

Best of Hackney Exhibition in the Geffrye Design Centre

27 April - 3 October 1999

The Geffrye Design Centre's new exhibition features the work of 37 designer-makers living or working in East London. All of the pieces exhibited were selected for the high artistic and technical qualities of the work, and are appropriate for display or use in a domestic environment (See attached list for details of exhibitors and materials.)

The Design Centre is an exhibition gallery within the Geffrye Museum, which provides a brand new venue in Hackney promoting the best in contemporary design and craft. It contributes to the economic and cultural regeneration of East London by providing a valuable one-stop resource for architects, interior designers, retail buyers and others looking for innovation and quality in current design.

The Design Centre acts as a centre of excellence. It is a high-profile gallery within a specialist interiors and furniture museum, showing a range of furniture, ceramics, glass, metalwork and textiles selected on the basis of merit. The museum has devised a programme of special exhibitions based on particular themes or materials, or profiles of individual designer-makers, and sometimes linked to London, national and international events. Forthcoming exhibitions of contemporary design include **Rachael Howard - Contemporary Textiles** (6 October 1999 - 20 February 2000) and **Matthew Hilton - Furniture for Our Time** (15 February - 26 June 2000).

The Design Centre developed from a series of initiatives begun in 1992, when the museum collaborated with Mazorca Ltd. to promote designer-makers in Hackney, mainly through the formation of Hackney Contemporaries, a selected group of talented individuals, whom the Geffrye assisted with marketing, business advice and joint exhibitions. In 1996, the museum was awarded a major grant from the ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) which facilitated the building of the Design Centre, and its programmes are currently supported by three-year funding from the London Arts Board.

- ends -

6 May 1999

Notes to Editors/...

- 2 -

Notes to Editors

1. For further details or transparencies, please contact Nancy Loader, PR Officer, on 0171 739 9893.
2. The Geffrye Museum presents the quintessential style of English urban middle class interiors from 1600 to the present day through a chronological sequence of period rooms. The museum is set in the former almshouses of the Ironmongers' Company, elegant 18th century buildings with attractive grounds, including an award-winning walled herb garden and a series of period garden rooms (open April - October).
3. The Geffrye Museum is an independent charitable trust, grant-aided by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. The Trust actively seeks to attract donations and corporate sponsorship to support the museum's services and development plans.
4. The Geffrye Design Centre is supported by three-year funding from the London Arts Board.

5.

Admission:	FREE	
Opening Hours:	Open	Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm Sundays & Bank Holidays 12 - 5pm
	Closed	Mondays (unless Bank Holiday), Good Friday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day
Travel:	Buses	149, 242, 243 or 67
	Tube	Liverpool St, then bus 149 or 242 Old St (exit 2), then bus 243