

# **CALL FOR ENTRIES: DESIGNERS IN RESIDENCE 2016**

The Designers in Residence annual programme promotes new and emerging design talent and for 2016 the selected designers' work will feature in the Design Museum's new location in Kensington, west London. The platform will introduce four designers from different disciplines and will be a presentation of their work in response to this year's theme, Open.

The following document provides further information about the programme and the application process for 2016

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# 1. WHAT IS THE DESIGNERS IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMME?

The Designers in Residence programme is a core part of the museum's activity, and exists to provide practising designers, across any discipline, with time and space away from their regular environment to reflect, research and consider new ways of developing their practice.

A period of exploration culminates in new work presented both with a showcase at the Design Museum and in a catalogue that promotes the work and critical discourse of each resident, raising their profile within the design community and wider public.

Each resident is provided with a commissioning fee to produce new work in response to the theme, this fee goes directly to the work that will be presented within the museum. A bursary is then offered after the residency as a financial asset to help fund their personal practice. The Design Museum manages the production costs associated with the showcase and the presentation of the work to the public.

The programme for this year currently does not offer any studio space for the selected designers. There are however expected to attend meetings and updates at the Design Museum throughout the residency and during the development of their project. Throughout the months leading up to the showcase, the four designers discuss their proposed projects with established practitioners, industry experts and residency alumni. These various conversations aim to promote critical dialogue, to challenge ideas, to clarify intent and to resolve issues. Alongside these exchanges, they consult with the Design Museum's legal, commercial, development, learning and curatorial teams in order to gain a greater understanding of how their work fits within the museum's wider context.

To gain one of the coveted places on the programme, applicants must respond to an open submission and brief, set by the Design Museum. Previous briefs have covered site-specific interaction, collecting, community, thrift, the pursuit of imperfection, identity, disruption and migration. To be eligible, residents must live and work in the UK, have graduated within the last five years, and must have been working professionally (or voluntarily) in some form of design practice for at least a year.

## 2.

# THE DESIGNERS IN RESIDENCE THEME 2016

This year the Design Museum opens the doors to its new home in Kensington. The Designers in Residence of 2016 will join the museum on this journey. Through a focussed and rigorous proposal, the museum asks for designers to submit creative responses to this year's theme **OPEN**.

Design is no longer exclusive but a process in which many voices can participate. The spirit of open design offers new and exciting ways to shape and experience the world around us. Design has become more inclusive. Tools that were once the preserve of professionals are now available to amateurs. Through hacking, co-creation, downloadable designs, and sharing of knowledge, more people than ever can take on the role of the designer.

Moreover, designers themselves have learnt to adapt becoming more outward-looking, opening the discipline to a world beyond objects that include services, environments and emerging technologies. Open suggests a willingness to test new methods of working and seek new interactions.

The Design Museum is looking for new ways of thinking, doing and making. Designers in Residence invites designers who demonstrate an openness in their practice. Through the programme the selected designers must offer a unique insight into their process, encouraging museum visitors to engage directly with their work. The Design Museum wants designers who demonstrate originality, be it through technology or through collective modes of working. As a Designer in Residence you will show initiative and awareness of broader debates that touch on design, whether economic, ethical or social issues, whilst setting the agenda for the future of design.

### 3. APPLICATION PROCESS

Now in its 9th year, the residency demonstrates the museum's commitment to showcasing and supporting the next generation of design talent. The residency is open to all designers who have graduated from Higher Education within the last five years (in the academic year 2011/12 or more recently) and who have been working professionally (either paid or voluntarily) in some form of design or architecture practice for a minimum of one year.

**Deadline for all applications, including their proposals based on the theme of 'Open' is 9am, on Tuesday 1 March 2016. Entries received after this deadline will not be accepted.**

Designers must provide:

- a) A completed application form
- b) A visual presentation of their proposal

The application form can be found here:

[www.designmuseum.org/apply-for-designers-in-residence-2016](http://www.designmuseum.org/apply-for-designers-in-residence-2016)

Please direct any queries about the application process or the Designers in Residence programme to the Design Museum email address:  
[residence2016@designmuseum.org](mailto:residence2016@designmuseum.org)

A shortlist of applicants will be invited for an interview in London on **17 March 2016** to discuss their proposals with a panel of experts before the final group of four residents is selected. Please keep this day free in case you are selected.

