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Press Release For Immediate Release

Matrix Design presents ‘*Hand, Code, Matter: A New Flow for Spatial Design*’ at Material Matters London, where human imagination, artificial intelligence and real materials meet.

手、代码与物质：空间设计的新流程

***London, UK |* At Material Matters London 2026, global design agency Matrix Design presents ‘*Hand, Code, Matter: A New Flow for Spatial Design*’, an installation exploring how emerging technologies are reshaping the future of architecture and interior design, while not losing sight of human creativity.**

Bringing together the work of eight recent architecture graduates, the exhibition demonstrates how hand-making, drawing and artificial intelligence can work together to create spaces that are deeply personal, culturally grounded and emotionally resonant. ‘*Hand*’ represents human judgement and imagination, ‘*Code*’ introduces artificial intelligence to support the designer’s imagination and ‘*Matter*’ completes the design journey back to materials, furnishings and real-world delivery. The installation illustrates how spatial design is enhanced through digital ideas whilst retaining an immediate connection to real materials, furnishings and delivery.



Dollhouse Model by Luke Gifford.

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The exhibition, curated by **Pick Up Architecture** and designed by **Farrokh Aman**, is organised around the following themes, revealing a strategic design workflow;

Hand

'Hand' represents the designer's own judgement and imagination - the instincts, cultural references and lived experience no tool can generate. Presenting eight projects designed by recent architecture graduates, each expressing a range of human needs and emotions, including cultural heritage, ageing, displacement and humour.

Code

'Code' explores the application of Lovspark AI, an AI-powered spatial design tool, which has been used by each of the selected graduates to move fluidly between code and craft. Lovspark AI expands the designer's ability to explore directions and variations while leaving selection, editing and creative judgement firmly in human hands. Each presentation demonstrates how Lovspark AI seamlessly supports the workflow of architects, interior designers and spatial designers. Visitors can experience Lovspark AI for themselves at a dedicated hands-on station throughout the exhibition.

Matter

'Matter' is where the digital ideas explored through Hand and Code return to the physical world of materials, furnishings and spatial delivery. Lovspark AI supports the exploration of design possibilities, while MIX brings material selection, furnishings and supply-chain knowledge into the conversation. Together, the exhibition traces how an idea can move from digital exploration towards tangible and producible spatial outcomes.



Tokonoma collage using Lovspark AI by Kotaro Bean

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Exhibitor presentations.

The eight exhibitor presentations collectively span hand-drawing, community-led planning and materiality illustrating how imagination, AI and materials can combine across very different contexts;

Kotaro Bean presents 'The Hundred Year Home - A Mnemonic Survey', surveying his grandmother's home, through continuous revision and hand drawing that traces over a century of ageing, comfort and environmental adaptation including a Tokonoma collage developed using Lovspark AI.

Luke Gifford presents 'Childhood Fiction for Rural India' based on the rural town of Kumbanad, Kerala. Using the native crafts of embroidery and thatch to reimagine abandoned homes as an elder-care facility and a storytelling-led nursery, Luke incorporated Lovspark AI as a process tool to visualise the next iteration of his own analogue, hand-made models.



Elimo Pavilion using Lovspark AI
by Amanda Carnovale



The Courthouse of Heritage using Lovspark AI
by Ilinca Stanescu

Juntao Liu presents 'More Than a Home', transforming a vacant office building in London's Canary Wharf into collective housing, where a continuous circulation loop reinterprets shared space as social infrastructure for post-pandemic London.

Amanda Carnovale presents 'Patching Poggioreale', addressing a Sicilian town devastated by the 1968 Belice Valley earthquake through textile-based, fabric-formed interventions alongside traditional rubble-masonry; Amanda used Lovspark AI to create atmospheric, narrative-focused images of her physical models, as a way of testing the physical occupation of spaces.

