



Atelier
DENSAN
Pop-up
London

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wagumi

Atelier Densan comes to London

wagumi hosts a rare UK showing of Japan's officially recognised craft traditions, for London Design Festival

12–20 September 2026

wagumi, Unit 1.09 Oxo Tower Wharf, Barge House Street, London SE1 9PH

To coincide with London Design Festival, wagumi in the Oxo Tower will host a specially curated selection of work from Atelier Densan. It will be a rare UK opportunity to see items from the 244 officially recognised craft traditions of Japan.

A mark of quality

Across Japan, techniques passed through generations continue to shape everyday objects. Cataloguing, preserving and championing this work falls to the Densan programme: only crafts and craftspeople that meet the rigorous examination of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry can carry the Densan designation. For the *Dentō Kōgei-shi* (designated craftspeople) who receive it, the mark is a point of pride. For collectors who find it, it's a guarantee of standard.

The foremost place to encounter this work is Atelier Densan's gallery and shop in Tokyo, rarely seen outside Japan. This September, that changes.

"The Densan mark is known as a mark of quality in Japan, and it is exciting to see it make the journey to London," says Ryoko Mutasono, director of Lives London Limited and curator of the Densan showcase for LDF. "More than just exquisite quality, it also signifies a commitment to uphold and update the traditions of craft in Japan that have sustained a richness in life — not just for old samurai-era elites, but for people in their homes."

What's on show

The selection at wagumi spans lacquerware from the Aizu-nuri tradition, thick, brightly patterned washi paper from Toyama, and the hard, unglazed stoneware of Bizen, alongside ceramics, textiles, metalwork and woodcraft from further afield. Each piece carries the terroir of its region — the local materials, and the hands that shaped them.

The showcase brings together 75 makers from across Japan, spanning 50 traditional craft categories, each rooted in a specific region. wagumi and Atelier Densan hope the pop-up will introduce a wider London audience to the depth of skill within the Densan canon, and to the regions that depend on it.

Notes to Editors

Dates: 12–20 September 2026 **Location:** wagumi, Unit 1.09 Oxo Tower Wharf, Barge House Street, London SE1 9PH, UK **Makers:** 75 craftspeople from across Japan, spanning 50 traditional craft categories — each tied to a specific region — including ceramics, lacquerware, textiles, metalwork, woodcraft and washi **Instagram:** @atelierdensan_popup_europe

About wagumi Located in London's Oxo Tower, wagumi presents the best of Japanese design and craft, supporting small producers, revitalising traditional aesthetics, and championing new ideas. Owned and produced by Lives London, wagumi draws on deep local networks in Japan to source work that encourages sustainable development and reflects the country's diverse making traditions. wagumi is directed by Ryoko Mutasono, who has curated the Densan showcase for London Design Festival.

Website: wagumi-j.com | Instagram: @wagumi_london

Download press images from Atelier Densan [here](#)

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