

THE ART OF LIVING

MARIANKA SWAIN SHARES HER CAPITAL CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS

PICK OF THE MONTH

BY DESIGN

London Design Festival celebrates its 15th year with a mammoth schedule of events, exhibitions, talks and installations, transforming the capital over an action-packed ten days.

It's a platform for both famous and emerging practitioners, notes director Ben Evans. "People have established, run, and successfully sold their businesses via the festival. And our commissioning process for young designers really showcases their work early on in their careers."

A major part of the festival is its tradeshow, including 100% Design, Decorex International, designjunction, Focus/17 and the London Design Fair. But it's also a citywide event, with eight designated Design Districts in 2017 – including newcomer Mayfair.

As part of the anniversary celebrations, the festival and British Land have commissioned various projects, including textile designer Camille Walala's Broadgate installation. This 'building-block castle', constructed from vinyl, PVC and nylon, coloured with digitally printed patterns and featuring squeeze stress balls, is a playful island amidst the City's office blocks.

Meanwhile, MINI LIVING returns with Urban Cabin, created by local architect Sam Jacob. It explores the future of urban habitats via unique features like a micro-library where visitors can swap literature that focuses on the history of living in London.

Over at Somerset House, 30 leading international designers are sharing their working processes in Design Frontiers. The group covers myriad disciplines, including automotive, fashion, digital and performance, and their inventive work is all about pushing boundaries.

Now in its ninth year as a festival hub, the V&A becomes home to a series of installations. Those include Ross Lovegrove's Transmission,

a spectacular 25-metre-long, three-dimensional tapestry that responds to the V&A's 15th-century tapestries while using cutting-edge materials.

Many of Clerkenwell's buzzing showrooms, studios and architectural practices will open their doors, with Swiss furniture company Vitra paying tribute to the famous Eames Plastic Chair.

East London's creative industries are represented by Shoreditch's programme, including Lee Broom's work marking his decade with the festival. And for visitors seeking a moment of calm, installation Breathing Space will provide an oasis in the middle of the city.

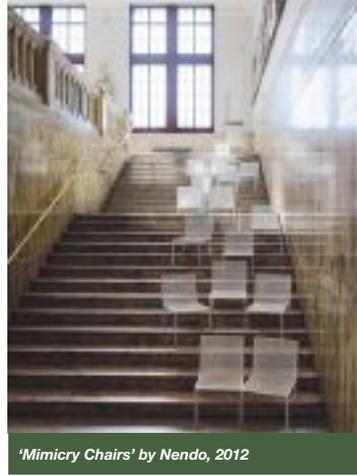
It's a canny addition to a festival imbued with London's artistic energy – and which, according to an independent study by Nordicity and the GLA, has generated £313 million in gross value added for the UK economy over the past decade.

Most importantly, the annual design festival continues to enhance the capital's reputation as a world leader in creativity and innovation.

LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL
SEPTEMBER 16-24
WWW.LONDONDESIGNFESTIVAL.COM



'Candela' by Felix de Pass, 2014



'Mimicry Chairs' by Nendo, 2012



'The Great Chair Grab' by Tom Dixon, 2006



'Endless Stair' by Alex de Rijke, 2013

DON'T MISS

LASTING IMPRESSION

Glimpsing the Burrell Collection's extraordinary set of Impressionist Hilaire-Germain-Edgar Degas' works usually involves a trip to Scotland, but – for the first time – these paintings, pastels and drawings are heading down south.

Coinciding with the anniversary of the artist's death, it's a welcome celebration of this great innovator. Degas captured the vibrancy of modern Parisian life through material experimentation and a distinctive artistic approach – from dancers and laundresses to jockeys, in public and in beautifully rendered private moments.

**DRAWN IN COLOUR:
DEGAS FROM THE BURRELL
SEPTEMBER 20-MAY 7, 2018**

National Gallery, Trafalgar Square WC2N
Free admission
www.nationalgallery.org.uk

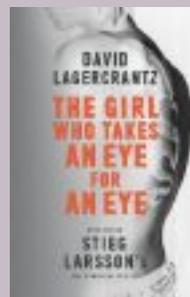


'Dancer Adjusting her Shoulder Strap', 1896-9



'Jockeys in the Rain', 1883-6

COMMUTER CORNER



Everyone's favourite dragon-tattooed hacker, Lisbeth Salander, returns as David Lagercrantz continues the late Stieg Larsson's 'Millennium' series with *The Girl Who Takes an Eye for an Eye* (hardback £20, Kindle £9.99). In the new tale, she once again teams up with investigative journalist Mikael Blomkvist, uncovering a sinister science experiment and her own traumatic family history.



Or take a boozy dive into myths and legends with free podcast *Spirits* – fascinating yarns spun and deconstructed, served over ice. Genial co-hosts Amanda McLoughlin and Julia Schifini's subjects range from ancient Greek gods and the Egyptian Afterlife to werewolves, gorgons and supernatural seductresses.

How are you living up your commute?
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