

LONDON CRAFT WEEK

PRESS RELEASE
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Uncovering the craft of the capital London Craft Week 2019 8–12 May

Full 2019 programme available at londoncraftweek.com

With more than 240 events taking place across 150 locations over five days, **London Craft Week** is one of the busiest and most diverse events on the city's creative calendar – and next week's fifth-anniversary edition is set to be bigger, bolder and busier than ever before.

Since its establishment in 2015, the festival has become an annual reminder of the tremendous scope, variety and dynamism of the **global craft scene** today. With hundreds of workshops, live demonstrations, talks and exhibitions on offer, the festival presents a plethora of opportunities to **discover exceptional talent and elite international craftsmanship**. Within just two square miles of Central London, visitors can immerse themselves in craft cultures from all over the world, and meet leading talents from Italy, Korea, Japan, Portugal, Wales, Denmark, Iran and beyond.



Christabel Balfour, The Future of Craft, Oxo Tower Wharf

At no other festival can you spend the morning blending your own perfume; while away an afternoon learning how William Morris made wallpaper or Carréducker make shoes; and end the day exploring Lucille Lewin's Marylebone ceramics studio, listening to a rallying talk on the future of craft at Oxo Tower Wharf, or celebrating Italian culture, food and wine at Maison Assouline.

Long-standing Craft Week supporters and British brands **dunhill** and **Purdey** are back with a range of events revealing the craftsmanship behind each brand. In Walthamstow, East London, dunhill invites visitors into its leather workshop to reveal how its iconic attaché cases, doctor's bags and bespoke pieces are made. Meanwhile, at Purdey's Mayfair HQ the brand is hosting workshops on how to apply gun-finishing techniques to the making of a Montblanc writing instrument, as well as a host of other events, ranging from tutorials in stick-whittling to shoe-making and engraving demonstrations.

To help visitors find their way around the festival and plan their own journey of discovery, the London Craft Week programme is **divided across the five areas of London** (Central, North, South, East and West), each one a distinct and navigable destination with dozens of events on offer.



Charred Pod I & II by Alison Crowther, part of Scorched

CENTRAL

Encompassing Mayfair, Marylebone, Soho, St James's, Bloomsbury and beyond, Central London is the biggest area of London Craft Week, with **more than 100 events taking place**.

These include opportunities to explore traditional materials in exciting new contexts at exhibitions such as 'WOOD – The Living Material' on Duke Street and **London Craft Week's own debut show 'Scorched'** at Fitzrovia Chapel.

Fragrance is the focus of both The Beaumont's 'Rebels and Rogues' bespoke perfume exhibition, and artist-perfumer Paul Schütze's workshop on the **aesthetics of scent** at the House of St Barnabas. On Jermyn Street, Floris celebrates citrus scents and tells the story behind **new fragrance launch** Neroli Voyage, while Anatome launches the first 'sleep bar' in London, inviting visitors to create a personalised scented sleep oil. Both these events are part of the St James's Series of events, which, this year, take the relationship between craft and the senses as their theme.

In the G . F Smith ShowSpace, the **specialist paper supplier** joins forces with design agency MaterialDriven to explore new experimental materials at the forefront of sustainable design, while at the Paperchase Art Department, Caran d'Ache lifts the lid on the **complex craft behind the artist's pencil**.

Given the area's importance as a **centre of UK fashion**, it's no surprise that some of the **leading London labels and designers** are participating in London Craft Week events, with Paul Smith teaming up with ceramics brand 1882 Ltd to present a range of unique and unusual objects in fine bone china; and Tengri and Joseph Cheaney & Sons joining forces to demonstrate the art of the patina in shoemaking. At **LOEWE's newly opened flagship store on New Bond Street**, the mother and daughter duo Shizu Designs demonstrate the traditional and contemplative art of Japanese basket weaving, knotting strips of leather into elegant forms. Designers Bethany Williams and Phoebe English visit London College of Fashion on 8 May to discuss the process and craftsmanship behind their designs and the growing importance of sustainability.

Mount Street will become its own mini design trail with flagship fashion boutiques, including **Christian Louboutin, Bremont, Roksan, Erdem** and **MATCHESFASHION.COM**, set to host bespoke Craft Week exhibitions, demonstrations, talks and more.



Japanese artisan/farmer collective BUAISOU

NORTH

In the north of the city, the newly opened King's Cross retail and lifestyle hub of **Coal Drops Yard** is a **hive of activity**, with Japanese artisan/farmer collective BUAISOU commissioned to produce a **huge installation of indigo flags** and lead a series of public workshops. Elsewhere in Coal Drops Yard, Earl of East London takes the public on a sensory journey with a candle and bath salt-making session at Bonds of King's Cross; while Granby Workshop launches a pop-up shop to showcase its new collection of playful, kiln-fired ceramic bottles, cups and jars all handmade in Liverpool and across the road MDR Gallery presents Alu! an exhibition of new works in aluminum.

