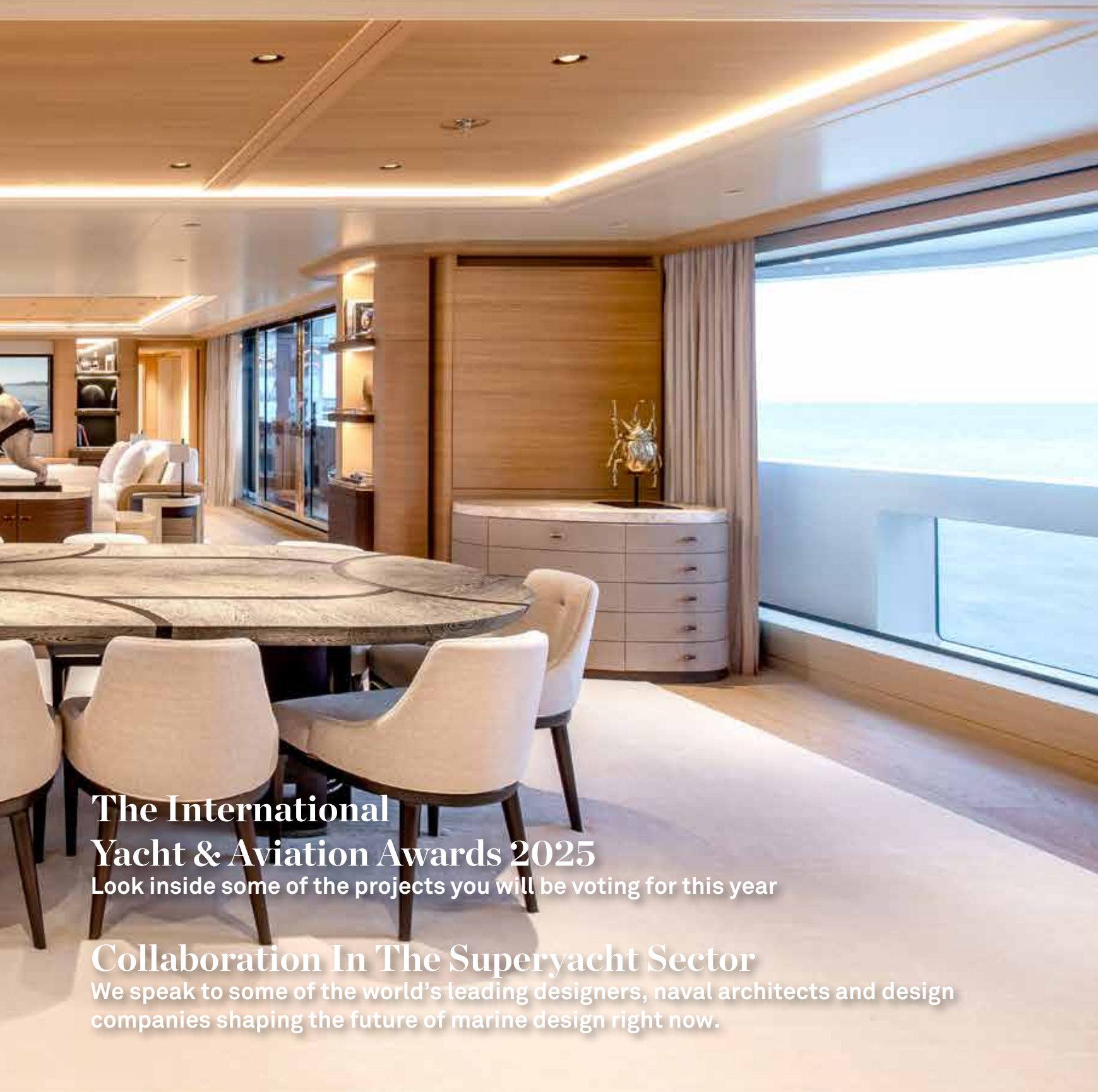


LUXE ET AL

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The International Yacht & Aviation Awards 2025

Look inside some of the projects you will be voting for this year

Collaboration In The Superyacht Sector

We speak to some of the world's leading designers, naval architects and design companies shaping the future of marine design right now.

Gian Paolo Nari

Architect Yacht Designer

Gian Paolo Nari Yacht Design



“Yacht design excites me because it allows for endless creativity. Inspiration can come from anywhere – nature, music, or even other forms of design. There is no limit to what you can achieve...”

Explain briefly your background in design and your current role.

I have a classical background as a civil architect, having studied at the University of Florence, Italy. However, my interest in yachting design began early in my career. During my thesis, I collaborated with a shipyard on a 45-meter yacht project, which ignited my passion for the maritime industry. After completing my studies, I worked with various engineering companies, such as Meccano Engineering in northern Italy, where I merged the precision of engineering with the beauty of yacht design. Over time, I collaborated with renowned names like Benetti and Fincantieri. In 2008, I decided to establish my own studio, continuing to work with shipyards and companies, and eventually began contributing to the design world through my role as a freelance journalist for Lux Media Group, where I covered luxury yachts and yachts design across multiple international publications.

What projects are you currently working on?

At the moment, I am involved in the design of several yachts, including a 60-meter vessel. I continue to develop my passion for expedition yachts, which was the focus of my work when I started in this field. I'm also exploring the intersection of space exploration and yachting design. My interest in space was further fuelled after attending the last International Astronautical Congress in Milan, Italy, and I'm currently working on incorporating innovative materials and technologies from both sectors. This fusion of yachting and astronautical design is an exciting venture that pushes boundaries.

How do you see the future of yacht design evolving?

The future of yacht design will be shaped by two key factors: sustainability and technological advancement. As we face growing environmental concerns, sustainability will play an increasingly important role in yacht design, with advances in eco-friendly materials

and energy-efficient technologies. Additionally, the integration of smart technologies and automation will redefine the way we interact with yachts. The sector will likely continue to evolve towards more sustainable solutions, but it is important to balance this with the desire for classic aesthetics and luxury.

The collaboration between different industries, such as yachting and space exploration, is also a fascinating avenue for innovation. In space, sustainability is already an integral part of the conversation, and I believe this can inspire new approaches in the yachting industry. As new fuel alternatives like hydrogen and methanol gain traction, yacht designers will need to adapt to ensure their designs align with these advancements, both in terms of functionality and aesthetic appeal.

What excites you about working in yacht design?

Yacht design excites me because it allows for endless creativity. Inspiration can come from anywhere – nature, music, or even other forms of design. There is no limit to what you can achieve, and sometimes the best ideas appear spontaneously. Since I was young, I have always enjoyed the process of designing things that inspire me. Yachting, in particular, is a sector that brings together the beauty of art with the precision of engineering. It's a dynamic field that challenges me to think innovatively while staying grounded in practical requirements.