculptural object. Its vaulted form invites a journey through it, symbolising a passage through both time and space. Constructed of rare pink rhodonite stone joined with hand-painted fibreglass, it exudes an unearthly charisma.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

DC2322
2023

White Bronze, Black Onyx,
Hand-Painted Recycled Fiberglass
75 x 360 x 107 cm
29 1/2 x 141 3/4 x 42 1/8 in

Unique

Archeology of Consciousness is a journey through layers of history, a discovery of forms and structures within the sediments of the past, and an exploration of their decay over time. Vincenzo De Cotiis expresses the passing of time through physically weathering his materials by hand, seen in the white cast bronze and antiqued silver of *DC2322*, or by using ancient geological materials such as onyx stone, representative of eternity, which balances the contemporary nature of the work.





VINCENZO DE COTIIS

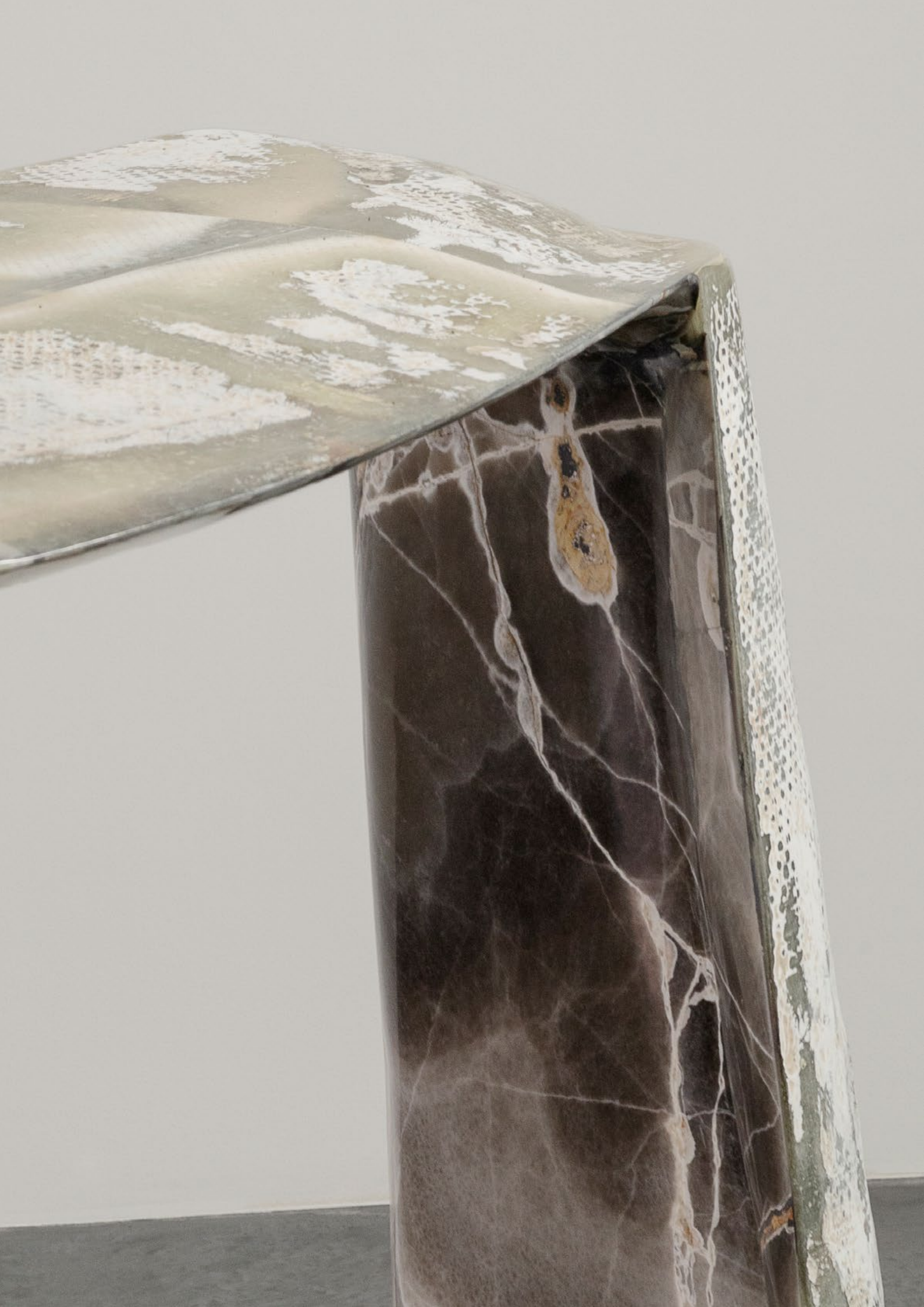
[→](#) VIEW ONLINE

DC2324
2023

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted
Recycled Fiberglass
75 x 150 x 60 cm
29 1/2 x 59 x 23 5/8 in

