



"We create and produce high-quality, ethical Italian natural yarns and fabrics for fashion, design, and any work that engages with a sustainable economy."

Mauro Vismara, founder of Maeko

With longstanding experience, Maeko is a dynamic and innovative company that looks to the future while preserving past traditions and revitalizing craftsmanship.

"Our goal is not to become big but to be a strong, solid, and humane reality, pursuing a different business model that reflects our personalities and our values. We do not want to accumulate; we prefer to evolve and invest in projects we believe in, building work families," explains Cinzia, co-founder of Maeko alongside Mauro.

We technically support companies from the project to the finished product, recommending the most suitable solutions to achieve their goals.

Companies and designers who aim to stand out with exclusive creations produced in Italy and that last over time, combining quality with the ethics of respecting natural rules, turn to us.

We want every client to uniquely tell their own story of excellence and sustainability through our eco-friendly fibers accessible to everyone, in small or large quantities.

Custom Yarns

With a broad portfolio of natural fibers, we at Maeko are able to create tailor-made high-quality yarns of preferential Italian origin. We try to purchase our fibers from places that guarantee traceability by choosing suppliers that can offer us guarantees on the processing and the fair and sustainable treatment of employees because transparency is one of our main values.

Hemp, nettle, soy, crabyon, bamboo, linen, organic cotton, certified silk and burette, milk fiber, yak wool, sheep's wool, Italian alpaca and goat, pineapple, and lotus are currently our natural fibers with which we can create blends or spin them pure.

"Mauro sits with you to choose the materials. Working with four hands, he mixes fibers from our portfolio or provided by you to give rise to an exclusive and high-performance yarn. We start with small amounts of fiber around 30 - 40 kg, allowing artisan realities of any size to create unique and quality creations according to their needs," says Cinzia.

In the art of building the fabric, Maeko involves excellent realities to weave noble and unique fibers, combining high quality with craftsmanship.

From the intertwining of the warp and weft threads, a wide range of shuttle fabrics is created, on looms that ensure the right balance between machine processing times and thread tension, thus favoring an excellent process for fabric production, especially for high-quality hemp. We also produce jersey fabrics, with circular looms for knitting fabric production. Our weaving processes respect and enhance both human and natural capital.

Dyeing

In Como, we dye in adherence to the REACH regulations and, upon request, use GOTS-certified dyes. We perform cold dyeing at 30° with a low environmental impact maltinto effect. Our dyeing services allow treating and dyeing shuttle grey fabrics, jerseys, yarns on cones, and in skein. We dye small samples and, with the same care, manage true dyeing productions.

We are able to support companies and designers in multiple stages, from choosing fibers for spinning, to weaving, in the dye house, and if necessary, concluding with the appropriate textile finishing.

"We believe in the land and its natural resources, we believe in hands, in craftsmanship, and in preserving the know-how, enhancing the natural characteristics of each fiber to create high-quality, ethical, and made-in-Italy yarns and fabrics."

We believe in the land. We choose natural fibers with respect for the environment. An example is our MAEKO 4.0 project, which has its roots in the land as a source of resources: Mauro, driven by his inexhaustible passion and a good dose of madness, has embarked on the very ambitious realization of the idea of restarting the agricultural-industrial production of hemp and nettle for textile use in Italy.

We are artisans; we create with our hands and value the know-how. We commit ourselves to restarting Italian craftsmanship that is part of our culture, our manual skills, and how we live.

We believe in preserving ancient knowledge. We wish to protect a heritage of knowledge that is part of our country and the manufacturing traditions of the Italian textile sector.

"In 2019, we acquired a company with precious historical traditions: the Manifattura Filarte in Biella," recalls Cinzia. "Until then, it had been masterfully carried forward by a family that had worked there for two generations with the precision of clockwork, a perfect and valuable mechanism." Maeko has decided to keep the entire Filarte team on its staff so that they can continue to work, giving continuity and merit to a tradition capable of shaping our new projects.

We believe in traditions that write the future. "Maeko passes on and guards for future generations ancient knowledge without giving up on innovation," explains Mauro. We always explore new solutions regarding fibers and in relation to production processes. We indeed seek and introduce new fibers, such as those of lotus and pineapple recently added to our portfolio. We search for small traditional Italian farms that can provide high-quality wool products at zero kilometers, involving them in the use of wools in the context of modern and responsible spinning.

We believe in the unique stories of our clients. We aim to enrich the final creations of our clients by standing beside them to create an eco-friendly product tailored to their story, distinguishing it in the market. We believe in transparency. We are an open and clear company for our clients. It is possible to directly know our processes, from spinning to fabric creation to dyeing, by visiting our activity sites to see our way of working in person. We believe in excellence accessible to everyone. In our view, products of excellence and their customization

should be accessible to everyone, without the constraints of large quantities, to allow artisan realities of every size to express their creativity and meet the technical needs of the projects they design. We believe in well-being for the environment, for the people who work, and for the consumers. Maeko chooses an ethical approach to products and processes. Our fibers are produced in respect for nature. Our ethical commitment is constant, it respects people and aims to create a humane and family-oriented work environment. We wish to contribute to realizing eco-compatible ideas of designers and fashion houses. An example is the project for which Vivienne Westwood chose us: for her, we created hemp and mulesing-free wool yarns, dyed them, and based on her Tartan design, we produced her magnificent Italian fabric.



Maeko's Story in Brief

Maeko was founded in 1998 driven by Mauro Vismara's passion for hemp fiber. He decided to permanently leave his osteopathy profession to pursue his strong interest in natural textiles and unleash his entrepreneurial spirit.

The activity began in weaving, with the rental of looms, and since then, it has never stopped. "It was a challenging time for the sector, and Mauro helped get some looms back in operation for weaving hemp, which have been working for Maeko for over twenty years."

Determined to offer interesting novelties to a sector eager for alternatives like fashion, Mauro studies, understands, and interprets yarns to create new and valuable fabrics using natural resources ethically.

He did not stop at fabric production; in 2012, he acquired a small, well-established industrial dye house in Bregnano (Como), to also provide all the necessary dyeing services to complete the processes useful for the production of finished fabrics.

In 2014, he launched the ambitious MAEKO 4.0 project together with farmer Andrea Cocca, with whom Mauro aspires, with passion and determination, to rebuild the hemp and nettle supply chain in Italy. Starting from organic plantations already active in San Mauro Pascoli, the cultivation of about 40 hectares for textile use began. Obtaining good fiber to use as a starting point in our production line is the true mission of Maeko.

In 2019, with the enormous enthusiasm that Mauro always puts into projects he strongly believes in, he acquired a historic combed wool spinning mill, the Manifattura Filarte in Quaregna (Biella), which has become an integral part of Maeko's artisanal operation. A realized desire that contributes to the conservation of part of the heritage of knowledge, culture, and manufacturing tradition of our country's textile sector.