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Other presentations include:

Ioana Enache's project 'The People's Palace', a people's archive at Cântarea României, Bucharest, where testimonies become architectural maquettes by day and theatre by night. *Ilinca Stanescu's* 'Courthouse of Heritage', built from deconstructed architectural fragments at Roşia Montana, housing a legal core, UNESCO offices and a craft school for repair and reintegration. *Cristian Francioso* presents 'Architecture for Dementia', transforming a vacant mirror-image home into a space of discreet, supportive care built from reconstructed familiar rooms, and *Benson Pui Lam Chan* presents 'A Bamboo Sanctuary', a bamboo civic centre in Sheung Wan, Hong Kong, offering displaced residents a place to meet, work and rebuild community.

"'Hand, Code, Matter' explores how AI can enter the creative process while keeping the designer firmly in charge. These eight graduates show that AI can extend an idea without replacing the judgement behind it. That relationship between human authorship and emerging tools is exactly what we want to explore through this exhibition," says Cher Jiang, Partner, Matrix Design

'Curating this show, what has stood out is how differently each graduate used Lovspark AI. No two approached it the same, which is precisely what makes it interesting. The tool adapts to the designer, not the other way round, and that's the distinction worth making,' says Vicky Richardson, Pick Up Architecture

'Material Matters exists to take material intelligence seriously, and that means asking challenging questions about new tools that will shape design practice and output. 'Hand, Code, Matter' does exactly that, treating craft and technology as part of the same conversation', says Grant Gibson, Co-founder, Material Matters.

Curated by Pick Up Architecture and designed by Farrokh Aman, 'Hand, Code, Matter' presents a journey from human imagination to AI-assisted exploration and, ultimately, to materials and physical space. The exhibition also features Lovspark AI in its first UK exhibition presentation.

The Material Matters fair takes place at UNLOCKED Shoreditch from 15–17 September, with Matrix Design and Pick Up Architecture joining the Material Matters talks programme to expand on the ideas behind it.

- Ends -

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DETAILS

Hand, Code, Matter: A New Flow for Spatial Design

手、代码与物质：空间设计的新流程

- Curator | [Pick Up Architecture](#)
- Design | [Farrokh Aman](#)
- Graphic design | [Matrix Design](#)

A dedicated Lovspark AI station will be open to visitors throughout the show. To explore the Lovspark AI platform, visit [Lovspark AI](#)

Material Matters 15–17 September 2026 | [materialmatters.design](#)

- UNLOCKED, Shoreditch, 118 Curtain Road, London EC2A 3PJ
- Open Tuesday: Tuesday 15 Sept 10:00 - 19:00 | Wednesday 16 Sept 10:00 - 20:00 | Thursday 17 Sept 10:00 - 18:00
- Material Matters is free to attend - register in advance [here](#) via Shoreditch Design Week.

PRESS - [Press Pack Link](#)

For further information and images, please contact caroline@therenew.net

Notes to Editors

Material Matters Talks

Pick Up Architecture and Matrix Design will feature in the Material Matters talks series. The full programme will be announced on the Material Matters website [www.materialmatters.design](#) | [instagram.com/materialmatters.design](#)

About Matrix Design

Matrix Design is a globally recognised, award-winning design company established in 2010. Headquartered in Shenzhen and Shanghai with multiple offices across China and Hong Kong, the company employs over 700 people and has a portfolio of over 6,700 completed projects. Matrix Institute is its specialist research platform dedicated to market trend analysis, strategic consulting and design research. In 2026, Matrix Design plans to expand its international presence in London and publish its first European Design Insight Report.

<https://www.matrixdesign.com/home> | [instagram.com/matrixdesign_china](#)

About Lovspark AI

Lovspark is a Next-Generation AI-Powered Spatial Design Ecosystem. Focused on AI spatial design, it integrates Agent, Canvas, Workflow, professional AI Skills, 3D Editor and the Global Home Furnishing Ecosystem Library. Powered by AI, the platform drives the full spatial design workflow, covering spatial inspiration, scheme generation and refinement, physical product matching and deliverable handover. It offers an all-in-one intelligent design experience from creative ideation to real-world implementation. Lovspark builds a future-oriented intelligent spatial design ecosystem platform, bringing AI design into the physical world. [Lovspark AI](#)

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About Pick Up Architecture

Pick Up Architecture is a curatorial office and consultancy founded by Vicky Richardson and Gwen Webber. Rooted in architectural journalism, international relations and curation, the office believes architecture is a critical part of culture. To this end, it creates exhibitions, edits publications and develops cultural strategies for museums, government departments, academic institutions, and commercial and charitable organisations. London-based and international in its outlook, with work in the UK, Europe, the Middle East, East Asia, China and the Americas.