Nearby in **Haggerston**, the Sarabande Foundation presents replicas of the working studios of artists Esna Su and Castro Smith, who were commissioned by Ketel One Vodka to create artworks responding to the brand. At the Camden Arts Centre, artist Fredrik Andersson offers a detailed introduction to sculptural ceramics, inspired by the centre's Jonathan Baldock exhibition.



Sebastian Cox's studio

SOUTH

London Craft Week 2019 has a bigger reach south of the river than ever before, with numerous events across Battersea, South Bank, Peckham and Bermondsey.

In Greenwich, Sebastian Cox throws open the doors of his **award-winning studio** to showcase the making of two design collections: the playful ash furniture family Barker and Wealden, Cox's first collection of ceramic tableware moulded from Kentish clay. Monica Cass of par-avion and Claire Potter Design are descending on Battersea Power Station to reveal a vast installation woven from **repurposed construction waste to explore the sustainable future of building materials**.

Innovation is also on the agenda at the Bargehouse, where Oxo Tower Wharf, Coin Street, Design-Nation and Future Icons are presenting 'The Future of Craft'. This **five-floor exhibition features new projects, installations, demonstrations and workshops from trailblazing makers** in textiles, furniture, ceramics, lighting, metal and interior accessories, as well as a lively free talks programme, covering topics such as the role of craft in interior design, the future of ceramics, and the social role of craft.



Shahporan Mosque

EAST

From the livery companies of the City of London to dunhill workshop in Walthamstow, there is lots going on in East London.

In Shoreditch, Ace Hotel hosts Sadie Clayton for a series of **copper sculpture workshops**, while Sheelagh Boyce and Annabelle Harty take over restaurant Hoi Polloi for a hand quilting demonstration inspired by local architecture. Thanks to the Barakat Trust, Craft Week visitors can explore two of **Hackney's modern religious buildings** – Shahporan Mosque and Mildmay Tabernacle – guided by their respective architects, Shahed Saleem and Alex Sherratt. In Whitechapel, woodworker Bobby Mills relocates his South Downs Studio to the Georgian setting of the New Road Residence for **daily demonstrations of woodturning on the lathe**.



The Conran Shop celebrates the centenary of the Bauhaus

WEST

In West London, luxury retailers, prestigious craft-led brands and renowned cultural institutions alike present a wealth of opportunities to explore craft practices both traditional and future-focused.

The V&A's wide-ranging programme of open-studio events include game designer Matteo Menapace revealing how games can be used to explore sociopolitical issues; maker and curator Bridget Harvey discussing the relationship between making, repair and the museum itself; and ceramics resident Sam Bakewell exploring the V&A's collection of wares by legendary London potters the Martin Brothers.

In Marylebone, Craft Week sponsor The Conran Shop celebrates a century of Finnish-Japanese relations with an exclusive window display and exhibition of Artek's new ColoRing collection, in which Jo Nagasaka has applied traditional Japanese craft practices to classic Aalto furniture designs. Not far away, **Conran's Chelsea store pays tribute to 100 years of Bauhaus** with live screen-printing and a talk from graphic designer Sascha Lobe; and Cadogan celebrates the area's 300-year heritage of art and artistry with events including a Liberty-print short-making workshop at The Fashion School, an insight into digital calligraphy at Smythson, and an artisanal cheese tasting care of The London Cheesemongers.

Another **key destination for London Craft Week, Pimlico**, brings together some of the districts most respected names in design, interiors and antiques for the Pimlico Road Series. Presented by Grosvenor Britain & Ireland, the series provides an opportunity for visitors to **go behind the scenes and experience first-hand the art and craft behind some of the area's best-known makers** – including an exhibition and talk from Dutch ceramicist Floris Wubben at SCP, a demonstration of

how to weave the iconic Faaborg Chair of 1912 at Carl Hansen and an introduction to the process of lost-wax casting from Collier Webb.

For the full 2019 programme, and the tools to build a bespoke Craft Week itinerary, visit.
londoncraftweek.com

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About London Craft Week

London Craft Week is a not-for-profit organisation dependent on the support of sponsors and partners. London Craft Week is particularly grateful to its Headline Sponsors dunhill and James Purdey & Sons, as well as long-standing partners and supporters: Cadogan, Coal Drops Yard, Grosvenor Britain and Ireland (Mount Street and Pimlico Road), The Conran Shop, the Italian Trade Agency, the Crown Estate, LOEWE and St James's.

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