Applicants that make the interview shortlist will be notified by **the end of the day on 9 March.**

It may be possible, given exceptional circumstances, for the interview to be conducted via Skype or conference calling.

## 4. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Designers in Residence is only open to designers who live and are eligible to work in the UK.
- Designers in Residence is only open to designers who have graduated from Higher Education within the last 5 years (within the 2011/12 academic year or more recently) and have been working professionally, either paid, or voluntarily in some form of design practice for at least one year.
- Applications can be submitted on behalf of design collectives/studios as well as individual designers.
- Only one application will be accepted per designer(s).
- Design Museum employees are not eligible to apply.
- Applications must be in response to the brief and feature new work or the development of an existing project. If an application is based on existing work the development of the work in response to the brief should be clear.
- Only applications submitted via email will be considered.
- If you are unable to attend the interview day, the museum may be unable to progress your application unless exceptional circumstances.
- In addition the selected designers will be asked to participate in other activities in support of the launch and promotion of the programme.
- The selected designers will be asked to participate in events which engage with the Design Museum's audiences via networking, press interviews, events, online resources and the public and learning programme. Details of these events are tbc but may include attendance and participation in events in the lead up to, and during, the showcase. These will be discussed in more detail on appointment.
- Designers in Residence may be asked to record their residency by supplying information and visual content on the development of the commission for press, marketing and online content. As part of this they must be prepared to share their process and design thinking as part of the display of their work.

Further details and full terms and conditions can be found on our website.

## 5. TIMELINE AND KEY DATES

9am 1 March 2016	Deadline for applications
9 March 2016	Designers shortlisted for next stage and interview day will be notified
17 March 2016	Interview day for shortlisted applicants
18 March 2016	The final selected designers will be notified
April 2016 *	Public announcement of the four successful residents.
April – June 2016	<p>Project development phase (includes the initial research, design development and production of final pieces)</p> <p>Designers the expected to be available for meetings and updates throughout this period and throughout the development phase.</p>
June – Sept 2016 *	Exhibition development phase (includes exhibition and graphic design development, method of display and interpretation planning and production of project catalogue)
Late 2016 – March 2017 *	Showcase of the work in response to the theme Open

**\*Exact days to be confirmed on appointment**

## **6. DESIGNERS IN RESIDENCE 2015**

The current Designers in Residence exhibition opened on 9 September 2015 and runs until 31 March 2016.

The theme for 2015 was 'Migration' and the featured residents are Stephanie Hornig, Chris Green, Hefin Jones, Alexa Pollmann.

You can learn more about the exhibition and their commissions here:  
<http://designmuseum.org/exhibitions/designers-in-residence-2015-migration>

## **7. PREVIOUS EXHIBITIONS**



Benchmark, Freddie Yauner, 2008.



Harvest, Asif Khan, 2009.



Farm Factory, Farm: Guy Brown, Alexena Cayless, Sebastian Hejna, Giles Miller, 2010



Uno Lampshades, Jade Folawiyo, In Pursuit of Imperfection, 2011



2012 Designers In Residence exhibition – Thrift



2013 - Designers In Residence exhibition – Identity



2014 – Designers in Residence exhibition – Disruption,  
Torsten Sherwood, nook

## **8.**

# **ABOUT THE DESIGN MUSEUM**

The Design Museum is the world's leading museum devoted to architecture and design. The museum opened in 1989 and its work encompasses all elements of design, including fashion, product and graphic design.

The museum has hosted exhibitions showcasing some of the most important pioneers of design including, Paul Smith, Zaha Hadid, Jonathan Ive, and Dieter Rams.

The Design Museum will relocate from its current home at Shad Thames to the former Commonwealth Institute building in Kensington, West London in late 2016. Leading designer John Pawson will convert the interior of the Commonwealth Institute building to create a new home for the Design Museum giving it three times more space in which to show a wider range of exhibitions, showcase its world class collection and extend its learning programme.

For more information, please visit:

[www.designmuseum.org](http://www.designmuseum.org)

**#designersinresidence**

**DESIGN MUSEUM, SHAD THAMES, LONDON, SE1 2YD**

**OPENING: 10.00 -17.45 daily. Last admission: 17.15**