

BROMPTON DESIGN DISTRICT

Press Release July 2019

NATURE NURTURE

BROMPTON OPENS ITS DOORS

Design stores unveil London Design Festival programme

Since its first edition in 2006, Brompton Design District has evolved to become a highlight of the London Design Festival and one of the most celebrated design communities in the capital. A major driving force behind the success of Brompton is the tightly knit network of iconic, international design stores that make the district their home, alongside the bold, forward-thinking temporary programme curated by Jane Withers Studio.

In conjunction with the area's landmark cultural institutions, such as the RCA, the Design Museum and the V&A, this unique family of retailers has spearheaded the evolution of Brompton as a hot-bed of creative imagination and design innovation, for the duration of LDF and beyond.



Brompton Design District Late Night Event outside Mint during LDF 2017



Render of the installation by Sella Concept in The Conran Shop window

Nurtured by South Kensington Estates, co-founders of Brompton Design District and custodians of Brompton as a whole, the revitalised area has seen the arrival of design brands big and small, established and emerging. They include leading Italian furniture brands such as Cassina and Molteni & C, bespoke kitchen specialists such as Smallbone of Devizes, and high-end interiors emporia The Conran Shop, and Society Limonta.

For London Design Festival 2019, an exciting mix of Brompton brands will open their doors, present new products, and unveil intriguing installations and imaginative exhibitions.

EXHIBITING RETAILERS

**B&B Italia ● Boffi ● Cassina ● CITCO ●
Divertimenti ● Kartell ● Meridiani ● Mint
● Molteni ● OKA ● Smallbone of Devizes
● Society Limonta ● Sub-Zero & Wolf
● The Conran Shop ● The Hour Glass**

Full details of each retailer's exhibitions and events will be revealed on bromptondesigndistrict.com as London Design Festival approaches, but highlights are set to include:

- Considerate Design: In response to the Brompton's Nature/Nurture theme for 2019, contemporary design and craft gallery Mint displays the work of 60 designers – both new talents and established names – all chosen for their dedication to respecting nature and minimising human impact on the environment. From lighting made from found wood to sculptural examinations of typography, the works are all exemplars of sustainability-focused, circular design. In 'Coal: Post-Fuel', for example, Jesper Eriksson seeks to recontextualise a functional fossil fuel, finding a new purpose and value for the notorious pollutant as a beautiful design material, as precious as marble.

Mint 2 North Terrace

- **Field-to-fork:** British furniture and homewares connoisseur OKA explores our relationship with nature through a supper club focused on wild, sustainable food. Hosted by Telegraph food critic and MasterChef regular, William Sitwell, the menu will be cooked by renowned chef Mike Robinson of The Woodsman in Stratford-upon-Avon. A chef, restaurateur, hunter-gatherer and conservationist, Robinson is a passionate advocate for sustainable, seasonal and locally-sourced cuisine. The five-course menu will be served in OKA's flagship Brompton store surrounded by the newly launched Autumn/Winter collection

OKA 155-167 Fulham Road

- **Molteni&C | Dada:** The Milanese design heavy-weight hosts its first ever collection launch in the UK at London Design Festival. Architect and creative director Vincent Van Duysen transforms the brand's new Brompton Road flagship store for the event. The new collection includes Van Duysen's own Gregor sofa, Foster + Partners' Ava table, the Surf sofa by Yabu Pushelberg, and – in honour of the location – the Kensington chair by Rodolfo Dordoni. Alongside the new collection, Molteni pays tribute to the District's Nature/Nurture theme through Nicola Gallizia's exhibition of natural fibres and materials. On Thursday 19 September, Molteni&C | Dada joins forces with German textile brand Sahco to host 'The Art of Living' a panel discussion on the relationship between design and the natural world, featuring Van Duysen and Sahco design director Anna Ebbesen, and curated by Wallpaper* editor-in-chief Sarah Douglas.

Molteni & C 245-249 Brompton Road



The Mood For Wood Courtesy of Kartell



Joseph Sofa and Judd Low table, Salone 2019
Courtesy of Meridiani

- **In The Mood For Wood:** Material experimentation and innovation is part of the DNA of Italian design brand Kartell. For this year's London Design Festival, Kartell will hold true to this philosophy with an exhibition of works that explore the material possibilities of wood. At the centre of the exhibition will be Philippe Starck's Smart Wood Collection – a collection that was born out of technological research and material insights gained through the company's long history of working with plastic. Thanks to a special patent, the wood is machined with a mould that can extend the limit of curvature of the panel and create the frame of the chair with sinuous curves – much like a plastic shell chair.

