

# clerkenwell 23-25 design week may

## Clerkenwell Design Week reports record-breaking year with more than 37,000 visitors



Above: Clerkenwell Design Week 2023 crowd (Image: Sam Frost)

[Clerkenwell Design Week](#) (CDW), the UK's largest and free design festival, returned last month (23 – 25 May 2023) and reported a total of 37,725 visitors from both the UK and overseas – **the best attendance results in its 14-year history and 24% up on 2019.**

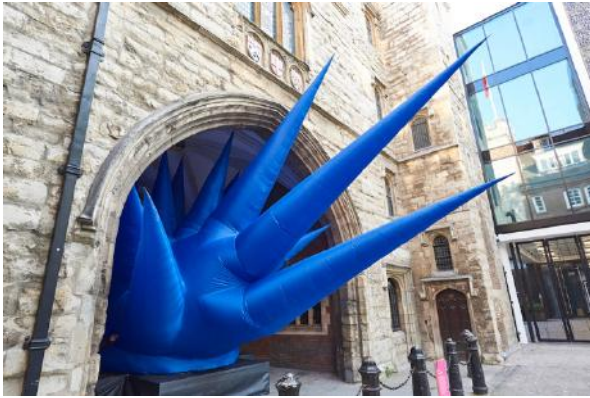
**Marlon Cera-Marle, Director of Design at Media 10**, said, “We’re absolutely delighted with what we achieved this year – not only because we reached our highest visitor numbers yet, but also because we were met with so much excitement and enthusiasm from our visitors and the wider A&D community.”

“This year we made a full-scale return to Clerkenwell – and with our most extensive programme to date. Everyone was so looking forward to seeing interesting products and meeting with their suppliers and peers again.”

Cera-Marle added, “I’d like to thank everyone – including our local showrooms, partners, exhibitors and sponsors – who have supported us this year and made CDW another resounding success.”

The 2023 festival comprised a total of [11 exhibition venues](#) presenting [more than 300 design brands and makers](#) – as well as a network of [over 160 local showrooms](#) hosting a range of product launches, workshops and talks.

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Above (from left): Gateway by Steve Messam in collaboration with SketchUp; Symbiocene Living by PLP Architecture (Image: Ashley Bingham)

A series of specially commissioned, inflatable public art by British artist **Steve Messam** was dotted around Clerkenwell and joined by other immersive, one-off features including a mycelium-made, modular seating structure by **PLP Architecture**; a collection of multifaceted, Megalithic columns from **Duffy London**; a multi-sensory, wave-like tunnel constructed from seaweed paper by **Jestico + Whiles**; and not least, the **BAUX** temporary exhibition with special feature walls by **Morag Myerscough**.



Above (from left): BAUX Installation with feature walls by Morag Myerscough; Fata Morgana by Jestico + Whiles in collaboration with Studio Fractal and Architainment Lighting (Image: Sam Frost)

This year's festival also welcomed a selection of [design destinations](#) which hosted installations, brand features and temporary design showcases. They included **The Goldsmiths' Centre**, **Cowcross Yards Paxter Locher House**, **Groupwork Architects**, **Brewhouse Yard** and **Bourne and Hollingsworth**.

[Conversations at Clerkenwell](#) – curated by brand consultant, Katie Richardson – was also back for three days with headline speakers including **Morag Myerscough**, **Philippe Malouin**, **Nipa Doshi of Doshi Levien**, **Yuri Suzuki**, and **James Patmore of Soho Home**. The talks programme took place in Spa Fields – alongside the [ICON at 20](#) intimate sessions with the likes of **Mimi Shodeinde**, **Tom Dixon** and **Ben Cullen Williams** at Old Sessions House, and [d|arc thoughts](#), a lighting dedicated talks series at Light inside House of Detention.

Clerkenwell Design Week is back from **21 – 23 May 2024**. Sign up for the [CDW newsletter](#) to stay tuned.

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Above (from left): Visitors outside Groupwork Architects for the guided tour (Image: Ashley Bingham);  
Pause by Duffy London in Spa Fields (Image: Sam Frost)



Above (from left): Conversations at Clerkenwell; Festival hub at Old Sessions House (Image: Sam Frost)



Above (from left): Terra Firma edible tablescape by Heiter X; Oloïd acoustic luminaire by Impact Acoustic and atelier oi (Image: Sam Frost)

-ENDS-

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

**Clerkenwell Design Week, 23 – 25 May 2023**

Website: [clerkenwelldesignweek.com](https://clerkenwelldesignweek.com) | Instagram: [@clerkenwelldesignweek](https://www.instagram.com/clerkenwelldesignweek)

Twitter: [@cdwfestival](https://twitter.com/cdwfestival) | Facebook: [@clerkenwell.design.week](https://www.facebook.com/clerkenwell.design.week) | Hashtag: #CDW2023

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## 2023 exhibition venues

- **Design Fields** – home to international furniture and interiors brands;
- **Contract** – home to commercial interiors;
- **Light** – home to international lighting brands;
- **Project** – home to workplace furniture and solutions;
- **Elements** – home to architectural hardware and finishes;
- **British Collection** – home to the best of British interiors brands;
- **Detail** – home to luxury interiors;
- **Platform** – home to emerging design talent;
- **Old Sessions House** – home to brand pop-ups and activations, and also the festival hub offering CDW visitors free access between 23 – 25 May;
- **Ceramics of Italy** – home to Italian tile brands; and
- **(NEW) Catapult** – home to contemporary design for office, hospitality and retail.