MATERIAL MATTERS

July 2022

New design fair *Material Matters 2022* launches in September

Zena Holloway (Credit: Zena Holloway)

- Material Matters 2022 is a new design fair, which shapes the critically acclaimed podcast of the same name into a 3D exhibition
- The fair takes place 22-25 September at Bargehouse, Oxo Tower Wharf, during the London Design Festival
- Material Matters 2022 will address issues and express ideas for a better future, including circularity in design and materials; how materials can help drive the sustainable agenda; and how they can influence human behaviour
- The event will feature an extensive talks programme, curated by Grant Gibson

Material Matters 2022 is a new fixture on the London design calendar. Based on the critically acclaimed podcast of the same name, the event will see its inaugural edition take place during this year's London Design Festival, from 22-25 September on London's Southbank. The event promises to bring together over 40 world-leading brands, designers, makers and organisations to celebrate the importance of materials and their ability to shape our lives. It will provide a platform for inspiration for architects, designers, interior design professionals and design-savvy members of the public.

Material Matters 2022 will take place across five floors of the iconic Bargehouse at Oxo Tower Wharf, an unadorned but magnificent former factory setting, and feature a wide range of exhibits: from a site-specific installation from leading gallery **Ruup & Form**, featuring work from textile artists **Beatrice Mayfield** and other multidisciplinary artists, to displays by innovators and experimentalists whose practice is at the cutting edge of materials. On the top floor, a stupendous 50-metre long loft will host the fair's talk space, with a programme curated by **Grant Gibson**, and cafe, as well as designers and makers working in a range of materials, from the innovative to the more traditional.

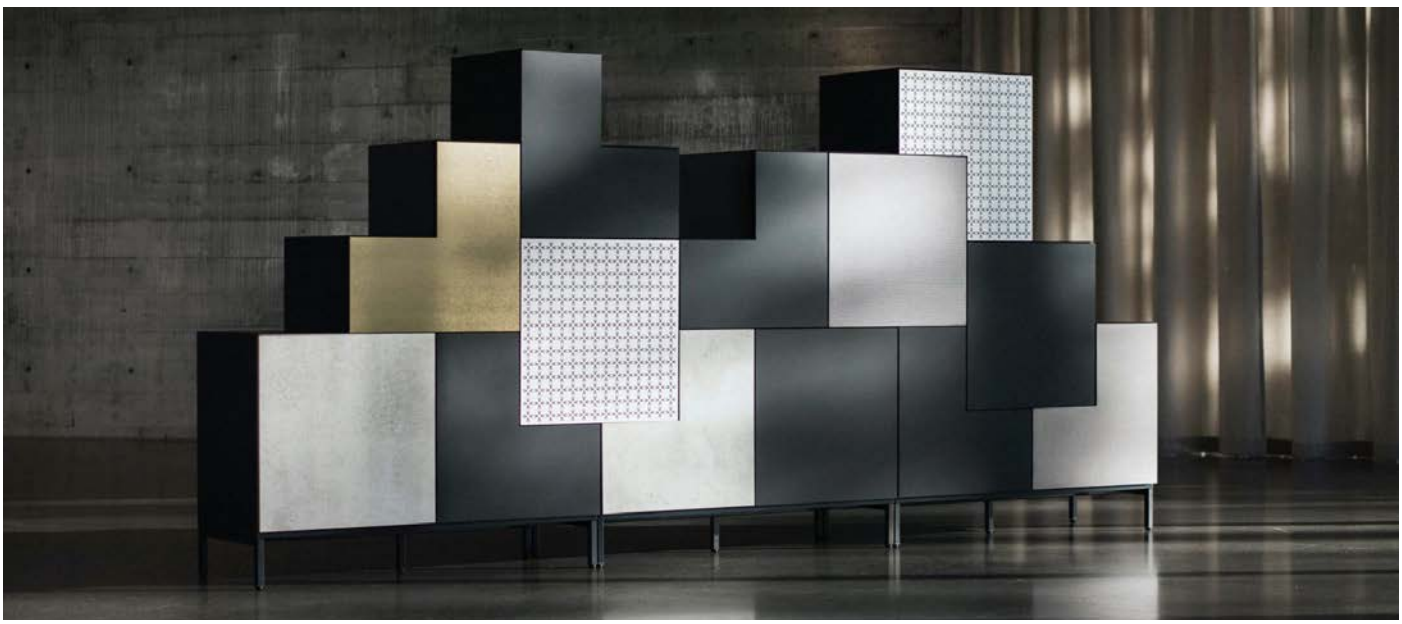
Studio ARP (Credit: Alejandro Olaya)

