

Berlin Report

September 2025

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1. Al Bocconcino

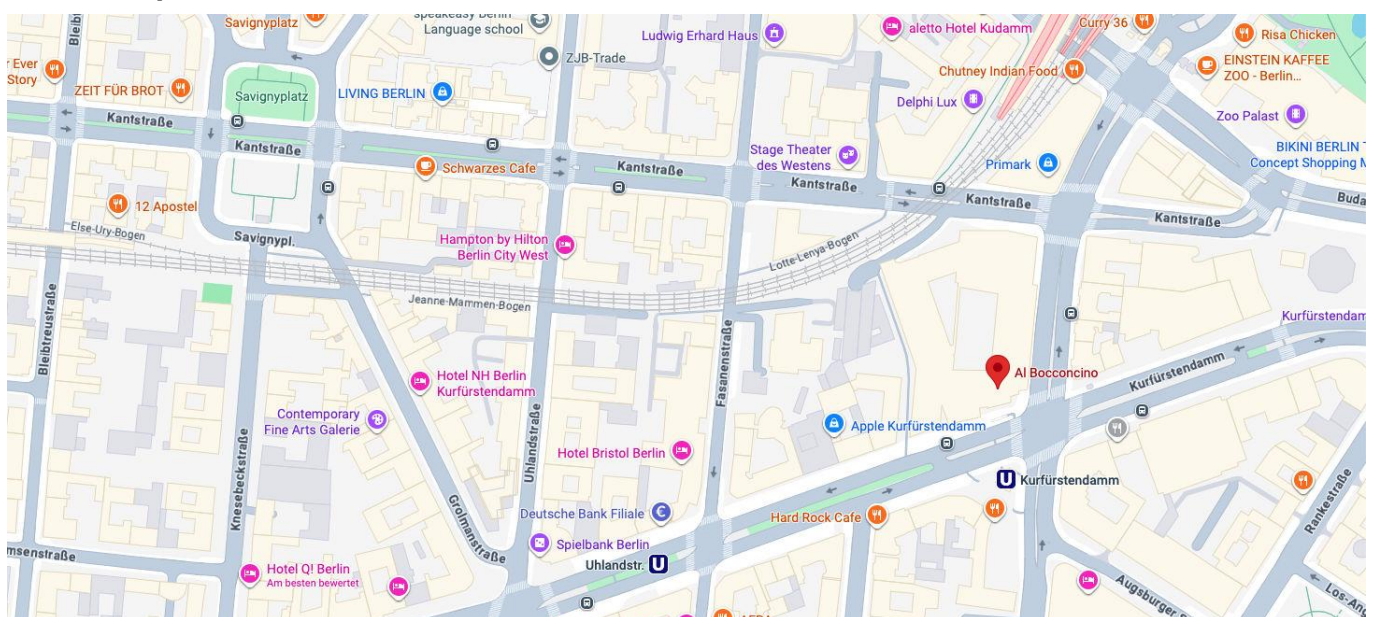
Project Overview

Al Bocconcino, named after the Italian term for “bite-sized,” is a newly opened Italian restaurant on Berlin's main boulevard, Kurfürstendamm. Operated by the EL&N café group—well known in London for its Instagram-worthy interiors—the space was originally intended to be a café. Given its location among luxury brand flagship stores, however, the concept evolved into upscale Italian dining, and the interior was redesigned accordingly, adopting an elegant Art Deco style in line with current trends. Stepping through the small entrance facing the boulevard reveals a world of dark green and pink. The geometric black-and-white patterned floor tiles make a striking impression, while the walls feature paintings by a young Ukrainian artist that echo the same pink and green hues. Though the space is narrow and windowless, mirrors arranged like windows create a sense of openness. Beyond the bar—anchored by a 7-meter-long artificial stone counter—lies a bright space that opens onto the park, where sofas and stools in varying shades of pink are placed. Murals and maple trees add deeper red accents, while round brass lamps combined with brightly colored artificial stone used for the floors and tables complete an interior that feels both photogenic and luxurious.

Project Details

1. Client: Al Bocconcino
2. Type of Business: Gastronomie
3. Open Date: 15.07.2025
4. Location: Kurfürstendamm 20, 10719 Berlin
5. Size: 200 seats
6. Interior: inhouse, kachanow interior / Artwork: Murals Lena Kachanova
7. Website: <https://alboconcino.de/>

