



MEDIA RELEASE:

***The Future of Home* revealed as Edinburgh based Local Heroes curatorial studio shares sneak peek of London Design Festival Show**

- 15 Scotland based designers present 40 new design objects for the hybrid home including furniture, lighting and collectible craft
- New materials, innovative processes and playful designs result in product launches from an emerging generation of new designers including Urpflanze, Jeni Allison and Walac, alongside established brands such as Bespoke Atelier, Hilary Grant, and Instrmnt Applied Design
- Running from 18 - 26 September and part of Brompton Design District at London Design Festival, ***The Future of Home*** curated by Local Heroes conveys the sense of curiosity and discovery found in Scotland's dynamic design culture



Local Heroes at LDF--Photo Reuben Paris--CLOCKWISE--Urpflanze 'The Lacy Tree Chandelier'--MIRRL 'Fossil' Surface Material and '400' Chair--Chalk Plaster 'Wemyss' Side Table

At a time when we are experiencing an increased fluidity between our home and our workspace, a new exhibition by Edinburgh-based curatorial studio Local Heroes will showcase 40 new products for the hybrid home as part of the London Design Festival. Running from 18 - 26 September ***The Future of Home*** offers a fresh and sophisticated collection of items for modern interiors from a new generation of designers. A wide variety of products, from furniture and lighting to textiles and collectible craft have been brought together aimed at creating spaces of comfort and style that also reflect the hybrid needs of flexible working. Designers who found themselves at a standstill in 2020 used that time to innovate, speculate and dream and the results are a vision of a future where interiors are as fun, beautiful, comforting and tactile as possible.

Marking five years since the first Local Heroes exhibition, Local Heroes' director Stacey Hunter has worked with 20 designers from 15 Scottish design studios and brands to develop the special collection. ***The Future of Home*** exhibition responds to Brompton Design District's theme '**From here on...**' – set by Jane Withers Studio – and invites visitors to explore a snapshot of contemporary design from Scotland that reflects a reignited optimism and youthful exuberance. Situated just a stone's throw from the V&A in a dedicated 140 square metre showroom at 6 - 7 Thurloe Place in South Kensington, ***The Future of Home*** will appeal to people who consider their interior environment to be a canvas for self-expression. Beautiful forms and nuanced colour palettes sit alongside brilliant invention and highly skilled processes such as intarsia and scagliola. One-of-a-kind lighting sculptures offer collectors a distinctive midpoint between decoration and practicality.

The showroom presents multiple viewpoints on form, material, and beauty; **Instrmnt Applied Design's** armchair - a collaboration with independent furniture makers **Hame** – is an exercise in minimalism using wind-felled sycamore sourced from the Wemyss Estate on the East Coast of Scotland. This has been paired with stainless steel and salvaged linen. It contrasts beautifully with a plant inspired chandelier by **Urpflanze** rendered in brass and laser-cut green acrylic and a brutalist inspired mixed aggregate and pigmented cement console table by **Nicholas Denney Studio**.



Local Heroes at LDF--Photo Reuben Paris--LTR--Walac x Juli Bolanos-Durman Lamp from 'The Isles of Reclaimed Wonderment' series--James Rigler 'Glasgow Triptych' Shelf--Jeni Allison 'Digital Drape' Blanket

Myatt-McCallum are blurring the relationship between interior and exterior with concrete furniture that flows joyfully into unique forms. **Jeni Allison's** blankets play with and test the boundaries of digital and manual knitting processes, blending the master craftsmanship of intarsia with cutting edge 3D modelling in her Digital Drape series. **James Rigler** presents the Glasgow Triptych; a series of monumental, austere forms with a distinctive black-and-verdigris surface. They use the language of grandiose buildings, splicing this with humble object types: a shelf, a candlestick and a table. **Walac's** shelving system elevates the storage of books and treasured objects into *The Art of Stacking*. A new range of wallpaper from **Bespoke Atelier** continues the studio's radical *No Rules* philosophy, where patterns have been intentionally designed not to repeat. Instead, all parts of the roll work together to form a seamless wallcovering.



