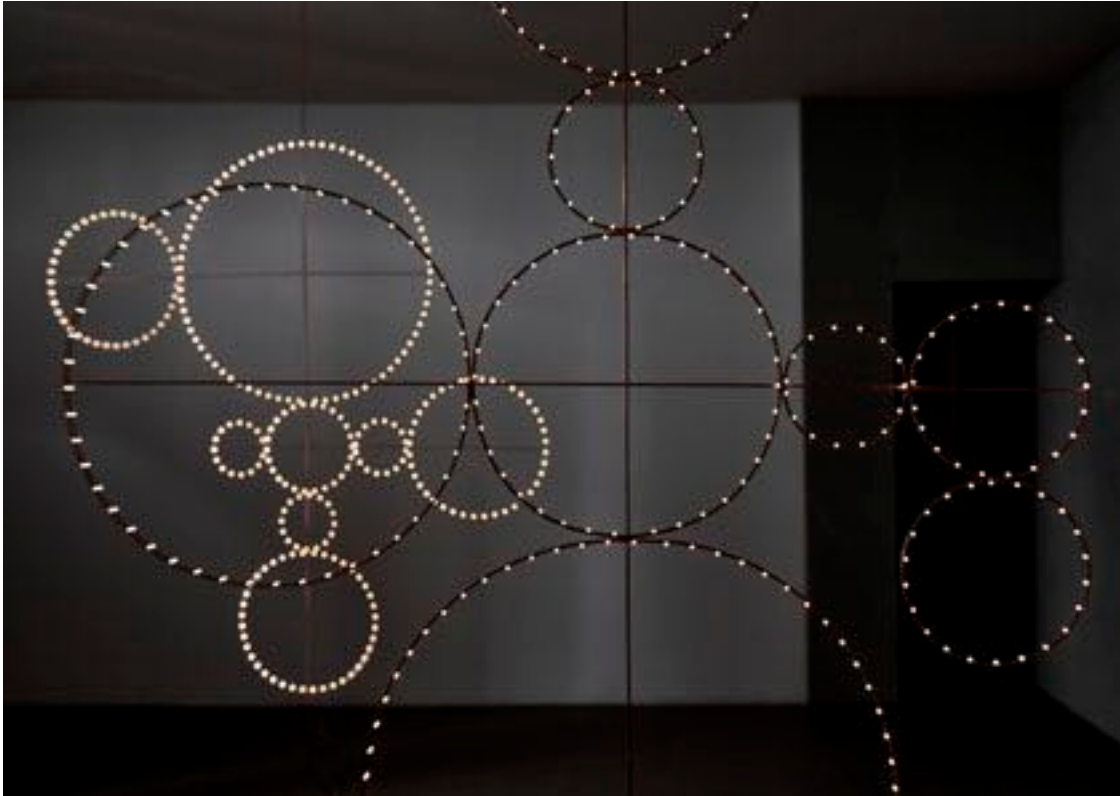


Press Release: London Design Festival 2017

Matter of Stuff presents *Cocktail Atmospheres* at Sketch London
The exhibition will feature furniture, lighting mobiles and accessories by thirteen international designers



For London Design Festival, Matter of Stuff will present a series of furniture and lighting pieces which evoke the spirit of a cocktail lounge bar at Sketch. New pieces include the aptly named trolley bar *A Drink with Wes* by 1millimetre, the *Club Chair* by Glen Baghurst, and the evocative mobiles *Luminarie* by Sabina Belfiore Lucovich.

A flight of especially designed cocktails imagined by sketch mixologists will provide an edible design experience throughout the duration of the festival, complementing the pieces on show. The limited-edition evening drinks will be available to order in the newly restored Parlour room.

Matter of Stuff will also unveil *Noda* and *Deskscape*, the design pieces created during the MOS Student Residency programme with students from Camberwell College of Arts and Kingston University, where 15 students responded to the theme of *Marble Waste and Tableware* and spent time in the Carrara Marble Quarries and Workshops to produce their designs.

A series of pieces in marble and metal by five international designers from the MOS Designer Residency 2016 will complete the exhibition: *Marque' Dry Bar* by Alessandro

Zambelli, *Coulee Side Table* by Nina Cho, *The Veiled* by Olga Bielawska, *Mirrored* and *Remetaled* by Tim Vanlier and Echo by Uufie.

Cocktail Atmospheres will run from 19th September to 15th November 2017, at sketch London.

Editors Notes:

Press Contact: Sameera Hanif: sameera@sameerahanif.com / +44 7817 175 724

Press Preview: Monday 18 September 2017, 4-6pm

Mayfair District Late Night: Monday 18 September 2017, 6pm onwards

Exhibition Dates: 19 September to 15 November 2017

Address: 9 Conduit Street, London W1S 2XG

Further information on the designs:

Sabina Belfiore Lucovich: *Luminarie*

Luminarie is an expressive study of lighting as a poetic object, inspired by the designer's memories of lights at religious festivals in southern Italy. The *Luminarie* lighting mobile uses LED technology applied not to a functional lamp but to a sentimental, ethereal and poetic work of art. Tactile, playful, illusory and mobile, *Luminarie* are very light-weight, ethereal structures; handcrafted in Italy from copper and with micro LEDs.