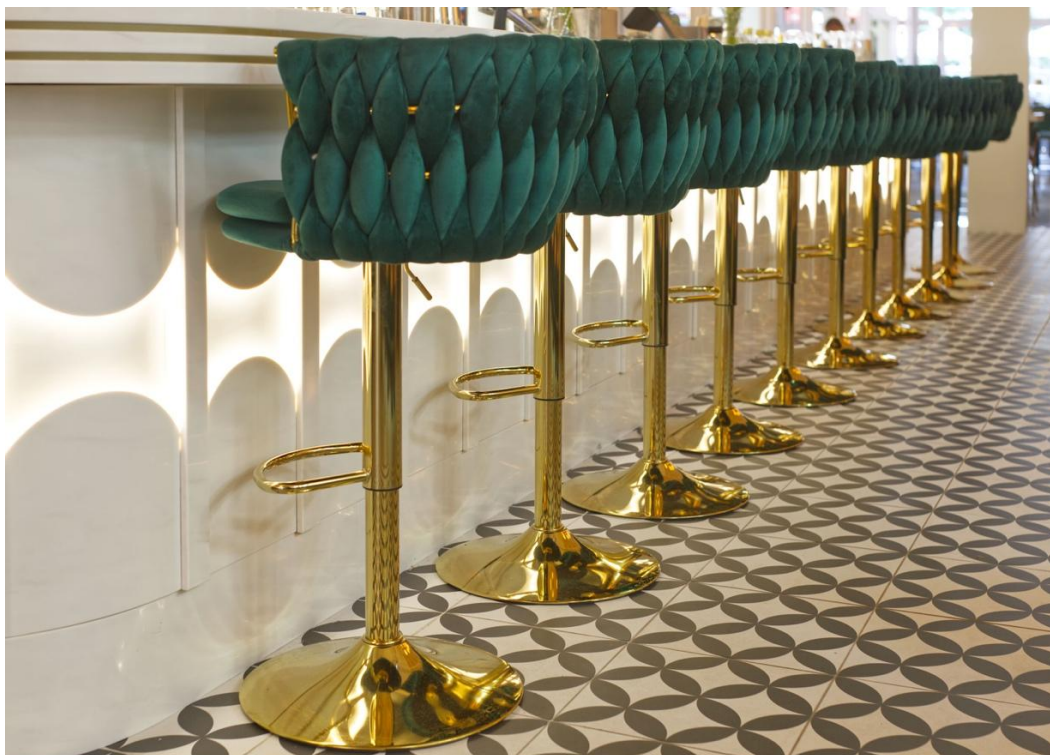
Location Map





Above: A large mural spanning 50 square meters covers the entire wall. A bright space facing the park. **Below:** Mirrors, paintings, and ball lamps evoke the atmosphere of a 1920s café.





Above: A 7-meter-long counter lined with graphic bar stools in velour and quilted finishes. **Below:** Spherical lamps add rhythm and movement to the space.



2. Alchemia

Project Overview

In 1976, the avant-garde design collective Studio Alchimia was founded in Milan by Alessandro Guerriero, Bruno Gregori, and others. If the Bauhaus was a groundbreaking force in early 20th-century European design, then Alchimia can be said to have marked a major turning point that shaped the latter half of the century. Its illustrious members included Alessandro Mendini, Ettore Sottsass, and Andrea Branzi. The first major retrospective of this movement was recently held at Berlin's Bröhan Museum.

True to its name, reminiscent of medieval alchemists, Studio Alchimia deliberately sought to create beauty from inexpensive materials. Rejecting the functional, mass-production-oriented design that had dominated since the Bauhaus era, they proposed a provocative and individualistic aesthetic using garish colors and artificial materials. They emphasized "sentimental thinking" and "love and magic" in creation—an ethos vividly reflected in the exhibition's scenography.

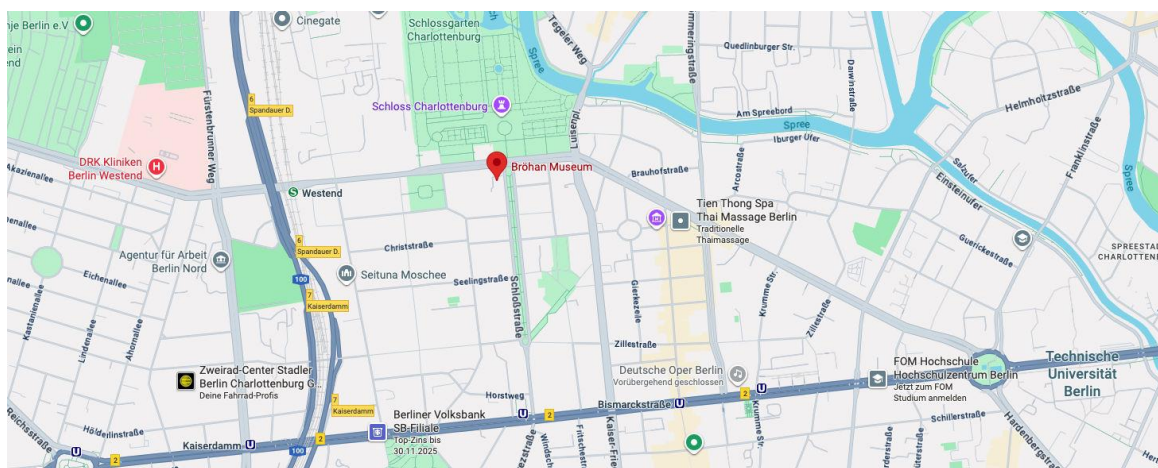
Display stands in the colorful exhibition space tilt and indent, while pictures protrude from the walls. Some corners feature randomly placed cylinders covered in pop lettering or mirrored finishes, while others present sketches rendered in three dimensions, as if drawings had leapt into reality. The entire exhibition space itself feels like a work of Studio Alchimia.

In recent years, the revival of 1980s culture in fashion, film, music, and beyond has been unmistakable. This exhibition makes clear that Alchimia's designs—embodying the essence of that decade—remain a powerful force today.

Project Details

1. Client: BRÖHAN MUSEUM
2. Type of Business: Exhibition
3. Open Date: 17.04. - 07.09.2025
4. Location: Schlossstrasse 1a, 14059 Berlin
6. Scenography: Kathleen Arthen
7. Website: <https://www.broehan-museum.de/>

Location Map





Above: The *Proust Sofa* designed by Alessandro Mendini. **Below:** Mendini's *Otto* series, showcasing bold 1980s-inspired design.





Above: *Carlton*, a shelf designed by Ettore Sottsass in 1981. **Below:** A corner installation featuring a three-dimensional interpretation of the sketch *Bauhaus*.





What appears to be an art object is, in fact, clothing. The display stand itself features indentations that echo the artwork.