Local Heroes at LDF--Photo Reuben Paris--LTR--Jeni Allison 'Digital Drape' series--C.A. Walac 'Proposition Numéro Un' of The Art of Stacking--Myatt-McCallum 'Morphologies' Collection

The natural materials used by many Local Heroes designers are sourced in the UK such as **Jeni Allison** and **Hilary Grant's** 100% lambswool blankets. **Chalk Plaster's** gypsum-based Scagliola side tables have been created with wild pigments collected from the coastline of Fife with every location offering its own distinctive palette of colours and tones. **Simon Harlow's** walnut, poplar and beech furniture demonstrates how a chair can be a dining chair, a lounge chair, an office chair – even a workstation in its own right, and a boldly graphic sculptural object. Hard linear engineering for longevity and strength goes together with handmade processes, as seen in **Mirrl's** latest solid surface material *Fossil*. It was developed as a way to use the waste material from the production of the original eponymously named Mirrl surface. This is finely chopped and becomes the inclusions that gives the new material its unique fossil-like appearance – and which carry their own histories.



Local Heroes at LDF--Photo Reuben Paris--LTR--Nicholas Denney Studio 'Land Side Table'--Instrmnt Applied Design x Hame 'The Lounge Chair'

A bespoke stained glass piece by **Pavilion Pavilion** welcomes visitors to the gallery as they pass through the threshold. Once inside, a series titled *The Isles of Reclaimed Wonderment* – a collaboration between **Walac X Juli Bolaños-Durman**, transforms found glass collected, rescued and gifted over the years into a combination of fantasy and functionality in their one-of-a-kind lighting sculptures. A large rug featuring an innovative and unusual topography is the result of a collaboration between **Studio Sam Buckley** and Milan's **cc-tapis**. It has been hand-tufted in Nepal by expert Tibetan artisans. **Hilary Grant** returns to London with the St Ives wall hanging and blanket in a nuanced colour palette inspired by St Ives' artists movement of the 1940s. The layered use of colour and shape, characteristic of this artistic period, is reimagined by the Orkney based knitwear studio.



Local Heroes at LDF--Photo Reuben Paris- Hilary Grant 'St Ives' Blanket

Curator and Local Heroes Director Dr. Stacey Hunter said: "This exhibition is a showcase of refreshingly original, bold design for people who see their homes as a canvas for self-expression. The showroom is also a survey of design research in practice. It brings together an international group of designers, artists and makers who all work and live in Scotland. New ideas are being tested and tried out – and cultural contradictions are welcome in this landscape which conveys the sense of curiosity and discovery found in Scotland's dynamic design culture.

The past 18 months have obviously been very difficult and unpredictable so it's been wonderful to see this group of designers rise to the challenge and respond to the remit of creating completely new pieces for our debut at the London Design Festival with verve and vigour. This is a muscular exhibition of new work that is confident and takes risks. It firmly establishes Scotland as a region of design excellence. Visitors will see expressive forms; innovations in production and thoughtfully articulated craft techniques combine to create a highly accessible collection that breaks new ground."

A platform for critical discussion, dissemination and acquisition, ***The Future of Home*** is positioned towards buyers, collectors, and future collaborators. The showroom will host specially programmed elements throughout the festival including a preview of knitwear by Jeni Allison, designer and designer talks and a free (but ticketed) curatorial tour. Full details available at localheroes.design.

This exhibition is made possible with the support of the National Lottery through Creative Scotland.