1millimetre: *A Drink with Wes*

A Drink With Wes, designed by 1millimetre, is a navy blue bar trolley with copper and vegetable-tanned leather detailing. With functionality and craftsmanship at its heart, the design features an integrated ice bucket and ice cooler, a wine glass rack, a bin, a tool drawer, a retractable handle and a chopping board.

Glen Baghurst: *Club Chair*

Fashion designers dress one common frame in various ways. This chair is an exploration in draping a seat frame and uses elements similar to high fashion. The leather has been bent and draped over both straight and curved shapes to create depth and volume to the chair. English saddlery has been a major inspiration in developing the hardware and shape of the dress on this frame.

MOS Residency programme

Matter Of Stuff's designer residency programme aims to promote a meaningful exchange between the manufacturers and international designers to create new typologies in design. MOS also works with universities to facilitate the relationship between design students and the manufacturing world in order to extend their hands-on craft skills, instill a value for natural resources and engender a belief in designing "better". Through this programme, designers as well as students have the opportunity to learn and work with manufacturers in Tuscany to bring their designs to life.

Arturo Soto and Nathalie Pitchler: *Deskscape*

The place where people work tells a lot about their character. It doesn't matter if they are physically there or not, the objects on the desk will always represent and tell something of the owner.

Deskscape, a desktop organiser, includes the features of a card, ipad, pencil and scissor holder as well as a space for small desk objects. The versatility of the piece allows the user to create different arrangements for different purposes and different personal utensils.

Developed during MOS Student Residency Spring Program in collaboration with Camberwell College of Arts

Karsan Haval, Phoebe Morris and Lara Chapman: *Noda*

Noda pays homage to the historic use of marble as a medium for sculptors. *Noda* is a set of four trivets that, in their downtime, create modern, small-scale sculptures for the dining table; providing a functional, decorative and interactive element in one product. When not in use, the trivets encourage the user to play with form and balance to create their own interesting centerpiece.

Noda's form celebrates a contemporary take on sculpture, using simple geometric shapes allows ease of use, as well as allowing the beauty of the natural patterns of marble to be highlighted. Whilst not only focusing on aesthetics, *Noda* utilises marbles natural quality of heat resistance which lends itself to being used as trivets for hot pans. Developed during MOS Student Residency Spring Program in collaboration with Kingston University.

Alessandro Zambelli: *Marque'*

The use of inlaid metal is an homage to Paris of the 20s and to the Art Deco designs of Emile Ruhlmann and Jean Dunand, who were the main advocates of this style. Essential forms, which are minimal yet refined, exude a timeless elegance and are a clear reference to the elitarian craftsmanship. which gave form to such excellence.

In *Marque'*, material and forms become essence of memories, referring to traditional techniques: different styles mix together with the search for new languages that can be achieved within the realm of excellence and craftsmanship only found in Italy. The Art Deco design now reborn in a contemporary key and makes its way in the Third Millennium.

Marque' Collection comprises a series of storage furniture that include a small cabinet, a dry bar, a console and a coffee table, where the material used – metal – is read in ebanistic terms through the use of inlays as new element of character and prestige. The linear essentiality of the forms, which is reflected in each element of the collection, is enriched by the presence of precious superficial decors that are juxtaposed through inlays: small metal oxidised plates animate the surface of each storage element with their refined alternation of delicate geometrical motifs. The oxidation process brings a unique mutation of the surface itself, enriched by a whole variety of shades and gradation.

Nina Cho: *Coulee*

The distinguishing feature of the *Coulee* side table is the subtle recessed curve on the middle of flat tabletop. The recessed curve implies a gentle gesture for many different ways of uses. The curved surface can be used as organizer and container for displaying small goods, coins, cell phone, keys, flowers, etc.

Using two heavyweight pieces can create a stable structure by joining complimenting geometry. Basic marble tabletop slabs exist for steel or wood armature. With this piece, the designer created a new function for marble as armature and made the table a singular mass/volume/sculpture.

Olga Bielawska: *The Veiled*

The Veiled is a collection of tables and trays made of marble with a graphical pattern inspired by an ancient statue. It experiments with the dichotomy between a silk and soft looking surface for a hard material like marble.

The effect of light and dark-coloured marble in stripes is both graphic and illusional. The pattern catches your eye and invites you to touch. It combines a modern technique and aesthetic with the traditional way of making inlays.

Studio Uufie: *Echo*

The Echo table pushes the material limits of metal and wood to imagine an intangible reality. In wood, the grain tells its history and by using a technique of exposing the hardwood (season of winter) and embedded metal into the lines of the softwood (season of summer), each growth creates an elusive boundary between the two materials. The objectivity is further enhanced by removing the sense of substantial weight and density of the materials.

The table legs reference the shape generated by the spilling of water. The variation of the table top in an organic circle like a stone formed by the sea current. It enacts the activity and motion which would happen around a table. Alluding to the subtle shades of a sunrise, the color of three tables are created in three metal: aluminum, copper, and brass.

Tim Vanlier: *Remetaled / Mirrored*

The design process for Remetaled tables and Mirrored mirrors started with a broad material research within metal, an experimental phase together with the manufacturer focused on layering metals. Layering brings depth in a object, offers room for surprises, and gives the metal an innovative materiality.

Remetaled table is a series of two tables, consisting a composition of different types of metal sheets. By nesting metal sheets in a vertical direction, a readable layered texture originates, which gives the metal a new materiality. Mirrored are reflective objects constructed out of different types of stacked metal. The layering of different types of metals gives an organic feel to these mirrors.