TREND REPORT

BERLIN DESIGN WEEK 2019



Written by Jim Buddulph
www.designinsiderlive.com

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BERLIN DESIGN WEEK 2019

For the second year running the city of Berlin becomes a platform for innovative design as it plays host to Berlin Design Week.

BNDNWK invites designers, cultural institutions, galleries and studios from around the globe, with a particular emphasis on those from Germany, to encourage dialogue between the worlds of design, research, education and industry with a view to tackling issues surrounding ecological and societal sustainability.

This year the event is titled INFLUENCED 100 in response to the 100-year anniversary of Bauhaus, the art and design institution that was formed in Berlin. The movement's understanding of design as a driving force of societal change is examined, serving as a timely reminder during times of instability here in the 21st century. A number of graduate exhibitions, temporary displays, talks and showroom events take place in venues across the city with some 10,000 visitors in attendance. The highly informative talks program plays a key role in instigating fresh ideas and discussion about design.

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THE BAUHAUS IN 100 OBJECTS

1. USM
2. E15
3. Hedwig Bollhagen
4. Cassina
5. Cassina



1

With events spanning the entire year and much of Germany, BNDNWK offers the pinnacle celebration of Bauhaus during it's centenary anniversary. Whilst the entirety of the events are held under the INFLUENCED 100 umbrella, the most direct re-examination of Bauhaus fittingly takes place at Berlin's iconic Stilwerk; a space famed for housing top interior design brands.

As well as pioneering the synthesis of art, design and theatre, Bauhaus was also responsible for creating some the most influential and iconic home furnishings and accessories, as shown with the Bauhaus in 100 Objects exhibition. Curated by Wilfried Lembert, founder of interiors brand minimum and former Design Methodology lecturer, the exhibition lays out seminal pieces fro the likes of Josef Albers, Peter Keler, Marcel Breuer and Marianne Brandt. The very fact that the majority of objects on display are still readily available is testament to the group's dedication to practical yet distinctive and simple yet aesthetically pleasing design.



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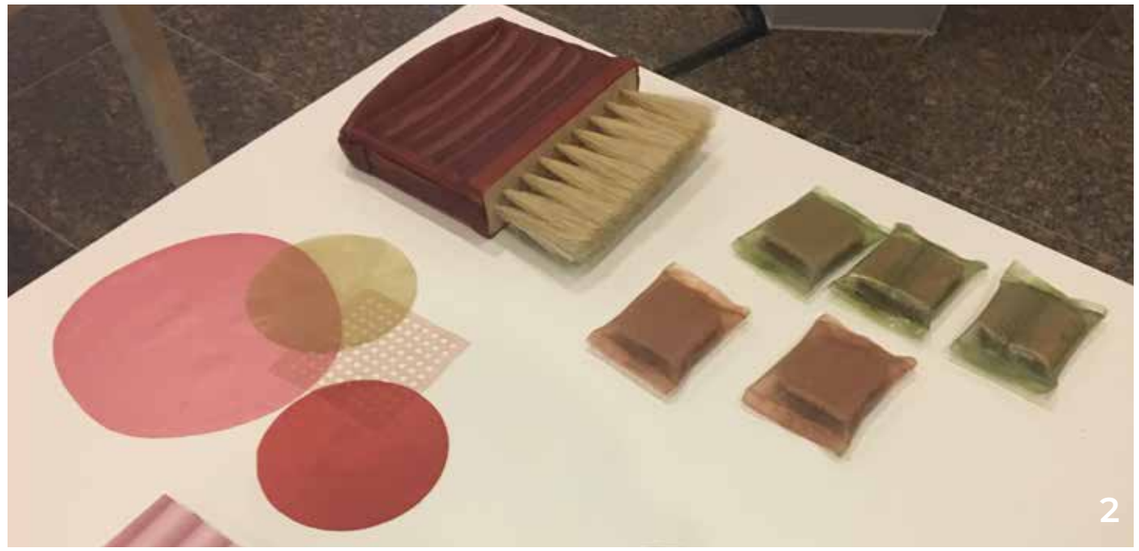
DESIGN GRADUATES



Whilst celebrating one of the most forward-thinking and innovative art and design institutions the world has ever seen, it is fitting that existing universities have the chance to exhibit outstanding work from recent graduates during the show. Selected by an exclusive jury the German Design Graduates exhibition is made up of top projects from 12 of Germany's art & design academies. The works displayed around the Kunstgewerbemuseum, granting them the same level of prestige as the historical artifacts of the permanent collection.

Material exploration and innovation are central to a number of the selected projects, not least Towards a new Matter by Milan Friedrich, who used disused textiles to create a mono-material. Simon Diener also uses waste materials, transforming them into a new form of housing for LED lights, whilst Niklas Böll seeks to design with wood in its most natural form and Sophie Stanitzek chooses to transform algae into a multifunctional composite.