Local Heroes at LDF--Photo Reuben Paris--LTR--Bespoke Atelier 'Landforms' Wallpaper--Jeni Allison 'Digital Drape' blanket

Listings Information

Local Heroes: The Future of Home

18 - 26 September (Industry View 23rd September)

Brompton Design District

6 - 7 Thurloe Place, South Kensington, London SW7 2RX

London Design Festival: www.londondesignfestival.com

More info at: <https://www.localheroes.design/ldf>

For further information, interview and image requests please contact Owen O'Leary, Oh Really PR on 07815992658 or email owen@ohreally.co.uk

View and download hi res images here:

<https://app.box.com/s/jhwnur20wxkmxtqbddpq90zrm68hgwnv>

Follow Local Heroes on instagram here here: [@localheroesdesign](https://www.instagram.com/localheroesdesign) Brompton Design District here: [@bromptondesigndistrict](https://www.instagram.com/bromptondesigndistrict) and London Design Festival here: [@l_d_f_official](https://www.instagram.com/l_d_f_official)

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Notes to Editors

Local Heroes Exhibitors

Jeni Allison [@jeniallison_studio](#)

Bespoke Atelier [@bespokeatelier](#)

Studio Sam Buckley [@studiosambuckley](#)

Chalk Plaster Design [@chalkplaster](#)

Nicholas Denney Studio [@nicholasdenneystudio](#)

Hilary Grant [@hilarygrantknitwear](#)

Simon Harlow [@simon_harlow](#)

Instrmnt Applied Design X Hame [@instrmntlimited](#) [@madebyhame](#)

Walac X Juli Bolaños-Durman [@studio.walac](#) X [@julibd_com](#)

Mirrl [@mirrl_ltd](#)

Myatt-McCallum [@myatt_mccallum](#)

Pavilion Pavilion [@pavilionpavilion](#)

James Rigler [@james_rigler](#)

Urpflanze [@urpflanzelighting](#)

Walac [@studio.walac](#)

About Local Heroes

Local Heroes is a curatorial agency led by Stacey Hunter that connects audiences with contemporary Scottish design and craft. Known for being design obsessives, we pioneer new formats for exhibitions and events and develop projects with partners in the cultural and commercial sectors. We use unconventional and inventive sites and spaces to bring the work of designers and makers to a wider public.

By creating new design-centered experiences, showcases and exhibitions, Scottish design and craft can be enjoyed by people at home in the UK, and internationally through design fairs, festivals and biennales. Our mission has always been to sustain and catalyse opportunities for designers and put design from Scotland on an international stage. [www.localheroes.design](#) [@localheroesdesign](#)

About Dr Stacey Hunter

Stacey Hunter curates, writes and produces within a contemporary design context; her collaborative exhibitions and projects are known and appreciated for their unconventional approach and broad appeal. She is committed to the development of design culture in Scotland and enlivening design and craft discourses. She founded Local Heroes to present the work of outstanding designers working in Scotland. She collaborates with a diverse range of organisations from airports and art hubs to hotels, hospitals and business associations.

Her PhD was awarded by The University of Edinburgh's Architecture School in 2015. In 2017 V&A Dundee named her one of their Design Champions; in 2018 she won Creative Edinburgh's Leadership Award and in 2019 she was selected by Cove Park; Arts Initiative Tokyo and Creative Residency Arita to visit Japan for 2 months as design curator in residence. Later that year she was a designer in residence at The Suttie Art Space in Aberdeen. During lockdown Stacey was a curator in virtual-residence at Edinburgh's Design Informatics / Inspace Gallery. [www.staceyhunter.com](#)

Stacey is on twitter [@stacey_hunter_edi](#) and instagram [@stacey_hunter_edi](#)

About Brompton Design District

The BROMPTON DESIGN DISTRICT is a partnership between leading international brands, independent retailers, local restaurants and cultural institutions.

Initiated by South Kensington Estates, a company with a history woven into the fabric of the district for over 200 years, together with a cluster of design retailers and local cultural institutions, the District was established in 2007 to foster a space where new design can flourish. The aim was to revitalise the heritage of the area as a place where people come together to share, enjoy and learn about design in its broadest sense; design, culture, fashion and food.

It is the leading District during the annual London Design Festival with a dedicated programme of temporary exhibitions, in 2021, under the theme 'From here on...'. Brompton's programme, curated by Jane Withers Studio, has played host to pioneering and innovative contemporary exhibitions. The combination of temporary exhibitions, set in an area of London known for its iconic, international design brands, adds energy and dynamism and has earned Brompton the reputation as a leading international design destination.

bromptondesigndistrict.com

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