



## Press release

**Crafts Council**  
44a Pentonville Road  
Islington  
London N1 9BY

Phone +44 (0)20 7278 7700  
Fax +44 (0)20 7837 6891

[www.craftscouncil.org.uk](http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk)

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September 2015

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### Inside Out furniture exhibition launches at Platform Gallery, 19 September

The Crafts Council will launch Inside Out, a new exhibition of furniture from their Collection at Platform Gallery from the 19 September to 17 October 2015.

Inside Out features 24 pieces from the Crafts Council Collection representing significant makers spanning four decades. The earliest piece is *Chair* by Alan Peters OBE made in 1978 and the most recent Sarah Kay's *Helga* chair from 2007 with work by Richard La-Trobe Bateman, Floris van den Broeke, Tom Dixon, Tomoko Azumi and Wales & Wales representing furniture through the 80s, 90s and the 2000s.

Furniture making traditionally considered function and ergonomics yet some of these pieces ignore such considerations including Fred Baier's extraordinary display unit *Megatron – Whatnot – Etagère* (1985) made using then pioneering free-form bending and Michael Anastassiades' playful *Bedside Table* (1996) made of industrial felt and able to muffle an alarm clock if more sleep is required.

The pieces cover a range of materials including recycled plastic bottles, corrugated cardboard, acrylic, ash, glass fibre, oak and metal with an equally diverse number of processes on display.

The exhibition offers visitors a unique insight into these pieces and their makers through accompanying archival material, maquettes and drawings. And thanks to the British Library's National Life Stories Crafts Lives project – five oral histories with Alan Peters, Tom Dixon, Fred Baier, Richard La Trobe-Bateman, Floris van den Broecke, Jim Partridge and Tomoko Azumi.

Inside Out alludes to the outdoor and indoor dual nature of furniture, the fact that some furniture has interior spaces and finally how the exhibition is offering a glimpse into the Crafts Council's Collection.

## Featured makers

Michael Anastassiades, Jane Atfield, Tomoko Azumi, Fred Baier, Erik de Graaff, Tom Dixon, El Ultimo Grito, David Field, Matthew Hilton, Ineke Hans, Sarah Kay, Richard La Trobe-Bateman, Julia Leakley, Michael Marriott, Jim Partridge, Alan Peters, Floris van den Broecke, Wales & Wales.

## Ends

For more information, images and interview requests please contact the Crafts Council press office on [media@craftscouncil.org.uk](mailto:media@craftscouncil.org.uk) or +44 (0) 207 806 2500.

[www.craftscouncil.org.uk](http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk) / @CraftsCouncilUK

For more information on the Platform Gallery and Habitat please contact Adam Crudginton, PR Manager at Habitat, on [adam.crudginton@habitat.co.uk](mailto:adam.crudginton@habitat.co.uk) / 44 (0) 207 427 8042.

[www.habitat.co.uk](http://www.habitat.co.uk) / @HabitatUK

## Notes to Editors

- Audio clips have been edited from the life story interviews with Fred Baier, Tom Dixon, Richard La Trobe Bateman, Floris Van Den Broecke and Jim Partridge which are part of National Life Stories Crafts Lives oral history collection. All are © British Library. For more information and to access the full life story interviews visit <http://sounds.bl.uk/Oral-history/crafts> and [www.bl.uk/nls](http://www.bl.uk/nls)

## About Habitat

- For fifty years Habitat has been imaging life as it should be. Since our revolutionary beginnings in 1964 we've made outstanding design accessible to all by bringing enduring, inventive and affordable products to the high street. Today alongside our three flagships and [www.habitat.co.uk](http://www.habitat.co.uk), we have 50 Mini Habitat stores within Homebase branches nationwide in the UK and will be rolling out more throughout 2015. You'll also find our Habitat products are available in Argos stores, [www.argos.co.uk](http://www.argos.co.uk) and now [www.argos.ie](http://www.argos.ie). Habitat was acquired by Home Retail Group in 2011 under the leadership of current Managing Director, Clare Askem, and the in-house design studio has been led by Creative Director, Polly Dickens, since 2012.

## About the Crafts Council

- The Crafts Council's goal is to make the UK the best place to make, see, collect and learn about contemporary craft.
  - We believe that craft plays a dynamic and vigorous role in the UK's social, economic and cultural life.
  - We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to make, see, collect and learn about craft.
  - We believe that the strength of craft lies in its use of traditional and contemporary techniques, ideas and materials to make extraordinary new work.

- We believe that the future of craft lies in nurturing talent; children and young people must be able to learn about craft at school and have access to excellent teaching throughout their education.
- As the UK's foremost national collection of contemporary craft, the Crafts Council Collection embraces all disciplines and features the most important makers of the last 40 years. With more than 1,600 objects, the Collection provides a distinctive, authoritative view of contemporary craft in its widest sense, from its interface with cutting-edge design to its crossover with visual art.
- The Crafts Council is supported using public funding by Arts Council England.  
[www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

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