

## **Geffrye Design Centre**

The Geffrye Design Centre opens on Thursday 19 November, in the museum's new extension. The Design Centre will provide a brand new venue in Hackney promoting the best in contemporary design and craft. It will contribute 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 will act as a centre of excellence. It will be a high-profile gallery within a specialist furniture and interiors museum, showing a range of furniture, ceramics, glass, metalwork and textiles selected on the basis of merit.

An interactive database in the Centre will give access to the contact details and products of over 100 design studios in Hackney and East London. This information is available on the internet at web address <http://www.hiddenart.co.uk>.

There will be 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. The inaugural exhibition will feature the work of 37 designer-makers, selected for the high artistic and technical qualities of their work. (See attached list for details of exhibitors and materials.)

An innovative programme of complementary activities and workshops for the public, and lectures and seminars aimed at designers and makers, will run concurrently with each exhibition.

The Design Centre has developed from a series of initiatives begun in 1992, when the museum collaborated with Mazorca Ltd. to promote designer-makers in Hackney. One of these initiatives was 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.

# **Geffrye Design Centre - Inaugural Exhibition**

## **List of Participants**

### **Ceramics**

Nicholas Arroyave-Portela  
Karen Bunting  
Georgina Dunkley  
Penny Fowler  
Dimitra Grivellis  
Richard Henham  
Kate Malone  
Sophie MacCarthy  
Fenella Mallalieu  
Marcio Mattos  
Susan Nemeth  
Jola Spytowska  
Nicola Tassie @ Standpoint Ceramics

### **Furniture**

Adam Bottomley  
William Brook  
James Cannon @ Byproduct  
Jonathan Field  
Sarah Kay  
Alex MacDonald  
Amos Marchant  
Michael Marriott  
Sam Ransford  
Jonathan Rothenberg Design  
Andrew Stafford  
Jasper Startup @ Startup Design  
Andrea Stemmer @ Stemmer & Sharp

### **Glass**

Nick Blackmore @ Columbia Glass  
Beatrice Castro  
Emma O'Dare

### **Textiles**

Rachael Howard  
Helen Rawlinson  
Samson Soboye  
Frances Soubeyran  
Sian Tucker  
Lucy Wassell

### **Metal**

Thomas Hill

### **Table Accessories**

Ella Doran

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For further information or transparencies, please contact Nancy Loader, PR Officer, or Christine Lalumia, Deputy Director, on 0171 739 9893.

7 October 1998