

London Design Festival 2021 Zetteler's highlights

After an – inevitably – lower-key edition last year, LDF 2021 will see massive city-changing projects such as the eagerly awaited official opening of Design District to smaller brands like TAKT and HØLTE making big waves in sustainability, Zetteler's diverse range of clients have some landmark shows and launches up their sleeves.

There are new brands making their debut on the global stage – such as Finland's unapologetically 'brutal' new furniture house, Vaarnii – and exciting emerging talents getting much-needed platform through initiatives like Discovered and Designposts.

Design District Creates on Greenwich Peninsula



London's new home for the creative industries marks its official opening with an ambitious programme of conversations, exhibitions and events. Image by Taran Wilkhu.

The capital's first permanent home for the creative industries officially launches on Wednesday 15 September, heralding an exciting new chapter for London. Following the grand opening on the 15th, Design District will be open for the public to explore throughout September, with Open City architecture tours and a packed programme of exhibitions and discussions featuring an A-list roster of thinkers and makers. Two of the district's 16 buildings will be given over to exhibitions featuring exciting

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emerging talents in art and design; the transparent, caterpillar-like, greenery-filled Design District Canteen by Selgascano will be open for top-drawer food and drink; and there'll be opportunities for everyone to explore the for-creatives, by-creatives members' workspace Bureau first-hand.

- The Gateway Pavilions, Peninsula Square, Greenwich Peninsula, London SE10 OSQ
- North Greenwich Tube
- Launch party: 15 September, from 6.30pm
- Design District Creates talks programme: 21-23 September

Vaarnii launches at twentytwentyone's Back + Forth exhibition in Clerkenwell



Vaarnii's all-pine debut collection of furniture and home accessories launches internationally at twentytwentyone's LDF show Back + Forth.

Head to the twentytwentyone showroom on River Street, Clerkenwell, between 20 and 26 September and, alongside a selection of landmark 20th-century furniture, you'll bear witness to the international debut of the groundbreaking new Finnish design brand Vaarnii. Founded by seasoned design professionals with professional backgrounds at – among others – Artek, Apple, Tom Dixon and Bang & Olufsen, Vaarnii makes its international debut with 12 'brutal yet sophisticated' furniture pieces and home accessories – all made in Finland from wild-grown Finnish pine. The roster of designers behind the inaugural product line includes the likes of Mac

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Collins, Max Lamb, Fredrik Paulson, Sarah Kaye Rodden, Philippe Malouin, Soft Baroque and Industrial Facility. Get in touch for brand info, product images, or interviews with Vaarnii's founders ahead of the launch.

- twentytwentyone, 18c River Street, London EC1R 1XN
- Angel Tube
- Launch event: Tuesday 21 September, from 6.30pm
- Opening hours: Monday-Saturday, 9.30am-5.30pm

New for 2021: Designposts, from LDF and AHEC



The 10 students and graduates selected to create LDF's Designposts visit Benchmark's workshop in Kintbury, Berkshire. Photography by Thom Atkinson.

In a first for the festival, LDF's 10 districts will this year each be celebrated with a distinctive sculptural waymarker. AHEC has joined forces with furniture studio Benchmark and Sebastian Cox, selecting 10 student designers and recent graduates to create 'Designposts'. These public landmarks welcome visitors to each district while also expressing facets of the area's unique character, culture and creative heritage. The designers have been selected from two of the city's leading design schools: four from London Met picked by Peter Marigold; and six from the Bartlett chosen by Izaskun Chinchilla. From a William Morris-inspired homage to the natural beauty of Walthamstow to a celebration of the Shoreditch streetscape, the red oak structures celebrate London, while giving the emerging design generation a high-profile platform to shine.

- Locations: Islington, King's Cross, Mayfair, Southwark, Shoreditch, Park Royal, Clerkenwell, Walthamstow, Greenwich Peninsula, Brompton
- Opening times: 24-hours, 18-26 September

Measured, a new environmental accountability initiative, by HØLTE in Hackney



HØLTE founders Tom and Fi Ginnett are calling for radical carbon transparency in the kitchen industry.

In the last couple of years, design studio HØLTE has fought its way from sector upstart to industry trendsetter, finding the aesthetic and economic sweet spot between bespoke and proprietary kitchen design. At LDF 2021, founders Tom and Fi Ginnett celebrate a trailblazing new sustainability initiative that will set a new benchmark for the industry: becoming the first and only kitchen brand to provide comprehensive carbon measuring for every product. Taking place at their London Fields studio, Measured is a physical installation and film that lays bare the environmental impact of kitchens and furniture, aiming to give consumers the tools and incentive to make more responsible choices and to push the industry to wake up and do better.

- HØLTE Studio, Unit G05, 16–29 Andrews Road, London E8 4QF
- London Fields, Cambridge Heath, or Bethnal Green Overground
- Opening times: 18-26 September

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Pearson Lloyd's award-winning retrofit, Yorkton Workshops, hosts exhibitions from Modern Art Hire and TAKT



Pearson Lloyd's award-winning Yorkton Workshops in Hackney will host LDF exhibitions from MAH (above) and TAKT.

For LDF, Pearson Lloyd welcome two head-running exhibitions into their award-winning new home in Hackney's historic Yorkton Workshops. First, Modern Art Hire presents An Act of Making – a selection of artworks that showcase and celebrate the process of making. Curated by MAH founder Laura Fulmine, the exhibition features a diverse array of pieces that have been hand coiled, hand carved, hand woven, hand painted, hand sculpted, or hand built. Meanwhile upstairs, maverick sustainable furniture brand TAKT unveils new furniture in its Pearson Lloyd-designed Cross Collection, set to launch this autumn. Not only is this a chance to see two shows in one, it's also an excellent opportunity to get inside Yorkton Workshops and have a proper snoop around 2021's AJ Retrofit award-winner.

- Yorkton Workshops, 1–3 Yorkton Street, London E2 8NH
- Hoxton, Cambridge Heath, or Bethnal Green Overground
- Launch event: Tuesday 21st until 10pm
- Opening times: Sat-Sun (10.30-4.30pm), Mon-Fri (9-6pm)

Youth Collective Mentoring from Design Can x V&A



Aspiring young designers receive career-boosting professional guidance and mentorship at the V&A.

The campaign for equity and inclusion in the design industry, Design Can, presents an opportunity for design-curious 18–24-year-olds to build professional networks and gain inspiration as they reorientate themselves and their professional lives in the wake of the pandemic. Participants will have access to mentoring from professionals across the industry, including experts in architecture, fashion, digital design and other disciplines. Hosted by the V&A, the session will include workshops offering practical advice and creative exercises, covering topics such as CV tips, portfolio presentation and how to build a network.

- V&A The Grand Entrance, Cromwell Road, London SW7 2RL
- South Kensington Tube
- Opening times: Sunday 19 September, 2–4pm (places must be pre-booked)