



#LDF20

## GLOBAL DESIGN FORUM PROGRAMME ANNOUNCED INCLUDING TALKS FROM ES DEVLIN, NERI OXMAN, PAOLA ANTONELLI, ANYA HINDMARCH, AMANDA LEVETE, ILSE CRAWFORD, PENTAGRAM & SNOHETTA

London, UK, 1 September 2020 – London Design Festival today announces an inspiring programme of keynotes, talks and workshops for Global Design Forum 2020. Taking place from 12–20 September, this year’s programme will be hosted online and is free to attend, enabling audiences around the world to access content from some of the world’s leading design voices. At the heart of the Forum will be The Circular Design Project by SAP, The Ellen MacArthur Foundation and London Design Festival: a curated selection of stories and supporting resources to empower and equip the design and creative community to seize the opportunity of the circular economy as a framework for positive global impact. Over the course of the nine days of the Festival, a series of moments will act as the spark that begins to shift designers’ attitudes and practice.

The schedule of talks, panel discussions and seminars will include a diverse range of contributors from some of the world’s largest brands that have the potential to make significant impact to global materials flows; independent designers at the start of their careers who are seeing the circular economy as a core pillar of their value set; and the agencies that guide today’s standards and investment when it comes to design innovation.

Following the Festival, the stories will continue to multiply, with the intention of culminating at London Design Festival 2021 with an installation and exhibition, before having the opportunity for presenting at COP26 at Glasgow in November 2021. Speakers include [Neri Oxman](#), [Paola Antonelli](#), [Amanda Levete](#) and [Anya Hindmarch](#), and companies [Snohetta](#), [Google](#) and [H&M](#).

In addition, more than 25 speakers from all corners of the global design community will come together to share inspiring new perspectives on design in a year when both the design industry and the wider world have undergone significant change and disruption. Highlights include sessions with multi-disciplinary, award-winning artist and designer [Es Devlin](#), who will discuss the importance of creativity and the arts in times of crisis; Squarespace’s VP of Creative [Ben Hughes](#) and Director of Creative Production [Sandra Nam](#) tackling how to manage creative production in a pandemic; [Miraphora Mina](#) and [Eduardo Lima](#) of [MinaLima](#), the design studio behind the graphic props of the Harry Potter film franchises; Pentagram’s [Domenic Lippa](#), [Eddie Opara](#) and [Paula Scher](#) in discussion about the connective power of graphic design; Design historians [Dr Peter Kapos](#) and [Dr Jana Scholze](#) meet for a product based rummage through the history of Braun Design; CEO and Designer of Public Digital [Ben Terrett](#), whose impressive career helping governments and large organisations around the world adapt to the internet age saw him elected Royal Designer for Industry in 2018; The Office Group’s Head of Design [Nasim Köerting](#) and Co-Founder and Co-CEO [Charlie Green](#) discussing the future of workplace design with [Cathrin Walczyk](#), the Head of Design Research at Universal Design Studio; [International designers](#) from Special Project ‘Connected’ in conversation with Grant Gibson, will share their experience on adapting their working practices during lockdown to

create a table and seat using sustainable hardwoods; **Ilse Crawford, Benjamin Hubert and Dr Jana Scholze** join a discussion to mark the centenary of Braun and the role of good design for a better future; **Anne Pingreoun**, Curator and founder of Alter-Projects and Alternative-Thinkers, **Ben Channon**, Head of Wellbeing at Assael Architecture, **Dr. Elizabeth Lindsey**, National Geographic Explorer, **Lucie Cave**, Editorial Director Bauer Media and **Andrew Schapiro**, Executive Creative Director at Calm, will explore the power of design and its impact on mental health; whilst **STUFISH** will talk through rethinking the use of existing venues, twisting the way the audience circulates and threading in digital filters that are the building block for an adaptive new paradigm in sustainable entertainment architecture.

**Global Design Forum** is the Festival's curated thought leadership programme, celebrating design and the minds shaping its future. Tapping into the Festival's unrivalled network of industry-leading designers and experts, the Forum features a unique mix of talks, debates and workshops that together reflect the most innovative thinking in the world of design today. The 2020 programme will explore the role of design in a shifting future. From thinking in a post-pandemic world and digital futures, to the power of AI and our environment, Global Design Forum informs and inspires audiences annually.

Co-Founder and Director of London Design Festival **Ben Evans CBE** says *"This year, Global Design Forum plays an even more crucial part of the London Design Festival programme, offering a platform for some of the design industry's most innovative thinkers to share their perspectives on how design can seek to shape our collective futures."*

The full programme can be found here: [globaldesignforum.com/talks](http://globaldesignforum.com/talks)

The full speaker line-up can be found here: [globaldesignforum.com/speakers](http://globaldesignforum.com/speakers)

Global Design Forum 2020 is supported by SAP, Braun, Squarespace, TOG (The Office Group) and STUFISH.

