



**TOMASO BUZZI MASTERWORK 1930  
TRIENNALE OF MODERN DECORATIVE  
ARTS MONZA, ITALY**

**\$425,000**

---

**SKU:** N/A

**Categories:** [Credenzas, Sideboards,](#)  
[Servers, Storage](#)

**GALLERY IMAGES**





### PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Early and important Tomaso Buzzi dining room server cabinet embellished with ornately detailed marquetry depicting the entrance to the 'Bosphorus Straits'. The artwork is an imaginative rendition of one of the most economically and geopolitically important locations on the planet, namely, the vital trade route between East and West through the ancient city port of Constantinople or modern-day Istanbul. The piece reflects the influences of various historic Empires in the region, including Egypt in North Africa to the North West, and The Greek and Roman Empires to the North East, and the Turks to the East. The scene portrays a time when countless battles occurred in these provinces in order to control the flow of Maritime trade between the Continents of the Northeastern Hemisphere and The Orient or the Far East, along the 'silk road'. The illustration includes numerous architectural icons including the Pyramids of Giza, Roman Colosseums, Roman Aqueducts, Greek Acropolis style buildings, The Galata Tower, The Obelisk of Theodosius, Rumelifeneri Castle, and The Blue Mosque of Istanbul amongst others. A variety of seafaring vessels, marine life, and geological landmarks are also included in the panorama.

This masterwork was executed by Buzzi during his tenure at the school of arts and crafts in Sao Paulo Brazil in the late 1920s. This was during the time he joined the "Novecento Milanese" Group and began to collaborate with Gio Ponti on the newly developed Design Magazine, Domus. The cabinet was showcased as a centerpiece in the 8th Triennale of Modern Decorative Arts in Monza, Italy in 1930. It is well documented and retains the original brass plaque from the Institutional Authority of the Arts in Brazil. A copy of a promotional postcard from the exhibition signed by Buzzi and featuring this cabinet is part of the Buzzi Archive.

Crafted from indigenous Brazilian hardwoods 1928-1929.

A very special piece.

Good condition, minor losses. minor fading. Please contact seller for full condition report.

---

#### *About the Designer*

### TOMASO BUZZI

Architect, urban planner, glass, furniture and landscape designer, and interior decorator — Tomaso Buzzi was a 20th-century renaissance man. Buzzi, along with his frequent collaborator Gio Ponti, led Italy's Novecento Milanese movement of the 1920s and '30s — an approximate equivalent to France's Art Deco movement. While Buzzi is prized for chairs, tables and other furnishings that modernized the majestic lines of 18th-century designs, he is best known for the remarkable, jewel-toned glassware he produced in a two-year stint as the artistic director of the Venini glassworks on the Venetian island of Murano. Buzzi was born in 1900 in the town of Sondrio in the Lombardy region

of northern Italy. He studied at the Milan Polytechnic, and soon after he graduated joined a lively Milanese decorative arts scene. In 1927, he and Ponti joined fellow designers Paolo Venini and Michele Marelli to form a design collaborative called Il Labirinto (the Labyrinth), Italy's answer to the Wiener Werkstätte. In 1932, when Venini's glass company lost the design services of the sculptor Napoleone Martinuzzi, who left to start his own factory, he turned to Buzzi. The young architect's careful study of lighting design and a love for experimentation yielded major innovations in Murano glass fixtures. The forms of his wares were inspired by sources from antiquity as diverse as Persian urns and animal-shaped Etruscan jugs. Buzzi developed a complex glass-layering method that produced deep, glowing pastel colors that ran from pink to peach, to sea-green and slate blue. Buzzi furniture has a noteworthy elegance and nobility. Delicate chairs with arrow-shaped backs and elaborate burlled wood armoires are typical of his aesthetic, and would add a sophisticated note to any room, modern or traditional. And an exemplary piece of Buzzi's vibrant, lustrous glassware would merit a place of honor in every design collection.