



AGAPE OPEN DAYS 2025 – SYSTEMS THINKING

“A SYSTEM IS MORE THAN THE SUM OF ITS PARTS.”

DONELLA MEADOWS – *THINKING IN SYSTEMS: A PRIMER* (2008)

Agape dedicates the 2025 edition of its annual Open Days event to the theme, **Systems Thinking**. Emerging in the 1970s as an antidote to the fragmentation of knowledge, systems thinking proposes a shift of perspective: from the isolated object to the interactions that link it to other elements, generating a larger, evolving whole. For Agape, this has always been the natural way of approaching design.

Since its foundation, the bathroom has never been conceived as a random collection of objects, but as a unified project—an environment where functions, materials, and architectures are interconnected. This systemic vision has given rise to a series of composable systems—from *Erion* to *Makerio*, from *Flat* to *Lato*, from *Barralibera* to *Evo 21*, up to the new *Craft*—tools designed to manage the complexity of daily life with clarity and adaptability.

At Agape, a system is never reduced to pure industrial seriality. Instead, it occupies a dynamic balance between standardization and individuality: precise, replicable elements that invite infinite reinterpretations and new combinations. It is a vision deeply resonant with the work of Angelo Mangiarotti, who transformed a structural joint into a generative principle. In this tradition, Agape now presents **Craft**, the new composable system that was introduced for the first time at Milan Design Week 2024.

Craft is not a closed model but a living organism, adaptable to different contexts. From a compact freestanding island paired with the new round Immersion bathtub, to a wall-mounted configuration clad in Palissandro Indiano and Calacatta Viola marbles, to a full Carrara marble version integrating the Litorale washbasin, *Craft* demonstrates its ability to articulate diverse architectural narratives.

Other catalogue novelties reinforce this systemic approach. The new round **Immersion** explores more compact rituals of bathing while maintaining sensory depth. Marco Zito's **Massicci** basins turn cast glass into luminous monoliths. Patricia Urquiola's **Cenote** family expands with a new ø45 countertop basin in solid surface, while her **Bloque** system adds enclosed storage. Marco Carini's **Rendez-vous** screen introduces modularity on a vertical plane, filtering and defining space with lightness. Each element is part of a shared design grammar that makes the catalogue not a static inventory, but a living repertoire.



The exhibition accompanying Open Days 2025 is structured into six thematic sections: four are dedicated to Agape's composable systems—Craft, Evo, Lato, and Flat—while the two flanking sections focus respectively on Agape's fifty-two-year history and on the work of Angelo Mangiarotti.

Together, they trace the evolution of a systemic design approach that connects architecture, materials, and objects through rules, modularity, performance, sustainability, and personalization.

The expanded Bosco gardens will host Sei, a new pavilion designed in collaboration with Effe and Cesare Roversi, as both space and system: a modular architecture linking inside and outside, nature and construction, wellbeing and ritual. Sei embodies the extension of systems thinking from product to space, opening pathways to new forms of adaptability.

Agape Open Days 2025 thus go beyond the introduction of new products. They reaffirm a way of thinking: to design in systems is to accept that no object is ever an end in itself, but part of an ecosystem of relationships, functions, and possibilities. As Gregory Bateson once observed, it means “perceiving the connections that make a whole vital”—turning every project into a living node within a broader and ever-evolving network.