

## MATERIAL MATTERS 2025: CHAMPIONING MATERIAL INNOVATION AND EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN



Material Matters returns during the London Design Festival 2025 with a dynamic new edition that places materials at the centre of contemporary design. From global manufacturers and pioneering brands to boundary-pushing designers and thought-provoking installations, the fair brings together a diverse range of participants united by a shared vision of how materials shape the world around us.

Now located in a new central London venue, Space House, the 2025 edition offers architects and designers a lively platform for innovation, responsibility and business opportunities. It features a range of products and materials, from bio-based alternatives and recycled composites to heritage crafts and cutting-edge fabrication.

### **Brands To Look Out For**

This year's event features a series of major manufacturers that highlight the importance of material intelligence. **3M** will display its 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes, which are ideal for refurbishing

surfaces without the need for replacement, while lighting legend **Anglepoise** marks its 90th anniversary with a series of activities celebrating its legacy of design and craftsmanship.

**MycoWorks** will present Reishi™, a biomaterial cultivated from mycelium, available in various colours and materials, suitable for multiple interior applications. The biotechnology company's project *Reishi™ in the Nordic Light* makes its British debut with a new collection of products developed with five Danish design studios — **OEO Studio**, **Frederick Gustav**, **Cecilie Manz**, **Maria Bruun** and **atelier axo**.

Taiwanese brand **FILIE Materials** will introduce a range of sustainable materials made from recycled PVB film sourced from broken car windscreens. These include leather alternatives and flexible foams, demonstrating innovative approaches to reuse waste.

*In The Making*, curated by leading architecture and design practice **tp bennett** and international furniture specialist **The Furniture Practice**, returns to the fair. This time, the duo explores the theme of responsibility, focusing on companies committed to safeguarding natural resources. Participating brands include **Arper**, **Tarkett**, **Parkside Architectural Tiles**, and **Domus Tiles**, with more to be announced soon.

### Emerging and Experimental Design

Material Matters continues its longstanding commitment to emerging and experimental design. Among this year's designers and micro-manufacturers is **Jacob Marks**, who will present *Explorations in Pine Resin*, an installation showcasing all his experiments with pine resin, as well as products ranging from handles and mirrors to furniture and lighting.

**Micaella Pedros** explores the transformative power of overlooked materials, often working with reclaimed wood and discarded plastics. She will show her new body of work, *Many Parts*, a material investigation of form around post-consumer plastic waste.

**Ric Frampton** will use his DC-01 chair, designed for DEKA, to demonstrate how he approaches design with repair, circularity and futureproofing in mind. **Revive Innovations** exhibits its RE-CD material, made from recycled CDs, as well as KRUSHED PLASTICS, a recycled sheet material derived from waste plastics such as PP, LDPE, HDPE, and HIPS. Both materials can be customised in colour and texture, providing flexible, sustainable options for a variety of design applications.



London-based design and research studio **Wedge** explores the convergence of computation, fabrication, and material experimentation. Its sculptural collection includes Epoch 2, a furniture collection created using algorithmic modelling, digital scanning and advanced 3D printing in both sand and metal.

### Features and Installations

**The Wood Awards**, the UK's foremost competition for architecture and product design in wood, returns to Material Matters. Its installation will feature shortlisted Furniture & Objects projects, including one-off designs, production pieces, and sculpted objects, alongside engaging displays of shortlisted buildings from across the UK.

**The Material Way** is a new collective platform for material-based studies, founded by multi-disciplinary designer Bonnie Hvillum and curator Rita Trindade. The platform aims to support curious creators who seek to develop a more holistic, local and nature-oriented future. It will present a selection of works created by this year's students from the annual Local Bio-based Materials programme.



**Only Natural** will reveal the winners of its global student design competition, as well as showcase a selection of last year's top entries. Its aim is to inspire the next generation of designers and educators to prioritise natural solutions, promoting sustainability at every stage of the creative process and helping to shape a more responsible future.

**PriestmanGoode** will unveil the latest developments in Route to Zero, its sustainability framework that embeds responsible thinking at every stage of design. The studio will also unveil new features in its Material Minds database, an interactive tool designed to assist designers and clients in navigating the complexities of sustainable material choices.

Material Matters 2025 also hosts the Futures Lab, an initiative created by design studio **ForEverydayLife** with support from the **Fondation USM**. The Lab is committed to imagining and creating better futures through design, showcasing work by **Studio Thus That** and the **Material Library of India**. These projects acknowledge nature and biodiversity as fundamental principles in creating a fairer and more balanced world.

'We are hugely looking forward to this year's fair,' say Material Matters co-founders William Knight and Grant Gibson. 'We have a wonderful new home in the heart of London's West End and a series of brilliant exhibitors — ranging from global brands to up-and-coming new names, via some fascinating features — to boot. In our opinion, it's an incredibly exciting mix.'

With a compelling blend of innovation, responsibility and creativity, Material Matters 2025 reflects the shifting priorities of the design industry — where sustainability, craftsmanship and experimentation coexist. Its line-up and inspiring new venue mark a bold step forward for the fair, offering designers, architects, manufacturers and the wider public an unmissable chance to engage with the materials shaping tomorrow's world. Whether you're seeking cutting-edge ideas, meaningful conversations, or simply a deeper connection to the objects and environments around us, Material Matters 2025 promises to deliver insight, inspiration and impact in equal measure.

Register to attend < <https://registration.iceni-es.com/material-matters/reg-start.aspx>

### **Notes to Editors**

The Material Matters Fair runs from 17 - 20 September

#### **Address:**

Space House, 1 Kemble St, London WC2B 4AN

#### **Image credit:**

Image 1: 'Reishi™ In the Nordic Light' from MycoWorks. Courtesy of MycoWorks

Image 2: 'Tupaway Lamp' from Micaella Pedros. Courtesy Micaella Pedros

Image 3: 'Explorations in Pine Resin' from Jacob Marks. Courtesy of Jacob Marks

Image 4: 'Karyo Rocking Chair' from Isabelle Moore Design. Photography by Shannon Tofts

### **About Material Matters**

Material Matters returns for its fourth edition from 17-20 September 2025 at a new venue, Space House — a striking Brutalist icon in central London.

Launched in 2022, the fair brings together over 50 established brands and emerging designers. The event is a must-see destination for architects and designers, showcasing the latest in material intelligence and the people, products and ideas shaping the future of design. Over the years, exhibitors have included AHEC Europe, Bisley, Corian®, Humanscale, Hydro, Layer and Woven Image, among many others.

Material Matters began as a podcast, hosted by former Blueprint and Crafts editor Grant Gibson, in 2019. Three years (and one global pandemic) later, he joined forces with William Knight, one-time director of 100% Design and Clerkenwell Design Week, to found a series of live events. This year, the duo launch their first international show during Copenhagen's 3daysofdesign, while, currently, they are plotting a new conference in partnership with the Bank of England.

As a highlight of the London Design Festival, Material Matters is more than a trade fair — it's a vital space for ideas, conversations, and collaborations around the materials that matter most.

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### **Press Information**

For further information and images or to request an interview, please contact:

Catherine Alfillé

[catherine@tomorrowpr.co.uk](mailto:catherine@tomorrowpr.co.uk)