

## **DOCTORAL DISSERTATION SUMMARY**

**TITLE: “OBRA DEL DISEÑADOR MIGUEL MILÁ”**

**AUTHOR: Francisco Gaspar Quevedo**

**DIRECTOR: Gabriel Songel González**

The following document presents an approach to the professional life and work of Miguel Milá (07-02-1931), designer, interior designer, professor and entrepreneur, in order to value his contributions to the history of Spanish industrial design, and claim his figure as a man of outstanding culture, recovering, in addition, his brief, but relevant activity as furniture publisher. This research work addresses the background in the field of industrial design in Spain, as well as the situation of postwar Spain, both in the sense of industry, design culture, poor communication with the foreigner and limitations and opportunities this meant for Miguel Milá and other contemporary designers. This work will study Miguel Milá's background, as well as his teachers and influences. For this document a complete catalogue of all his work in the field of industrial design has been made, which is illustrated in 245 product fact sheets with information of Milá's manufactured designs, at least as a prototype. During this work, the influence he exerted on other designers will also be discussed: those who collaborated with him throughout his career, and even his family members, studying as well his work as a teacher in several Spanish universities. Miguel Milá will be presented, not only as a reference in the world of functionalist and rationalist design, but as an advanced to his time pioneer to initiatives as self-publishing through the company he founded with the name of Tramo. Thus, the importance of the work of Miguel Milá in the creation and evolution of design publishing companies in Spain such as Polinax, Gres or Santa & Cole will be shown. This study intends to put in value the figure of Miguel Milá and to demonstrate that industrial design is a profession born in the twentieth century thanks to men like him; and that trends such as self-edition can find their backgrounds in the 50s and in those, like him, who wanted to create and make available products that yet didn't exist, aswell as to improve and optimize all kinds of objects of daily life . Miguel Milá was a key player, not only in giving name to a profession, but in the creation of associations of valorization of design and contributed to spread his knowledge of the field as a teacher. This is why, Miguel Milá can be considered as co-creator of the figure of the industrial designer in Spain, as it is known today.