Unique

The ubiquity of arches across global civilisations means that as structures they form direct links between historic cultures. Architecturally and symbolically, they intersect many strands of human artistic ingenuity. To express the scope of this importance, Vincenzo de Cotiis' sculptures stand as objects removed from time, as representations of all that has gone before and will after them.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→](#) VIEW ONLINE

DC2326
2023

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted Recycled
Fiberglass, Murano Cast Glass
68 x 80 x 49 cm
26 3/4 x 31 1/2 x 19 1/4 in

Unique

In *DC2326*, Vincenzo de Cotiis resolves the temporal dissonance of his chosen materials into one uninterrupted object. Onyx is an ancient mineral, whereas Murano glass and fibreglass are inextricably linked with modern human production. Working with a selection of materials from the breadth of history is important to De Cotiis to feel the full spectrum of what is contemporary and what is ancient, not just stylistically but physically.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

DC2327
2023

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted Recycled
Fiberglass, Murano Cast Glass
60 x 67 x 34 cm
23 5/8 x 26 3/8 x 13 3/8 in

Unique

The curve of *DC2327* forms half an archway, a continuation of Vincenzo de Cotiis' deconstruction of the concept of the arch in his collection *Archaeology of Consciousness*. It seems delicately balanced, whereas in reality De Cotiis has maintained its function as a load-bearing structure even in its fixed state of incompleteness.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→](#) VIEW ONLINE

DC2328
2023

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted
Recycled Fiberglass
58 x 90 x 43 cm
22 7/8 x 35 3/8 x 16 7/8 in

Unique

The crystal veins and mineral variations that run through the onyx of *DC2328* contrast with the hand-processed patina Vincenzo de Cotiis has inferred on its fibreglass elements. In this way, these marks are signifiers of each material's creation over time, albeit one natural and one artificial.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→](#) VIEW ONLINE

UNTITLED 41
2022

Hand-Painted Recycled Fiberglass, Murano
Cast Glass, Rhodonite
70 x 40 x 40 cm
27 1/2 x 15 3/4 x 15 3/4 IN

Unique

Untitled 41 demonstrates Vincenzo De Cotiis' singular ability to synchronise many materials into one organism. The unique vessel is fashioned from pink rhodonite, Murano glass and fibreglass, using an alternating composition of opacity and translucency to explore each component. Its angular form resembles shards of these materials blended into one.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

UNTITLED 57
2023

Hand-Painted Recycled Fiberglass,
Murano Glass, Rhodonite
58 x 56 x 50 cm
22 7/8 x 22 x 19 3/4 in

Unique

Vincenzo De Cotiis counterbalances the use of black onyx throughout the *Archaeology of Consciousness* with the crystalline pink of rhodonite, another geologically ancient mineral. The ethereal stone is seen in *Untitled 57*, combined with fibreglass hand-painted in similar tones, and Murano glass. For De Cotiis, this material combination is optimised to explore light's interplay across their varied surfaces.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

UNTITLED 69
2023

Black Onyx, Hand-Painted Recycled
Fiberglass, Murano Cast Glass
225 x 80 x 40 cm
88 5/8 x 31 1/2 x 15 3/4 in

Unique

The idea of the arch embodies strength and perfection. Seen throughout the architecture of the ancient Italian, Greek and Islamic worlds, arches have since transcended their original structural functions and have achieved sculptural and aesthetic qualities in their own right.

Untitled 69 presents a deconstructed arch, with only one half left standing. Removed of its functional heritage, the screen of black onyx, fibreglass and Murano glass operates vertically as a bridge between the heavenly and earthly realms.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→](#) VIEW ONLINE

UNTITLED 70
2023

Hand-Painted Recycled Fiberglass,
Murano Glass, Rhodonite
62 x 45 x 43 cm
24 3/8 x 17 3/4 x 16 7/8 in

Unique

Archeology of Consciousness is a journey through layers of history, a discovery of forms and structures within the sediments of the past, and an exploration of their decay over time. Vincenzo de Cotiis expresses these themes through the idealised concept of the arch. He fragments this structure, as seen in *Untitled 70*, projecting classical and artificial elements onto the object.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→](#) VIEW ONLINE

DC2330
2023

Cast White Bronze, Black Onyx
41 x 170 x 160 cm
16 1/8 x 66 7/8 x 63 in

Unique

Vincenzo de Cotiis looks both into the past and future when creating. He is deeply motivated by a preservation impulse, which involves rediscovering truths from the past and truths from within his own person, and embodying them in objects that will endure into the future. In choosing materials such as bronze, silver and onyx, and combining them together so seamlessly, De Cotiis prepares his artworks to become archaeological rediscoveries of the future, able to survive millennia underground, and arise with the same contemporary significance they exude now.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