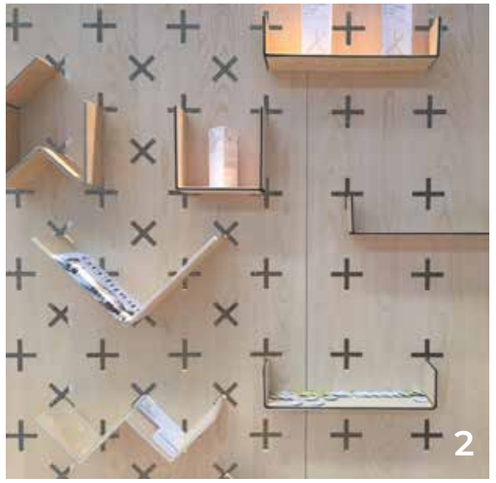
1. *Milan Friedrich*
2. *Sophie Stantizek*
3. *Simon Diener*







1



2



3



4

DESIGN POOL

Design Pool, also know as the BNDNWK Design Market, takes up residence at concept retail space Bikini Berlin between 10th-12th October. The space serves as the perfect backdrop for the temporary exhibition, with permanent high-end brands surrounding the central exhibit, which also looks onto a section of the city's famous zoo.

Plié by Atelier explores new frontiers in foldable furniture, in this showing they reveal a new modular cladding system that allows the user to move and manipulate shelving. Another designer who has clearly been influenced by the Bauhaus is Thomas Hirschmann whose minimal timber furniture is all about comfort and functionality. Designer Alex Valder has taken his experience of creating temporary architecture to create a range of minimal metal furniture with effective storage attributes. The trend for cast cement tiles has reached Germany, with Neuwerth & Boldig designing their own original patterns and colourways, which are produced in Spain.

1. *Neuwerth*
2. *Plie*
3. *Bikini Berlin*
4. *Alex Valder*
5. *Thomas Hirschmann*

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5

STANDOUT SHOWROOMS











As well as temporary exhibitions, BNDNWK also offers showrooms within the city a chance to showcase their work to a larger international audience during the show. DECOculture is a multibrand that doubles up as a concept store for contemporary furniture and furnishings and an interior design consultancy. During the show they welcome guests to explore the work of established and independent brands that they have selected for their outstanding aesthetic and comfort. Oblik draw visitors to their permanent showroom with a temporary installation by Numen/For Use. The lit cube has a mirrored membrane that not only creates the effect of endless repetition but can also be distorted by inflating the surface. One of the few brands hailing from outside of Germany, Scandinavian design studio Moebe team up with concept store Hallesches Haus to exhibit their products. Their furniture is designed with a modular concept so that pieces are easy to assemble, repair and recycle.



1. *Enter the void, Numen for Use, OBLIK*
2. *Decoculture*
3. *Decoculture*
4. *Decoculture*
5. *MOEBE at Hallesches Haus*
6. *MOEBE at Hallesches Haus*



RESOLUTION!

Organsied by state of DESIGN, Resolution! takes place at the Kunstgewerbe museum and features work coming out of Bezalel Academy of Art and Design and Anhalt University. Subcategories are used to help frame work including Baunow, which explores design that shares Bauhaus values such as craft & technology and man & nature. Anat Sever's project A personal piece of nature combines ceramic and moss to create functional vessels that bring us closer to nature. In creating Mikrouprawa, Dryf have even more ambitious ideas; the easy to use vertical garden allows users to create self-sustainable super foods. User-friendly functionality that enriches our day-to-day lives is the focus of the work displayed under the Fittings & Joints banner. Jakob Niemann's project Timber to Tree deliberately exploits conventional imperfections of timber; utilising the knots as joints for the legs of a bench, whilst Philomena Strack offers shelving unit that requires no tools in it's construction.







1. *Anat Sever*
2. *Jakob Niemann*
3. *Mikrouprawa*
4. *Philomena Strack*

COMING SOON!

DESIGN INSIDER JOBS

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Postgraduates of Universität of Künste Berlin are offered the chance to showcase their final design projects at designtransfer. The 12 projects on display share the context of the show's theme of Design and Interculturality, which allows for a broad range of approaches. Exploring how we might power our homes and places of work in the near future, Philipp Hainke has created Powerplace, a new piece of mobile furniture that allows us to power our digital devices wherever we wish within a building. Challenging the upholstered furniture industry whilst acknowledging our increasingly nomadic lifestyles, Felix Yarwood has created a 3-part seating range that is more mobile and has flexible positioning when in use than conventional furniture. Xinying Li also explores seating but with a specific emphasis on blurring the boundaries between perceived eastern and western styles. Wen-Hsin Tu takes a novel approach to seating by creating minimal but highly functional pieces that allow the user to sit in even the most awkward places.



1. *Xinging Li*
2. *Felix Yarwood*
3. *Wen-Hsin Tu*



THE WORLD OF VR

Having pioneered the use of many new technologies in the 20th century, the influence of Bauhaus is also found in projects that explore modern technology. A prime example of an ever-developing form of technology is virtual reality (VR) and number of experimental projects can be found across the show.

The University of Applied Sciences addresses the impact of the digital revolution questioning topics such as big date, machine learning and AI with a series of interactive installations. Amongst them are VR presentations that allow visitors to fully immerse themselves in the digital world.

Das Totale Tanztheater 360 is directly inspired by the legacy of Bauhaus, merging the past and present with the use of cutting edge technology to create a 360 degree VR performance inspired by Oskar Schlemmer's stage experimentations. Users are transported into an abstract world of man and machine, with music by legendary Berlin band Einstürzende Neubauten.

1 & 3. University of Applied Science
2. Das Totale





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