

Matter of Stuff presents *Light & Reflection* at Sketch



Exhibition 2 May - 13 May 2018

Cocktail Party: Tuesday 1st May, 5.30-8.30pm

Design research gallery Matter of Stuff returns to Sketch with a new site specific exhibit: *Light & Reflection* opens on Tuesday 1st May presenting a series of innovative works by designers exploring how light and reflection, inceptual with their object, affect our appreciation of the surrounding space.

Works on show include a new chandelier by Bocci for Sketch, a light sculpture by Umut Yamac, an innovative table lamp and mirror by Simone Crestani and experimental mirrors by Matteo Tampone.

Bocci has developed a bespoke chandelier in Bocci's dynamic and seemingly elastic 87 series for Sketch. The 87 light uses soda water to trap air in a super heated glass matrix, which is vertically stretched and folded back onto itself between pegs numerous times. As the glass cools, the folding motion along the grain of the loop turns the entrapped air into microfilaments that give the piece a pearlescent optical quality. A low-voltage xenon or LED light source is introduced at one end

of the loop casting light through the microfilaments and registering a gentle gradient.

Master glassblower Simone Crestani presents a modern reinterpretation of an ancient craft through the Bollicine table lamp and Bubble mirror. The elegant system of glass bubbles in both designs, push the possibilities of technique to the limit. The pieces underline the power and fragility of glass while Crestani's skill keeps every element in structural agreement. The pieces display a subtle interplay of matter and light without attempting to separate space from time.

London based designer Umut Yamac's Spun Halo examines the potential of thread, a normally invisible material, to create and define volumes of space in the air. Inspired by drawing as an act of creation, the work uses over 600 metres thread to construct a 3-dimensional drawn geometry exploring lightness and volume. Spun Halo has been hand woven to create two intersecting volumes, each suspending a ring of light in mid-air. The lightweight conical volumes are held in place by the metal rings in the centre and a counter-weight at the base. The criss-crossing threads create what appears to be a new volume within the light, and the effect of their layering is a large-scale interference pattern, or moiré, which creates the illusion of movement as the viewer moves around the light.

Matteo Tampone's two wall-mounted circular Reperti mirrors communicate to each other. The jagged and eroded outer edge, created from oxidised copper, brass and iron, references a time that's passed while the 'real time', created through the reflection seen in the mirrored surface takes centre stage. The eroded reflection creates the possibility for each viewer to reflect, if only for a brief moment, upon ideas of perfection, imperfection and beauty, of self and surroundings.

Notes for Editors

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About Matter of Stuff

Matter of Stuff is a London based contemporary design research gallery established in 2014. Our dynamic creative studio work encapsulates pop up exhibitions workshops and our online gallery.

Co-founders Simona Auteri and Sofia Steffenoni coordinate a community of designers, manufacturers, filmmakers and storytellers with the aim of promoting a culture where craftsmanship is at the heart of any creation.

Matter of Stuff's extensive knowledge of Italian manufacturing heritage is constantly renewed with frequent research trips on the Italian grounds to find the next artisan or manufacturing facility who is able to push the research boundary of materiality and fabrication.

Through networking, involvement with universities and participation in international fairs, Matter of Stuff is constantly building bridges with products and interior designers whose focus on material is an exciting tool for innovation. Matter of Stuff creates synergies between these two worlds, supporting the designers in their new material research with the aim of transforming the research process into a finished reality, be it product, interior design or architectural.

Supported by their collaborative community of architects, cutting-edge joinery makers, ceramicists, resin, metalwork and stone facilities, glassblowers and more, Matter of Stuff can realise, curate and commission design and architecture projects of any scale and scope from one off pieces, limited edition works, installations and interior spaces.

Matter of Stuff works alongside private clients, architects, products and interiors designers to bring their projects to life. Clients include: Kering Group, Gucci, Swarovski, Friedman Benda, Bohinc Studio, Universal Design Studio, Acme Architects, Sir Robert Mc Alpine, HBA, MusaLab, Ga Design, Shanghai Museum of Glass, Rossana Orlandi, Flow Gallery, Camberwell College of Arts, Kingston University

Website: www.matterofstuff.com

Instagram: @matterofstuff

Facebook: Matter of Stuff

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Vimeo: Matter of Stuff

About sketch

sketch's home, 9 Conduit Street in London, was designed by James Wyatt in 1779 and has previously been the headquarters of the Royal Institute of British Architects before later becoming the London Atelier of Christian Dior. With this series of commissions sketch continues to contribute to the building's heritage as a destination for experimentation in design, art and architecture.

The site consists of the Lecture Room & Library, the Parlour, the Glade, the East Bar, and the Gallery. sketch was inaugurated in 2002 by restaurateur Mourad Mazouz and masterchef Pierre Gagnaire, as a destination for food, art and music. The Lecture Room & Library was awarded its first Michelin star in 2005 and in 2012, the restaurant won its second Michelin star, which it retains today.

Over the past decade, due to Mazouz's commitment to art and design, the venue has hosted over fifty exhibitions of artists' moving image including work by Carsten Nicolai, John Baldessari, Jonas Mekas, Mary Ellen Bute, Charles & Ray Eames and Michael Nyman and more recently Martin Creed and David Shrigley as part of its new long-term programme of artist-designed restaurants for the Gallery. Shrigley collaborated with Parisian interior designer India Mahdavi who conceived the striking, monochromatic pink interior.

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