- ENDS -

## NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information, please contact EXPOSURE on +44207 907 7130 and [londondesignfestival@exposure.net](mailto:londondesignfestival@exposure.net)

For all images and assets, please download [here](#).

### ABOUT LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL

Established in 2003 by Sir John Sorrell CBE and Ben Evans CBE, London Design Festival celebrates and promotes London as the design capital of the world.

London Design Festival has since earned the reputation as a key calendar moment of London's autumn creative season, alongside London Fashion Week, Frieze Art Fair and the London Film Festival, attracting the greatest thinkers, practitioners, retailers and educators to the capital, in a citywide celebration.

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[www.londondesignfestival.com](http://www.londondesignfestival.com)

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### ABOUT SAP

As the cloud company powered by SAP HANA®, SAP is the market leader in enterprise application software, helping companies of all sizes and in all industries run at their best: 77% of the world's transaction revenue touches an SAP® system. Our machine learning, Internet of

Things (IoT), and advanced analytics technologies help turn customers' businesses into intelligent enterprises. SAP helps give people and organizations deep business insight and fosters collaboration that helps them stay ahead of their competition. We simplify technology for companies so they can consume our software the way they want – without disruption. Our end-to-end suite of applications and services enables more than 425,000 business and public customers to operate profitably, adapt continuously, and make a difference. With a global network of customers, partners, employees, and thought leaders, SAP helps the world run better and improve people's lives. [sap.com](http://sap.com)

#### ABOUT BRAUN

Braun, a subsidiary of Procter & Gamble founded in Germany in 1921, develops and manufactures a wide variety of small domestic appliances that marry technical innovation, reliable quality and distinctive design. These range from electric shavers and beauty products to hair care appliances. Braun products enjoy worldwide distribution. Please visit <http://www.braun.com> for the latest news and in-depth information about the Braun brand.

#### ABOUT SQUARESPACE

Squarespace empowers millions of dreamers, makers, and doers by providing them with the tools they need to bring their creative ideas to life. On Squarespace's dynamic all-in-one platform, customers can claim a domain, build a website, sell online, and market a brand. Our suite of products combines cutting-edge design and world-class engineering, making it easier than ever to establish and own your online presence. Founded in 2003, Squarespace's team of more than 1000 is headquartered in downtown NYC, with offices in Dublin and Portland. For more information, visit [squarespace.com](http://squarespace.com)

#### ABOUT TOG (THE OFFICE GROUP)

TOG is a leading provider of design-led and flexible offices, studios, meeting rooms and co-working spaces for start-ups, small businesses as well as larger, more established businesses. TOG allows members to work at over 40 buildings across London, Bristol and Leeds, and enables companies to grow, downsize or exit a space quickly and cost effectively. TOG workspaces are now open in Berlin and are set to open in Frankfurt and Hamburg this Autumn. TOG is focused on creating inspirational workplaces with a genuine sense of community, as highlighted by the inclusion of spaces such as libraries, screening rooms, cafes, gyms and roof top gardens. Co-CEOs Charlie Green and Olly Olsen co-founded TOG with their first building in 2003. In June 2017, Blackstone – a global leader in real estate investment – acquired a majority interest in TOG from former Chairman, Lloyd Dorfman CBE. Together with Blackstone, TOG is now in a new stage of development, accelerating growth by expanding its portfolio and client base, and continuing to define new and innovative ways of addressing how people wish to work. Further information is available at [www.theofficegroup.com/media-relations](http://www.theofficegroup.com/media-relations).

#### ABOUT STUFISH

Stufish Entertainment Architects, founded by the late and legendary Mark Fisher, is the recognised world leader in entertainment architecture. Their award-winning portfolio includes an ever-broadening scope of design excellence, from permanent and semi-permanent buildings to live productions, touring shows, exhibitions, and more. Recent examples of Stufish's high profile tours include Elton John's Farewell Yellow Brick Road, Rolling Stones' No Filter, Beyoncé and Jay Z's On The Run II, Take That's Greatest Hits Live and U2's Experience + Innocence. Exhibition design includes the acclaimed and biggest selling music exhibition of all time at London's Victoria and Albert Museum Pink Floyd: Their Mortal Remains. Award winning examples of their bespoke permanent building designs are Han Show Theatre and Dai Show Theatre in China. Ground-breaking work for the Dai Show Theatre included the architectural design of the building as well as the interior, set and stage design for the acrobatic water show, making STUFISH the first ever practice to deliver all architectural and show elements for a theatre. Stufish also designed the opening and closing ceremonies of the Beijing Olympics 2008, the Asian Games 2010, UAE 40th Anniversary Show, Spirit of the Union, Abu Dhabi 2011, The Mother of the Nation 2016 and the 5th AIMAG Opening Ceremony' in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan 2017 as well as the stage for HM the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Stufish are also experienced set designers for TV shows of which the MTV Video Music Awards (2017) and the National Television Awards (2020) are recent examples.