



The Lithuanian Virtual Exhibition © Photo: Cielo Alejandra | ADORNO

“Living Above the Water” - *A comprehensive prediction of future values*

PRESS RELEASE

The Lithuanian Collection
London, UK
London Design Festival
18-26 September 2021

Adorno is pleased to announce the Lithuanian collection, “Living Above the Water”, as a part of Adorno London 2021. Presented in a multi-level concrete structure built atop a swamp, “Living Above the Water” envisions a future that could very soon become a reality due to rising sea levels. Curated by creative director Audronė Drungilaitė, the collection features the work of six designers whose work presents us with a multi-faceted vision for the future.

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“Living Above the Water” looks into the future and hypothesizes on what kind of values will be important to future generations. Featured designers Agnė Kučerenkaitė, Evelina Kudabaitė, Mantas Lesauskas, Vytautas Gečas, Martynas Kazimierėnas, and Severija Inčirauskaitė-Kriaunevičienė have created pieces that reflect concepts such as nostalgia, overconsumption, and upcycling. Their work invites a need to pause and reconsider the way we approach design, from the use of raw materials, to the development of new techniques, to giving new life to so-called “waste”.

Besides the virtual exhibition, a selection of pieces from the collection will be exhibited at “Tactile Baltics”, a joint Baltic exhibition, at Dray Walk Gallery in Shoreditch from 18 September to 3 October 2021.

“Living Above the Water” invites you to explore collectible design that has been made while thinking about a more sustainable future. It is nothing new that designers are blamed for creating beautiful objects and encouraging people to buy new things and thereby contributing to global warming. The global sea level has risen about 21–24 cm since 1880, with a third of the total in just the last two and a half decades. The water level is rising due to unconscious human activities, consumerism, and pollution. Due to this, future homes will definitely look different – some lands will be flooded and people will have to learn to live above the water.

Future design should have a connection with the past like the “Romance Gravity” Console by Vytautas Gečas inspired by complex aesthetics of the rococo period. Future designers will be obliged to look for alternative materials and techniques, in a similar manner to Agnė Kučerenkaitė who uses coloured upcycled textile dyes that originate from botanical and metal waste and by-products. People will have to go back to their roots, find a connection with nature, and be more aware of ethics and animal rights, as can be seen in Mantas Lesauskas’ “Récamier Daybed”, made of aluminium and sheepskin - a by-product of the meat industry which is durable and biodegradable.

What looks ordinary nowadays might become totally obsolete. “Shipping Shade” by Martynas Kazimierėnas questions whether it is always necessary to pack everything in a box? Perhaps the object can be sold and transported without extra care and even collect a unique visual story. Due to the fast pace of living, the human agenda may become so crowded that doing sports at home becomes a new habit which saves time and lowers CO2 emissions – so why not reuse old sports equipment in the same way as designer Severija Inčirauskaitė-Kriaunevičienė?

MEET THE CURATOR
AUDRONĖ DRUNGILAITĖ



Design is a wonderful platform to present circular economic benefits to a wider audience, to start a discussion with industry and politicians.

- Audronė Drungilaitė

Audronė Drungilaitė is a Creative Director at EMKO – a place where simply smart design meets its seekers and creators. She's a former Executive Director of the Lithuanian Design Forum which is a non-governmental design promotion organization bridging designers with the industry. Audrone had been responsible for the management of Design Week Lithuania, the biggest design festival in the Baltics happening from 2006 in six cities at the same time. A graduate of Vilnius Academy of Arts with a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Design and a Master's in Cultural Management and Policy, Audrone works there as a visiting lecturer. She is an enthusiastic promoter of Lithuanian design around the world, chairs a few boards, and sometimes curates Lithuanian design exhibitions abroad.

VISITOR INFORMATION



Physical Exhibition

A selection of works from the Lithuanian collection will be exhibited at the "[Tactile Baltics](#)" exhibition.

