



15–17 September 2026

Material Matters London reveals a second wave of exhibitors at its new Shoreditch home spanning craft, technology and material experimentation.



Matrix Design
(Image by Luke Gifford)

Material Matters, the cross-media platform promoting material intelligence in architecture and design, returns for its fifth London edition from 15–17 September 2026 in a new home. UNLOCKED Shoreditch is a multi-level former industrial warehouse on Curtain Road, at the heart of Shoreditch Design Week (SDW) – the most significant district within the annual London Design Festival.

One of the highlights promises to be an installation from global agency **Matrix Design**. [Hand, Code, Matter: A New Flow for Spatial Design](#) explores how emerging technologies are reshaping the future of architecture and interior design, without losing sight of human creativity. The installation brings together works from eight recent graduate architects, to demonstrate how hand-making, drawing and artificial intelligence can combine to create spaces that are deeply personal, culturally grounded, and emotionally resonant.



Only Natural

On the subject of recent graduates, Material Matters is delighted to be showcasing the **Only Natural International Student Design Competition** at this year's fair once again. [Only Natural](#) is a global movement promoting the use of natural materials in contemporary design. It champions fibres such as wool, hemp, leather and wood as renewable, durable alternatives to synthetic materials. At its core is the student design competition, which invites emerging designers to explore the creative potential of nature-based materials across fashion, furniture and interiors. The projects featured at the fair showcase the versatility of nature-based materials and highlight innovative approaches to craft, material intelligence and responsible production.

As ever, the fair will have a lively talks programme in the guise of the *Cafe Conversations*. Material Matters' Thought Leadership Partner [Berghaus](#), will provide one talk a day, while other subjects tackled include working with waste, and the importance of bio design. Look out too for the return of the Negrini Talks, brainchild of London-based architecture practice Fourth Space, on 16 September at 6pm. This year the team will be investigating the relationship between fashion and architecture with speakers coming from the likes of ZHA and O'Donnell + Tuomey Architects.

Pani Jurek Studio



Meanwhile, other names around the aisles to look out for include:

Zieta Studios presents the Whispers Bench at the fair's entrance. Architect and designer Oskar Zięta is known internationally for his innovation with FiDU – a process that enables an 'inflation' of flat steel into complex structural forms.

Pani Jurek Studio shows its OP Ceramic Modular System from the OP Object collection – an interactive structure composed of ceramic tiles that rotate around their own axes, creating open space dividers or mounted modular wall compositions.



Zieta Studios – Whispers Bench



Studio Gonzalo Bascuñan

Studio Gonzalo Bascuñan displays *Carding Collectibles*, a colourful collection of contemporary lighting design objects crafted from recycled cotton. The installation takes inspiration from the environmental impact of the fast fashion industry on the Atacama Desert, in the designer's home nation of Chile.

Benchspace is a communal workshop based in south east London. At the fair, it will re-create a workshop workbench, assembling and finishing a product made using digital technology and finished by hand.

Sunday Light presents a ceiling-mounted lighting system that replicates the rhythm of daylight.

Bo Gyeom Kim is a designer and artist whose practice explores material experimentation and speculative futures. He shows *Post Plastic*, an installation that speculates on a future beyond the Anthropocene.

Deniz Beck Partners is a Turkish-born, Portsmouth-based conservation architect, cultural producer and founder of Sustainable Conservation Trust (SCT). Her installation, *The Shape of Memory* – based around her work at Fort Gilkicker, a Victorian sea fort in Gosport – marks a significant moment in her transition from architect and heritage practitioner into a more explicitly research-led artistic practice.

Emerging designer **Olivia Webb** creates an installation in the 'threshold' space between the entrance hall and the main exhibition area. *Made with Love* is a regenerative interior architectural system made from local floriculture byproducts scaled via modular joints and material infill components.

Deniz Beck Partners



'This year's line-up spans everything from new technology to natural materials, waste and memory – but each exhibitor is asking the same vital question: how and why we make things. That's the conversation we want visitors to walk into this **September**,' say Material Matters co-founders Grant Gibson and William Knight.

Details

Dates:

Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17
September 2026

Tue 10am–6pm, Wed 10am–8pm,
Thur 10am–6pm

Venue:

UNLOCKED Shoreditch,
118 Curtain Road
London EC2A 3PJ

Nearest stations:

Shoreditch High Street,
Old Street, Liverpool Street

Registration:

Free to Attend | [Register](#)

Website:

materialmatters.design/the-fair



Press: Press pack [Link](#)

For press enquiries, high-resolution images, or to arrange interviews with exhibitors or co-founders William Knight and Grant Gibson, please contact caroline@therenew.net

Notes to Editors

About Material Matters: Material Matters launched in 2019 as a critically acclaimed podcast hosted by former *Blueprint* and *Crafts* editor Grant Gibson. 150 episodes later, it has grown into a leading international platform for material intelligence in architecture and design, convening the global design community through its fairs in London and Copenhagen, its annual conference, *Assemble*, and an ongoing editorial programme.

Material Matters is owned and organised by Delizia Media Ltd, established in 2021 by Grant Gibson and William Knight, one-time director of 100% Design and Clerkenwell Design Week. Together the duo bring more than 50 years of experience in design writing, broadcasting, event organisation and promotion – championing a deeper understanding of materials, sustainability, craft and innovation.

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About Shoreditch Design Week: Shoreditch Design Week (15–20th September) is a celebration of design that brings together exhibitions, installations and brand showcases across London's most creative neighbourhood. Set in a district known for its architects, interior designers, studios and design-led companies, SDW highlights emerging talent, innovative ideas and contemporary products for hospitality, residential, retail and workspace projects. Building on the foundations of the Shoreditch Design Triangle, Shoreditch Design Week celebrates the neighbourhood's distinctive creative spirit, drawing together designers, makers and innovators to affirm Shoreditch as a defining force in the UK design landscape. shoreditchdesignweek.com

Exhibitor profiles: Full profiles and boilerplates for all exhibitors are available in the press pack – [Link](#)