



property



London Design Festival
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The Daily Telegraph

Rosie Millard

I've got designs on a new look

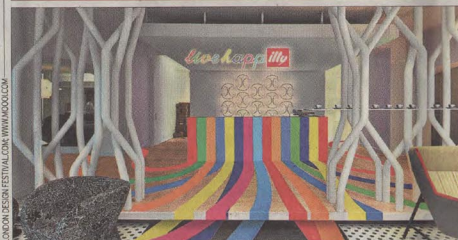
If it's creativity you're after, the London Design Festival, which kicks off today, offers a new take on traditional ideas

Do you hanker after a chair-and-coat-stand combo, a chandelier made from 16 desk lamps or a block of foam masquerading as a hayrick? If so, your prayers are about to be answered. The London Design Festival starts today, launching nine heady days of creativity.

There is a wealth of pop-up shops, galleries and warehouses. At Earl's Court, 100% Design showcases more than 400 exhibitors, while Decorex, at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, brings the latest in interiors. The entrance to the V&A, in South Kensington, is home to a giant oak "wave", and inside at the Raphael Gallery you can lounge on a vast undulation of coloured foam. Even St Paul's Cathedral is in on the act, courtesy of John Pawson, who has installed a crystal and metal hemisphere in the south-west tower. Here is my pick of the best ideas from this year's festival.

1 Good press
Cut It Out is an interactive event at Outline Editions, in Soho's Berwick Street, allowing visitors to create their own prints, from £10-£300. Approach a vast manual embossing machine shaped like a giant dog (what else?), choose from a variety of designs, feed in the paper and create your own image in the style of graphic artist Noma Bar.
Outline Editions, 020 8451 3400; www.outline-editions.co.uk.

2 The Bloomsbury set
The vast Bloomsbury basement of Victoria House (37-43 Southampton Row, WC1) is home to the Design Junction. Here you will find pop-up shop Scene selling solid beech Barnaby Tuke wall clocks and giant lights from Decode London. There is furniture from Terence Conran's high-end



creation Benchmark, and chandeliers from Deana McClellan. You can also hop on a Tokyo-bike for a tour of London's creative districts. Tours start and finish from the Design Junction every day.
September 22-25, www.thedesignjunction.co.uk.



3 Trash the house
Brilliant, tricky and avant-garde, Walter Raes of Walterworks uses everyday pieces of rubbish to make fantastic furniture for the "suburban sitting-room". Try his three-legged "Missing" coffee table, made secure by a pile of books and crockery, a

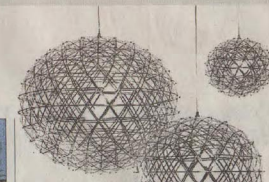
Capital creations: from far right, the Moooi Raimond lampshade; a timber wave outside the V&A; Galleria Iilly at the Fies showroom; and the Redress by Aamu Song

Walter Raes turns pieces of rubbish into fantastic furniture

lounger made from an ironing-board or a dressing table from the hood of a Mini Cooper. This is recycling at its most creative.
September 19-20, Brompton Oratory, St Joseph's Room, Brompton Road, London SW7 2RP.

4 Design hothouse
Think you know all about Lego? I bet even those who have spent the summer holidays helping their children construct wildly ambitious projects won't have gone this far. Sebastian Bergne has designed a greenhouse made entirely from the little plastic bricks. There are even real plants and vegetables growing inside. It is at Covent Garden.
September 15-25, North Piazza, London WC2.

5 On the map
Update your living room with Established & Sons. This British-based company, which showcases the work of a number of leading designers, reveals its current collection in a dramatic installation by Japanese architects Nendo. The enormous concrete showroom has been covered with maps of the capital and filled with swathes of London "fog". Drool over the beautiful Jumper chair by Bertjan Pot (£2,487), Richard Woods's foam and fabric Haybales (£492) and elegant Pour pewter jugs (£96).
September 19-25, 5-7 Wenlock Road, London N1 7SL (020 7608 089; www.establishedandsons.com).



6 Surreality bites
FranklinTill's experimental diners in the Masonic Temple at the Andaz Hotel, Liverpool Street, will inspire you to peek up your dinner parties. Guests will watch cut films, drink from a communal cup, eat blindfolded and try to grab bread rolls suspended from helium balloons.
September 19-22, £95 a head, www.frankintill.com/secretsensorsuppers.

7 Geometry class
Throw out those old paper lanterns and invest in a Raimond, the product of a lifetime's work by designer Raimond Futs. His round lampshade, created from intersecting triangles, was clearly tricky to work out. From Dutch design group Moooi, prices start at £1,231. Well, it did take years. Moooi, 555 Harrow Road, London W10 4RH (020 8962 5691; www.moooi.com).

8 Complete comfort
Revolutionise sitting down with the Extension Chair, by Sjoerd Vroonland, again at Moooi. The upright chair can be extended with a coat-stand, handbag hanger or a card holder. Sitting beneath your coat won't make you topple over, as the extension has a counterweight. From £298. See above for details.

9 Global advance
If the demise of old-fashioned light bulbs makes you sad, then go to the Andaz Hotel and invest in Bulb, a new table lamp from Minimalux. The spherical light uses 16th-century glass-blowing techniques, and "pays homage" to the incandescent light bulb. Probably not one for the kids' room - it costs around £200. Andaz Hotel (www.minimalux.com).

10 Talk of the town
Find out about the latest in design and technology at the Google Design Lectures: Design as Performance, at the V&A. Designers develop their ideas in public view, with the help of a live audience.
September 24, £12/£5 concessions (020 7942 2211; visit.vam.ac.uk/tickets).
© The festival runs until September 25. For more details, visit www.londondesignfestival.com.