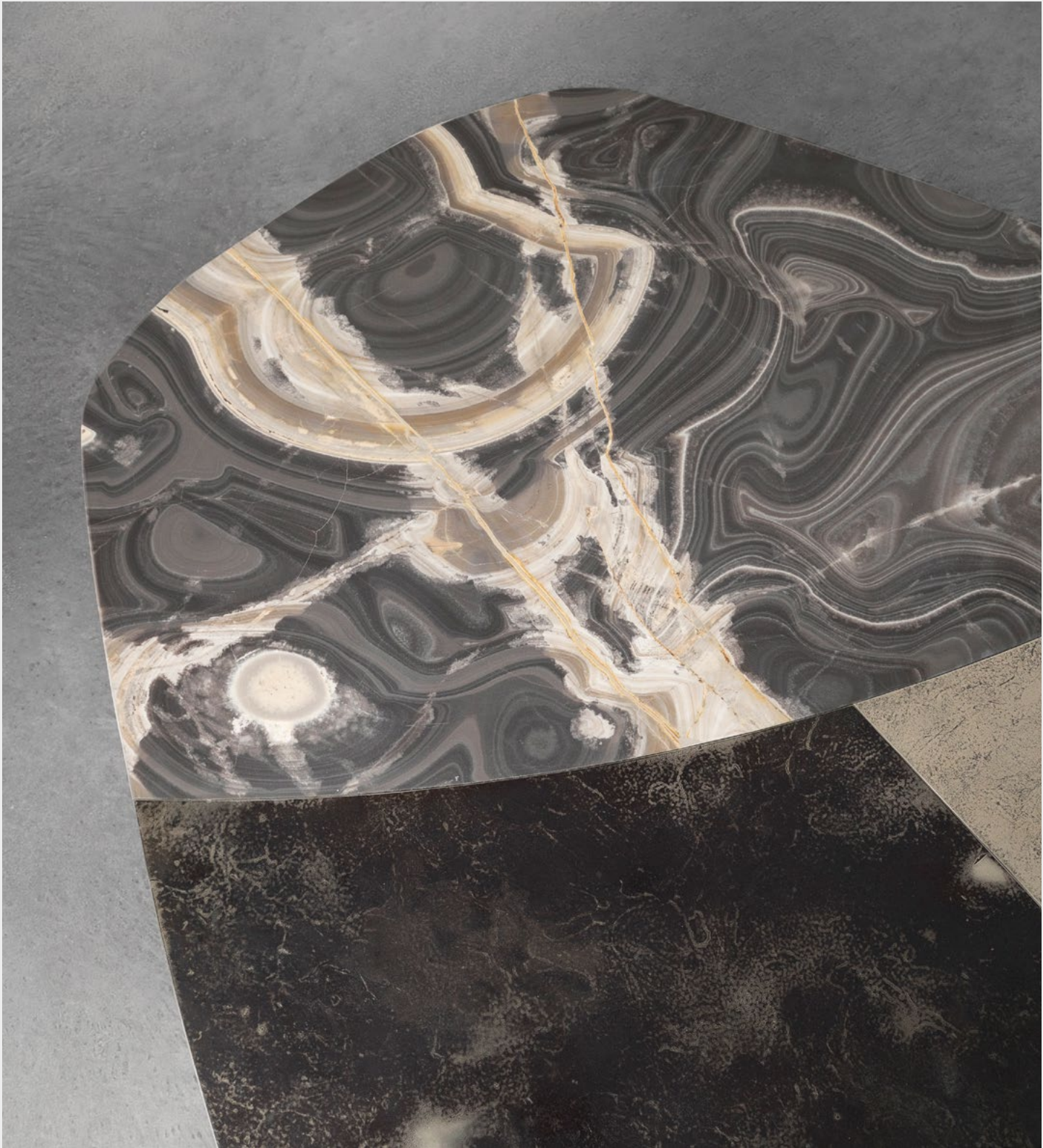
[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

DC2331
2023

Cast White Bronze, Black Onyx,
Recycled Fiberglass
38 x 190 x 110 cm
15 x 74 3/4 x 43 1/4 in

Unique

Vincenzo de Cotiis deals with time in a non-linear fashion. The artworks in the exhibition *Archaeology of Consciousness* are positioned as fragments of contemporary objects excavated from a future timeline. As the process of archaeology never reveals a complete picture of history, so too do these artworks reveal only fragments of truths from the artist's mind. The dark hues of black onyx, fibreglass and bronze of *DC2331* hint at its subterranean history.



VINCENZO DE COTIIS

[→ VIEW ONLINE](#)

UNTITLED 71
2023

Black Onyx, Cast Murano Glass,
Recycled Hand-Painted Fiberglass
50 x 40 x 40 cm
19 3/4 x 15 3/4 x 15 3/4 in

Unique

Vincenzo de Cotiis looks at parallel timelines of human history - of architecture, art, material discovery - and collapses these linear narratives in on themselves. In this way his artworks become singularities, atomic expressions of condensed expressions, ideas and forms. The arched structure *Untitled 71* references many strands of these histories in its curved structure, its strong use of Murano glass imbuing the work with an inherent appreciation of expert craftsmanship.



