



Surface Design Show 2020 – Celebrating 15 years of bringing the best in innovative surface design, manufacturing and development to the UK

[Surface Design Show](#) will once again be bringing the best in surface material innovation to London's Business Design Centre from 11-13 February 2020, with a focus on the trending topic of 'Close to Home.'

Now in its fifteenth year, the show is a must-visit for architects, designers and specifiers looking for material inspiration from the UK and around the world. As well as over 170 exhibitors, visitors can also enjoy a packed programme of talks, plus the ever-popular **Opening Night Debate** supported this year by the [RIBA](#) and the lively **PechaKucha** evening, which will be hosted by Chris Dyson of [Chris Dyson Architects](#), with speakers including: Daniel Campbell, director at [Stiff + Trevillion Architects](#); Luke Tozer, director at [Pitman Tozer Architects](#); Joe Morris, founding director of [Morris+Company](#); [Richard Wilson RA](#), a renowned sculptor internationally celebrated for his interventions in architectural space; Jerry Tate, partner at [Tate Harmer](#); Faye Davies, principal at [Burrell Foley Fischer](#); and Stella Ioannou, director of [Lacuna](#).

The 'Close to Home' theme will look beyond aesthetics and into manufacturers' impact on the environment, from the processes used in mining or manufacture, through to the carbon footprint sustained during sales and distribution. Designing with a conscience will also be examined, from reusing waste materials to looking at what happens at the end of a product's life cycle.

Returning **exhibitors** to the 2020 Surface Design Show include market-leading finishes specialist [Armourcoat](#), family-run tile firm [BluePrint Ceramics](#), [Innerspace Cheshire](#), which connects designers with a wide range of design-led materials, [James Latham](#), distributor of timber and wood based panel products to the UK and [Tile of Spain](#), a Spanish tile company encompassing more than 100 tile manufacturers. Among the new exhibitors joining this edition of the show are British art studio [Aster Muro](#), which produces stunning contemporary frescoes, solid surface supplier [KULA](#) and Croatian decorative glass producer [Bokart](#), reflecting the global appeal of the exhibition.

Surface Spotlight Live is a section of the show which is wholly focused on the 'Close to Home' theme. Curated by trend expert Sally Angharad and forecasters [Colour Hive](#) the exhibit will take a look at what the future holds for materials. [Stone Gallery](#) also returns for 2020 accompanied by the Stone Knowledge Hub, supported by the leading industry body [Stone Federation GB](#), which will form a focal point for the event where architects and designers can interact with, and learn more about, specifying natural stone.

In addition to materials for indoor and outdoor use, [Light School](#) is key component of the show, reflecting the fact that London is the world's capital for lighting design specification. Here, leading manufacturers will demonstrate the relationship between light and surfaces, as well as showcasing

the latest architectural lighting products and innovations in lighting technology. Light Talks, a series of sessions supported by the [Institution of Lighting Professionals](#) and collated by Rebecca Weir from [Lightbout.IO](#) will underpin this knowledge sharing.

Surface Design Show 2020 will host approximately 30 presentations from 50 speakers across the purpose-built stages: Light Talks, Stone Knowledge Hub and Main Stage. The talk topics include 'Materials Edit - a dedicated materials installation featuring one-of-a-kind inspirational objects and materials', presented by Hannah Malein, creative director of [Colour Hive](#) and head of trends for [MIX Magazine](#) on Tuesday 11 February from 12:45-1:30pm. Touching on the show's theme of 'Close to Home', which addresses the current climate emergency debate in the context of the surface and materials sector, for both UK and international markets, Jo Roan, associate strategy director at [PriestmanGoode](#) talks 'Get Onboard: Reduce. Reuse. Rethink' on the Main Stage on from 1:45-2:30pm on the 11 February.

As well as established brands, Surface Design Show is dedicated to supporting promoting up-and-coming designers in the materials sector with its [New Talent](#) section appearing once again, curated by internationally acclaimed speaker and forward-thinking chief creative director at [Trendease International](#) Jennifer Castoldi. The New Talent area allows designers, who have been in the industry five years or less, to have a devoted exhibition area, giving them the opportunity to showcase to and engage face-to-face with a hard-to-reach and targeted audience. The 45 exhibitors here include [That's Caffeine](#), a start-up that creates products from waste coffee grounds and knitted textile specialist [Charlotte Clayton](#). Appearing for the first time is New Talent Plus, a section of the show that bridges the gap between emerging material talent and existing manufacturers.

The **Surface Design Awards**, now in their sixth year, are an intrinsic part of the show, with this year's edition attracting 107 entries from over 21 countries. The judging panel is co-chaired by Paul Priestman, designer, co-founder and chairman of global design consultancy PriestmanGoode, and Amin Taha, chairman of [Groupwork](#) and director of Amin Taha Architects. The remaining judges are Nikki Barton, head of digital design at [British Airways](#); Sean Griffiths, artist, architect and academic practicing at [Modern Architect](#); Charles Holland, principal at [Charles Holland Architects](#); Glenn Johnson, director of design at the [Advanced Design Group of Collins Aerospace](#); Daniel Mota Veiga, global head of product design for [KEF / GP Acoustics](#); and Steve Webb, co-founder of [Webb Yates Engineers](#). The winners will be revealed during a breakfast reception on 13 February at Surface Design Show.

For all things innovative in surfaces and materials, Surface Design Show provides the perfect platform for architects, designers and specifiers to explore.

Tickets are free to professional and trade visitors. Registration opens in November.

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#SDS20 #SDAwards #LightSchool #StoneGallery

About Surface Design Show

Located in Islington, at the centre of London's design district, Surface Design Show is the event of choice for architects and designers. Held annually in early February, the 2½ -day exhibition has been the place where industry professionals immerse themselves in the latest materials for the built environment, gain new insights and network with like-minded designers, architects and suppliers.

Surface Design Show is the only event in the UK to focus solely on interior and exterior surface materials. It provides architects, designers and suppliers with the latest trends and innovations. From exquisite hand-crafted surfaces to the latest technological advances in architectural lighting, Surface Design Show hosts over 170 exhibitors each year highlighting the very best in surface design.

The show also incorporates the Surface Design Awards, at which outstanding examples of progressive design and use of innovative surfaces in projects both in the UK and internationally are celebrated. Divided into interior and exterior categories each project is judged on a range of criteria including the type of surface, the use of materials and aesthetic design.