Dray Walk Gallery — Dray Walk
off Brick Lane, London, E1 6QL

18 September to 3 October
Mon-Fri: 10 am - 6.30 pm
Sat-Sun: 10 am - 5 pm

VIP & Press tour: Tuesday 21,
4:30 PM

[Register to visit](#)



Virtual Exhibition

"Living Above the Water" invites you to explore collectible design created with a more sustainable future in mind. Referencing the threat of rising sea levels, the collection is presented above a swamp in a possible future home. The selected pieces engage with the notion of learning from the past and predicting the future, and address the themes of overconsumption, material wastes, evolving habits, and nostalgia.

Visit the virtual exhibition
18-26 September at
www.adorno.london

PARTICIPANTS

Agnė Kučerenkaitė

Evelina Kudabaitė

Mantas Lesauskas

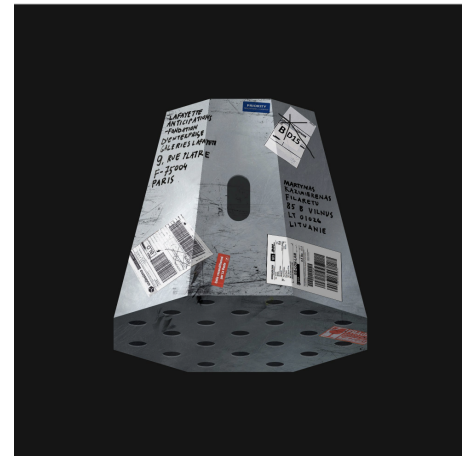
Vytautas Gečas

Martynas Kazimierėnas

Severija Inčirauskaitė-Kriaunevičienė

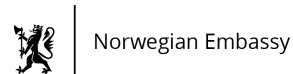
THE COLLECTION

[Download High-res images](#)



Left: Agnė Kučerenkaitė, "Lutetia" Rug, **Mid:** Severija Inčirauskaitė-Kriaunevičienė, "Sports at Home", **Right:** Evelina Kudabaitė, "LAYERS" Stoneware Lamp
Mid: Mantas Lesauskas, "Recamier" Daybed, **Right:** Martynas Kazimierėnas, "Shipping Shade"
Mid: Vytautas Gečas, "Romance Gravity" Console
 © Images courtesy of the designers

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

Title	Adorno London 2021: <i>Designing Futures</i>
Dates	18-26 September 2021
Virtual Exhibition	www.adorno.london
Participating Countries	Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden
	Hosted at Tactile Baltics Dray Walk Gallery — Dray Walk off Brick Lane, London, E1 6QL
Physical Exhibition (Lithuania)	18 September to 3 October Mon-Fri: 10 am - 6.30 pm Sat-Sun: 10 am - 5 pm <i>VIP & Press tour: Tuesday 21, 4:30 PM</i> <i>VIP Cocktail Preview 5.30 - 9pm (Invite only)</i>
Images	Courtesy of the designers & photographers
Press kit	Link
Press Contact	David Gorrod, press@adorno.design

ABOUT ADORNO

Adorno is a digital gallery for the best of collectible design and craft from around the globe. Selected by a network of on-the-ground curators from more than 30 design cities, Adorno's collections provide a unique insight into the world's diverse creative communities – and celebrate the work of the designers shaping them.

Each collection showcases only unique or limited-edition contemporary works, spanning the fields of furniture, textiles, ceramics, sculpture, and design-art. The curatorial approach varies from collection to collection – just as design culture varies from community to community – but every object featured is contemporary in style, experimental in approach, and exceptional in material quality.

The designers featured include both established names and emerging talents at the cusp of their careers, ensuring each collection is a snapshot of the people, techniques, styles, and thinking that define the modern making culture of each region. With each collection launch, Adorno adds a new chapter to the global design story.

In its essence, the infrastructure of Adorno includes the e-commerce platform (www.adorno.design), an international legal setup, and a global cost-efficient shipping solution that enables autonomous collaboration between curators and designers to promote their work and transact with a growing segment of international buyers. Besides running the online platform, Adorno exhibits at major design events worldwide.