



The Estonian Virtual Exhibition © Photo: Cielo Alejandra | ADORNO

“Revisiting the Past” - *Informing the future by consulting the past*

PRESS RELEASE

The Estonian Collection
London, UK
London Design Festival
18-26 September 2021

Adorno is pleased to announce the Estonian collection, “Revisiting The Past”, as a part of Adorno London 2021. Presented in a space inspired by Riin Maide’s “Paper Castle” installation, the “Revisiting The Past” collection addresses the inherent role of the past when considering the future. Curated by art historian and curator Kai Lobjakas, the collection features work by six designers who peel back the layers of the complex relationship between what was, what is, and what will be.

“Revisiting The Past” features work by Aap Piho, Johanna Ulfsak, Kadi Hektor, Kärt Ojavee, Kateriin Rikken, and Oliver Kanniste, with each piece untangling the past, present, and future through material, form, or function. Looking to the future of design, the collection investigates what we need, how much we need, and what remains after change.

Besides the virtual exhibition, a selection of pieces from the collection will be exhibited at “Tactile Baltics”, a joint Baltic exhibition, at Dray Walk Gallery in Shoreditch from 18 September to 3 October 2021.

The inspiration for this virtual environment, Riin Maide’s “Paper Castle” installation, was presented at the Estonian History Museum in early 2021.

Supported by:

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Applied Art and Design

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CURATORIAL STATEMENT

Often the ordinary and visible present becomes vague and forgotten. Analogue experiences have boiled down to a minimum during the last years. We are currently in a situation where much of our regular rhythm was interrupted, the everyday was frozen and almost disappeared for a while. It became particularly evident how the environment we are functioning in, what we have or possess, matters. Layers of the past provide a means to describe the world and rethink the evident. Remembering and untangling the past and the local provides a captivating perspective through types of objects, materials, and methods of making.

The Estonian collection, “Revisiting the Past”, is based on tracking the everyday and the conventional, translating observations, reconsiderations, and hints of the past into contemporary design.

More than ever, the future is about rethinking the present and the past, of what we have and need. The past is heavily coded in our future.

MEET THE CURATOR KAI LOBJAKAS



“It is obvious that we are stuck in the past in the best sense. We depend on the past and rethinking the past is coded in the future. The collection gathered here under this theme is approaching the many-faceted subject in six different ways.”

- Kai Lobjakas

Kai Lobjakas is an Art Historian and curator, head of Estonian Museum of Applied Art and Design (member of international ADD network), and is a head of International Council of Museums ICDAD committee. She has curated several Estonian and international design exhibitions, given lectures on design, studied and written on Soviet and contemporary Estonian design and applied arts practices.

VISITOR INFORMATION



Physical Exhibition

A selection of works from the Estonian collection will be exhibited at the “[Tactile Baltics](#)” exhibition.

Dray Walk Gallery — Dray Walk
off Brick Lane, London, E1 6QL

18 September to 3 October
Mon-Fri: 10 am - 6.30 pm
Sat-Sun: 10 am - 5 pm

*VIP & Press tour: Tuesday 21,
4:30 PM*

[Register to visit](#)



Virtual Exhibition

Often, the ordinary and visible present becomes vague and forgotten. Inspired by an installation by Riin Maide presented at the Ajaloomuuseum, “Revisiting the Past” approaches the multi-faceted subject of “the past” through the eyes of six contemporary designers. The collection traces the everyday and the conventional, translating observations, reconsiderations, and hints of the past into contemporary design.

Visit the virtual exhibition
18-26 September at
www.adorno.london

PARTICIPANTS

Aap Piho
Johanna Ulfsak
Kadi Hektor
Kärt Ojavee
Kateriin Rikken
Oliver Kanniste

THE COLLECTION

[Download High-res images](#)



Left: Kärt Ojavee, "Resting Sail", **Mid:** Oliver Kanniste, "Hidden Form", **Right:** Kateriin Rikken, "Lights Up"

Left: Kadi Hektor, "Aladdin", **Right:** Aap Piho, "Spatial Structures"

Bottom: Johanna Ulfesak, "Floor Plan"

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

Title	Adorno London 2021: <i>Designing Futures</i>
Dates	18-26 September 2021
Virtual Exhibition	www.adorno.london
Participating Countries	Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden
	Hosted at Tactile Baltics Dray Walk Gallery — Dray Walk off Brick Lane, London, E1 6QL
Physical Exhibition (Estonia)	Dates: 18-26 September 2021 Mon-Fri: 10 am - 6.30 pm Sat-Sun: 10 am - 5 pm <i>Press tour: Tuesday 21, 4:30 PM</i> <i>VIP Cocktail Preview 5.30 - 9pm (Invite only)</i>
Images	Courtesy of the designers & photographers
Press kit	Link
Press Contact	David Gorrod, press@adorno.design

ABOUT ADORNO

Adorno is a digital gallery for the best of collectible design and craft from around the globe. Selected by a network of on-the-ground curators from more than 30 design cities, Adorno's collections provide a unique insight into the world's diverse creative communities – and celebrate the work of the designers shaping them.

Each collection showcases only unique or limited-edition contemporary works, spanning the fields of furniture, textiles, ceramics, sculpture, and design-art. The curatorial approach varies from collection to collection – just as design culture varies from community to community – but every object featured is contemporary in style, experimental in approach, and exceptional in material quality.

The designers featured include both established names and emerging talents at the cusp of their careers, ensuring each collection is a snapshot of the people, techniques, styles, and thinking that define the modern making culture of each region. With each collection launch, Adorno adds a new chapter to the global design story.

In its essence, the infrastructure of Adorno includes the e-commerce platform (www.adorno.design), an international legal setup, and a global cost-efficient shipping solution that enables autonomous collaboration between curators and designers to promote their work and transact with a growing segment of international buyers. Besides running the online platform, Adorno exhibits at major design events worldwide.