Exhibitors include **Studio ARP**, which designs products from orange peel, as well as artist and bio-designer **Zena Holloway**, who uses grass roots to create an array of extraordinary artefacts. There will also be an installation by designer and artist **Stuart Haygarth**, renowned for his work with waste.

Material Matters 2022 will also feature a marketplace where architects and designers can specify products – exhibitors to look out for include two of Scandinavia's leading design companies, **Fora Form** and **Ragnars** – as well as a learning space that invites visitors to take a deep dive into a fistful of materials. It sets out to address how materials will shape our future, featuring exhibitors such as the global aluminium manufacturer, **Hydro**.

'When I launched the Material Matters podcast a little over three years ago I had no idea whether anyone would listen,' explains Grant Gibson, a former editor of design titles such as Blueprint and Crafts and co-founder of the fair. 'Since then episodes have been downloaded over 300,000 times around the globe. The time just felt right to turn it into three dimensions and create a space for dialogue, where designers can express ideas for a better future.'

Meanwhile, **William Knight**, a former director of Clerkenwell Design Week and 100% Design and co-founder of Material Matters 2022, says: 'There is clear impetus in the design and architecture industries to move towards more sustainable practices and help the drive to Net Zero. Materials play an intrinsic role in this. While it was obvious to us to develop the highly successful Material Matters podcast into a fair, neither of us wanted to follow standard exhibition tropes and do something in a conventional venue, so Bargehouse is the perfect place to start. It'll provide a new platform for engagement, collaboration and inspiration. We're looking forward to welcoming visitors during this year's London Design Festival.'



Ragnars

Notes to Editors

For press enquiries and images:
David Gorrod or Trina Wickenden at Seen PR info@seenpr.com | @seen_pr | Tel +44 (0)1273 722 469

Dates: 22-25 September 2022
Opening Hours: 10am - 6pm
Entry: Free with advance registration
Address: Bargehouse, Oxo Tower Wharf, Bargehouse Street, South Bank, London SE1 9PH

materialmatters.design | **#materialmatters**

About Delizia Media
Material Matters 2022 is the new fair from Delizia Media, a company founded by Grant Gibson and William Knight, who between them have over 45 years of experience in the design industry.

Grant is one of the UK's leading design, craft and architecture writers. His work has been published in The Observer, New Statesman, The Guardian, Daily Telegraph, and House & Garden, to name just a few. He has been editor of Blueprint and Crafts, deputy editor of FX, and acting executive editor of the RIBA Journal. In 2019, he launched the critically acclaimed podcast series, Material Matters with Grant Gibson.

William has worked at the centre of UK design promotion for over 20 years, starting at the Design Council, before becoming the deputy director of the London Design Festival. Subsequently, William led some of the UK's largest commercial design exhibitions at Media 10 Ltd, directing both 100% Design and Clerkenwell Design Week. He spent two years as director of Dubai Design Week.

About Oxo Tower Wharf
Oxo Tower Wharf is a cultural hub and creative community at the heart of London's South Bank and Bankside. Right on the riverside, Oxo Tower Wharf is more than just a restaurant. It is a lively community of designer-maker studios, gallery and event spaces, shops, and cafes. There's always something going on. The iconic building with its famous art deco tower is owned and managed by Coin Street, a local social enterprise creating a thriving, diverse, and welcoming place for people to live, work and play.

www.coinstreet.org | **@oxotowerwharf**