<https://www.pickuparchitecture.com> | [instagram.com/pickuparchitecture](https://www.instagram.com/pickuparchitecture)

About Farrokh Aman

Farrokh Aman was born in Tehran and lives in London, where he established his practice in 2024. The studio's work foregrounds the notion of domesticity and spans a spectrum of disciplines, producing buildings, events, publications, furniture, and objects. Varied and interconnected, this creative output brings together practical processes and conventional design work, linking techniques, craft and sensibilities used at a small scale, and their application to larger projects. www.farrokhaman.com

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. materialmatters.design | [@materialmatters.design](https://www.instagram.com/materialmatters.design)

About the designers

- **Amanda Carnovale** is a Bartlett-educated architectural designer whose practice explores material-led design. Specialising in experimental fabrication and fabric formwork, she applies these techniques to investigate the structural, cultural, and social implications of architecture. Email: carnovaleaj@gmail.com Instagram: [@ajlucchese](https://www.instagram.com/ajlucchese)
- **Benson Pui Lam Chan** is an architectural designer and Bartlett School of Architecture graduate who previously worked at DSDHA. His work explores material culture, heritage, and community-led design, focusing on how architecture responds to displacement, memory, and changing social conditions through research-led practice. Email: bensonchan1128@gmail.com Instagram: [@b.c.art2000](https://www.instagram.com/b.c.art2000)
- **Cristian Francioso** is a Bartlett graduate whose practice explores architecture as a medium for memory, care, and storytelling. Using drawing, model-making, and installation, he investigates dementia, domestic continuity, and the relationship between people, place, and identity. Email: franciosocrisian@gmail.com Instagram: [@cristian.francioso](https://www.instagram.com/cristian.francioso)
- **Ilinca Stanescu** A Bartlett School of Architecture graduate specializing in heritage and adaptive reuse, Ilinca explores the connection between architecture, memory, and landscape through research-led design. Currently an Architectural Designer at Populous, Ilinca creates innovative and thoughtful approaches to the built environment. Instagram: [@ilinca_0306](https://www.instagram.com/ilinca_0306)
- **Ioana Enache** A Bartlett graduate, Ioana explores the relationship between generations and history through spoken narratives. Her practice blends traditional drawing and painting with digital tools, creating hybrid works that highlight human imperfection and foster connection with the past and future. Email: ioana.alexandra2612@gmail.com Instagram: [@ioanaa.enache](https://www.instagram.com/ioanaa.enache)
- **Juntao Liu** An enthusiastic and creative architectural designer, Juntao completed his Bachelor's degree at the AA School of Architecture and subsequently worked at ZHA as a Part 1 design assistant. He later received his MArch Part II with distinction from the Bartlett School of Architecture. Email: el18811229559@gmail.com Instagram: [@juntao.liu_023](https://www.instagram.com/juntao.liu_023)
- **Kotaro Bean** completed his architectural studies at the Bartlett School of Architecture, having worked in London and Hiroshima. Combining professional practice with academic research, he explores climate-responsive design, working between analogue and digital modes of design. Email: tarobean@outlook.com Instagram: [taro_bean](https://www.instagram.com/taro_bean).
- **Luke Gifford** is an architectural designer and Bartlett graduate who explores the spatial potential of storytelling and oral histories in shaping culturally hybrid domesticities. His creative practice synthesises domestic crafts, such as tapestry-making, with both digital and analogue modes of making. Email: gifjosh@aol.co.uk