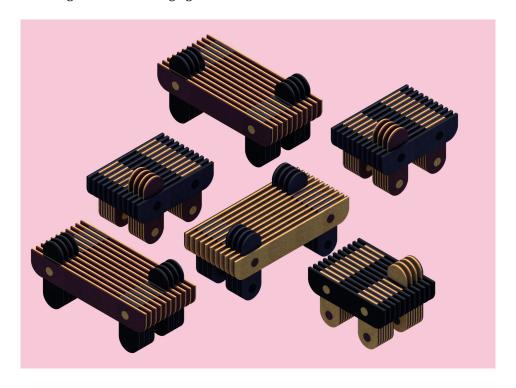
# King's Cross Design District: New CASA ESTUDIO benches made from recycled paper composite, Richlite

The King's Cross Design District this year focuses on the future of design, from showcasing the 'material heroes' that could help address our urgent collective need to transition to a circular economy, to providing a platform for the next generation of design graduates.



From **18-26 September**, **King's Cross Design District** will host a jam-packed schedule of installations and events as the highly anticipated **London Design Festival** returns to the destination for a third year.

London-based designers CASA ESTUDIO will present a never-before-seen King's Cross seating installation made from Richlite, an FSC-certified recycled paper composite. Although made from paper, the material is weather resistant and durable enough for a busy public realm.

Prototyped in two different sizes, the benches are a deceptively simple slatted construction made using 'off-the-shelf' sheet material. Made specifically for King's Cross, the construction method references the site's industrial history, while its curved edges and exaggerated joins are reminiscent of children's construction toys. Modular and according to a formula, it has the potential to roll out on a larger scale and to include tables, chairs, recliners etc.

# Further activity to be announced soon. Stay up to date on the latest LDF news: www.kingscross.co.uk/london-design-festival

The King's Cross estate continues to operate in line with the latest Covid guidance to enable the public to enjoy the activities safely with social distancing measures in place

#### **ENDS**

### Press enquiries:

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#### **Notes to Editors**

#### King's Cross

King's Cross is home to 67 acres of outstanding architecture, destination restaurants and a vibrant cultural scene. At its heart is the Heatherwick Studio-designed Coal Drops Yard; London's newest shopping district housed in a pair of artfully reimagined industrial Victorian buildings. The area's industrial past has inspired the 50 new and repurposed buildings, which are surrounded by beautifully-designed green spaces and public areas, including Granary Square and its iconic fountains. This bustling creative neighbourhood is a lively place in central London to visit day and night, and has a deserved reputation as a culinary hot spot.

King's Cross is somewhere you can live, work and play – over 20,000 people now work in the area, and it has close to 2,000 homes. This includes landmark development Gasholders London, comprising 145 new canalside apartments within a triplet of Grade II-listed cast-iron gasholder frames.

www.kingscross.co.uk @Kingscrossn1c

## **Coal Drops Yard**

Coal Drops Yard is a vibrant shopping and restaurant district in London's King's Cross. Coal Drops Yard was originally established in 1850 to handle the eight million tonnes of coal delivered to the capital each year, and was latterly the location of nightclubs Bagley's and The Cross. The area reopened in October 2018, reinvented by the acclaimed Heatherwick Studio, which has interwoven a contemporary design with the surviving structures and rich ironwork of the original Victorian coal drops.

Located within a reimagined set of historic buildings and arches directly adjacent to Granary Square and Regent's Canal, Coal Drops Yard houses over fifty stores from a unique mix of established and emerging brands, along with cafés, bars, top independent restaurants and new public spaces.

www.coaldropsyard.com @coaldropsyard

# **CASA ESTUDIO**

Focusing on the design of exhibitions, furniture and print, CASA ESTUDIO is the design studio founded by designer Andrés Ros Soto and artist Giles Round. Their work is characterised by bold use of colour, pattern and geometry. Since 2010 CASA ESTUDIO has collaborated with various retailers and manufacturers to

produce commercially available homewares. Recent work includes a wall covering with artists' wallpaper company CommonRoom launched at Shoreditch Design Triangle, London, 2018; the interior of the Parlour at Sketch, London, 2017 and the 3D and graphics of the exhibitions 'Magnificent Obsessions' and 'Francis Bacon and the Masters', Sainsbury Centre, Norwich, 2015-16. They are currently developing a new line of textiles for The Playhouse, Tokyo.

## **Richlite**

Richlite is an incredibly durable material made from recycled paper, developed over 75 years ago in the Pacific Northwest for industrial tooling. With a mottled appearance, honed look and leathery feel, the solid paper composite is used by the aerospace, extreme sports, marine, food prep and architecture and design communities.

www.richlite.com | @richlite | #MakeitwithPaper