

introducing the 2017 designers in residence

2017 is the tenth year of the Design Museum's annual Designers in Residence programme which provides a platform to celebrate new and emerging designers at an early stage in their career. Recent alumni include Asif Khan, Giles Miller, Bethan Laura Wood, Yuri Suzuki and Sarah van Gameren.

Responding to the theme of 'Support', these will be the first designers to use the museum's dedicated Designers in Residence studio to create their works. Located on the museum's top floor, visitors will be able to see the designers at work and interact with them during allocated times slots each day. Once each designer has completed their residency of 7 months, they will collectively form a showcase of their work within the studio.

The 2017 Designers in Residence are: Chris Hildrey, Soomi Park, Studio Ayaskan and Yinka Danmole.

Chris Hildrey is an architect from Liverpool, now based in London. His work spans the fields of design and architecture with an interest in collaborations across disciplines, social implications of designs and emergent systems. Chris currently works for Niall McLaughlin Architects, where he is project architect for the Natural History Museum grounds project. He has previously worked for other established architectural practices including Foster & Partners, Zaha Hadid Architects in London, and OMA in Rotterdam.

Chris's project for this year's programme will be exploring potential interventions that support communities and groups that are affected by funding cuts, including the homeless.



Chris Hildrey



Project: Natural History Museum grounds, Image credit: Niall McLaughlin Architects

Soomi Park is a London-based speculative designer and multimedia artist from Seoul, South Korea. Through her works, she explores the complex relationship between emerging technologies and human desires. Her works encompass a wide range of mediums, including interactive installations, speculative objects, film, photography, performance, and wearables.

Soomi's project for this year's Designers in Residence programme is 'Embarrassed Robots'. It will be looking at how robots can potentially reflect complex human emotions and what this could mean for the future of artificial intelligence.



Soomi Park



Project: The Republic of Privacy - Sniffer Dog Authentication (2013), Image credit: Marcel Helmer, 3D modelling: Hyung-ok Park

Studio Ayaskan is a London-based experimental design studio formed to explore the connections between technology and nature, with a curiosity towards materials, together they look to create the unexpected. Studio Ayaskan produces installations and objects combining an experimental approach to craft and technology. The studio was founded as a collaboration between twin sisters Begum and Bike Ayaskan in 2015 following their Master's Degree in Design Products at the Royal College of Art.

Studio Ayaskan's project for this year's programme will consist of contemplative objects that take inspiration from nature, exploring the idea of lifecycles in materials to create a display that changes and evolves over time.



Begum and Bike Ayaskan



Project: 'Growth', Image credit: Thomas Essl

Yinka Danmole is a multidisciplinary designer based in Birmingham. He established Studio Danmole in 2013, working across the fields of design, art, and architecture. The work ranges from large installations and environments to objects and two-dimensional visuals from branding to digital platforms. Yinka's work roots itself in ideas of ownership and activation, often in relation to our cities and public spaces. His work effectively engages the public through evoking strong narratives both visually and physically. The studio currently works with arts organisations nationally engaging with groups with an educational focus.

Yinka's project will look at the visual representation of language and mapping the vocabulary, expression, tones and variations of pidgin English, highlighting shared meanings and considering language as open source.



Image credit: Eunice Cornejo



Project: Flatpack theatre stage commissioned by the RSC and Stans Café

The Designers in Residence programme provides young designers with time and space to research and consider new ways of progressing their work and practice. During the development of their projects, residents discuss their work with established practitioners, industry experts and residency alumni, as well as with the Design Museum's legal, commercial, learning, development, and curatorial teams. Each resident is offered a bursary, commissioning budget and the production costs required to realise their new commission. The programme offers opportunities for the designers to present and discuss their work within a broader context of contemporary practice, provoking their approach and design thinking to offer new and exciting directions within the fields of design.

ENDS

Press enquiries, image and interview requests:
Tel: +44 (0) 207 940 8787
Email: celeste.chipperfield@designmuseum.org
[#designersinresidence](#)

Notes to Editors:

Designers:

Chris Hildrey graduated MA(Hons), first class, from the University of Edinburgh in 2006. In 2009, he graduated from the Bartlett, UCL with a Dip.Arch and M.Arch, winning the History and Theory Prize. He was invited to return to the Bartlett to undertake a funded research position in Advanced Architectural Research, graduating with Distinction in 2012. He achieved his RIBA Part III qualification with merit from the University of Westminster in 2014. He continues to be involved in academia, having been a visiting critic at the Bartlett, London Metropolitan University, Greenwich University, and the University of Edinburgh.

Soomi Park is currently pursuing her PhD in the Media and Arts Technology (MAT) programme in School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science at Queen Mary, University of London, funded by the Engineering Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC). She received her first MA in Digital Media Design from International Design School for Advanced Studies (IDAS) Hong-Ik University in Seoul and completed her second

MA in Design Interactions at the Royal College of Art (RCA) in London. She has regularly associated with teaching and mentoring at universities and workshops across Europe and South Korea, including Goldsmiths University, London, RCA and Copenhagen Institute of Interactive Design (CIID), to share her knowledge on the critical role of design and emerging technologies in our fast-changing society.

Studio Ayaskan creates works, driven by an underlying passion and longing for nature, which are intimate representations of experiences of nature, finding form in scenarios, cycles of events and loops interlaced by the harmony of the controlled and the spontaneous. Studio Ayaskan's work has won the 2016 Lexus Design Awards, the Design Council's Spark Innovation Fund in 2016 and has been widely published and exhibited internationally.

Yinka Danmole is a graduate of the Birmingham School of Architecture. After graduating in 2012, Yinka has gone on to develop independent projects alongside working with arts organisations over the last few years. His role as creative director of Studio Danmole incorporates design and curatorial duties and frequently collaborates with other creative practitioners as part of his practice.

About Designers in Residence:

Designers in Residence demonstrates the museum's commitment to showcasing and supporting the next generation of design talent. It is open to all designers who have graduated from Higher Education within the last five years and who have been working professionally (either paid or voluntarily) in some form of design or architectural practice for a minimum of one year. The programme includes a series of events and talks, offering the designers the opportunity to interact and engage with the public, whilst using this platform as a test-bed for ideas, designs and innovations.

About the Design Museum:

The Design Museum is building the world's leading museum devoted to architecture and design, its work encompasses all elements of design, including fashion, product and graphic design. Since it opened its doors in 1989 the museum has displayed everything from an AK-47 to high heels designed by Christian Louboutin. It has staged over 100 exhibitions,

welcomed over five million visitors and showcased the work of some of the world's most celebrated designers including Paul Smith, Zaha Hadid, Jonathan Ive, Miuccia Prada, Frank Gehry, Eileen Gray and Dieter Rams. On 24 November 2016, The Design Museum relocated to Kensington, west London. Leading architectural designer John Pawson has converted the interior of a 1960s modernist 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 and significantly extend its learning programme.

For more information, please visit:
designmuseum.org | newdesignmuseum.tumblr.com

Designers in Residence is generously supported using public funding by Arts Council England.



Media partner:

BLUEPRINT