ALESSI TEA SERVICE

Client: Alessi
Completion: 1980

This project for Alessi involved the design of a silver tea set whose iconographic content derives from form and pattern. As in many of VSBA’s decorative arts projects, each piece contains riffs on -- but not slavish reproductions of -- historical precedents. We designed this set to include a Rococo coffee pot, a Queen Anne teapot, a Neo-Classical sugar bowl, and an Art Nouveau cream pitcher.

This tea and coffee service is a part of a series commissioned by Alessi for designs from several notable architects. Of these, incidentally, ours is one of the few sets that’s fully functional, including handles and spouts.

Robert Venturi’s sketches