Kartell 223 Brompton Road

- **The Cassina Perspective:** Italian industrial-design pioneer Cassina opens a new extension to the Brompton showroom during London Design Festival and presents its 2019 collection in a striking installation curated by art director Patricia Urquiola. The new collection includes pieces by Urquiola, Ronan & Erwan Bouroullec, Rodolfo Dordoni and Mario Bellini, and features a homage to the work of mid-century Swiss architect Pierre Jeanneret – a project developed by Cassina Research and Development Centre.

Cassina 238-242 Brompton Road

- **Green & Gold:** The Art of Design Through Awareness: Luxury cabinet-maker Smallbone of Devizes will collaborate with Sub-Zero & Wolf: here, the world's finest cooking and cooling appliances in the world meets the world's most desirable kitchens. Visitors can experience eclectic dining with Sub-Zero & Wolf's private chef combining seasonal sustainable food with their latest culinary techniques. The Palace Gardener will be running masterclasses in plants and well being, where participants can create their very own Smallbone mini Terrarium.

Smallbone of Devizes 6/7 Thurloe Place

- **Timeless Elegance:** Right opposite the V&A on Thurloe Place, furniture brand Meridiani presents its 2019 collection of Italian-crafted pieces unveiled in Milan this year. Featuring new designs by art director Andrea Parisio alongside new textiles, tones and lacquer finishes, the collection also includes hero pieces like the sprawlingly splendid Norton capitonné sofa in ice-hued leather, the striking and curvy blue-velvet Joseph sofa, and the new Isetta chair in tubular metal.

Meridiani 10 Thurloe Place

- **Ad Infinitum:** At The Conran Shop's Chelsea flagship, design studio Sella Concept has transformed the window display into an immersive installation that celebrates design as an ongoing exchange of ideas between past, present and future. Using mirrors, floating screens, colourful apertures, circular windows and abstract shapes, 'To Infinity and Beyond' invites viewers to explore iconic contemporary designs from new perspectives. Inspired by architect Luis Barragán's innovative use of space and colour, the installation focuses on three exclusive Conran designs: the award-winning Latis chair by Samuel Wilkinson upholstered in Kvadrat/Raf Simons fabrics; a limited-edition Wishbone Chair in walnut and oak by Carl Hansen & Søn; and a limited-edition series of 'Fusion Fire' Saarinen tables by Knoll.

The Conran Shop 81 Fulham Road

- **Unexpected Visions:** Founded in 2000 with the vision of bringing a distinctly fashion-led approach to home design – mix and matching prints and experimenting with fabrics to create a clear personal style – Italian textiles brand Society Limonta will present their Autumn Winter collection. Drawing reference from nature, art and poetry and informed by the idea of home being a sanctuary, Unexpected Visions presents a range of new fabrics and designs that combine dusty and saturated colours.

Society Limonta 170 Walton Street



Courtesy of Society Limonta



ILE RODRIGUES Low coffee table by Francesco Maria Messina
Courtesy of Mint

- **The Brompton Talks Programme:** Throughout the Festival, Brompton's retail brands, designers and industry thinkers will gather in the various showrooms and at The Hour Glass on Brompton Road – for Brompton Design District's programme of design talks, which will explore the theme of Nature/Nurture in greater depth. Full details about talks and the rest of the Brompton programme will be revealed soon.

For images and more information about Brompton Design District, its curatorial theme and retail partners, please contact Grace Ridley-Smith at grace@zetteler.co.uk or on 0+44 (0)20 3735 5855.

Notes for editors

About Brompton Design District

Established in 2006, Brompton is the longest-running dedicated design district of the London Design Festival. Initiated by South Kensington Estates and curated by Jane Withers since the beginning, the District has been instrumental in nurturing Brompton's reputation as a hotbed of creative innovation and one of London's leading design hubs.

Each year, Brompton's landmark cultural institutions such as the Royal College of Art and the V&A, its roster of iconic global design brands, and a curated selection of pioneering independent studios come together to present some of the most forward-thinking, considered and progressive events and exhibitions of the London Design Festival.

bromptondesigndistrict.com