



**Clerkenwell Design Week announces expansion
with three new venues and a showstopping installation by Alex Chinneck
20 – 22 May 2025**



Above (from left): The Charterhouse; St Bartholomew the Great

[Clerkenwell Design Week](#) (CDW) announces its return to London's EC1 from **20 – 22 May 2025** for its 14th edition as a leading global design festival. This year's event will be the largest yet, introducing three new exhibition venues. Among them are the historic medieval and Tudor buildings of **The Charterhouse** and **Charterhouse Square**, which will host artist **Alex Chinneck's** major new public artwork; the capital's oldest parish church, **St Bartholomew the Great**; and **Studio Smithfield**, a Grade II* listed building above the iconic Smithfield Market in the heart of the Culture Mile. These additions will form a vibrant and bustling new southern district for the festival.

Meanwhile, the 2025 edition will feature a myriad of curated events throughout Clerkenwell. Visitors can explore an impressive lineup of international exhibitors and cutting-edge products showcased across **16+ venues** and **160+ local design showrooms**.

"We're thrilled to be back in Clerkenwell this May with our largest programme yet, both in scale and content," says **Marlon Cera-Marle, Design Division Director at Media 10**, the organiser of the annual design festival. "The new venues, including some of London's most historic landmarks, will provide a stunning backdrop for presenting some of the world's most exciting design brands. We're also partnering with incredible international names, from country pavilions to leading media outlets from the UK and US."

Cera-Marle adds, "This year, we're especially excited to announce one of our headline features: a surreal public artwork by the acclaimed British artist Alex Chinneck. As one of the most attended specification events on the A&D calendar, CDW 2025 will once again serve as a platform for discovering new trends, talent and ideas. We look forward to sharing more details about the programme in the coming months."



Above (from left): *From The Knees Of My Nose To The Belly Of My Toes* by Alex Chinneck (Photo: Stephen O'Flaherty); artist Alex Chinneck; *A Sprinkle Of Night And A Spoonful Of Light* by Alex Chinneck (Photo: Marc Wilmot)

NEW EXHIBITION VENUES

The Charterhouse and Charterhouse Square – featuring Alex Chinneck's flagship installation

Dating back to the 14th century, The Charterhouse is a historic complex of buildings, courtyard gardens and green spaces reflecting over 600 years of British history. This May, this heritage site will serve as a striking backdrop for contemporary furniture, decorative lighting and luxury finishes. It will feature an array of global bathroom brands, from Geberit and Toto to Bette, C.P. Hart and Victoria and Albert Baths. Also joining them will be British fabric and wallpaper company Colefax and Fowler.

In addition to design brands, the venue will host **Conversations at Clerkenwell**, the festival's official talks series. For 2025, the talks will take place in a theatre designed by the London-based design studio Kapitza, known for its colourful public art installations for British Land, wayfinding designs for the Royal London Hospital, as well as public and leisure architecture projects. Curated by PR and Brand Consultant Katie Richardson, the series will include conversations with leading and emerging designers, and as always, will cover the topics of the day, with the full programme to be announced in the spring.

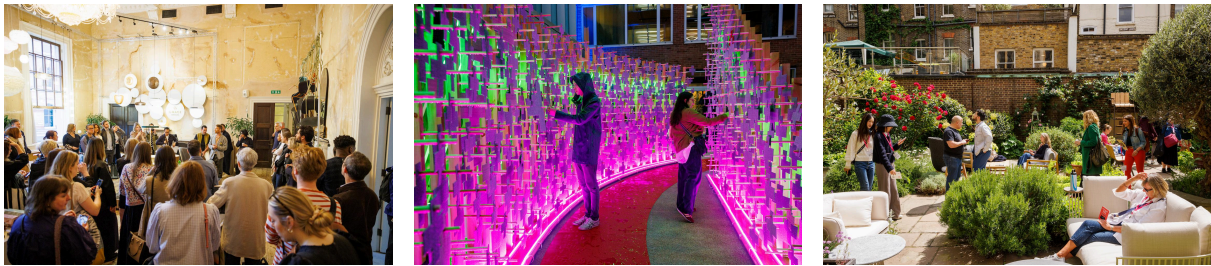
Outside, Charterhouse Square will showcase products for outdoor living and hospitality, alongside Alex Chinneck's new sculpture. Specially commissioned by CDW, the design promises a return for the artist to sculpting with brick and playing with architectural elevations. In 2013 Chinneck completed a 'sliding house' in Margate, furnished with curving bricks, curving windows and a curving door. His new sculpture revisits this sculptural language while introducing an element of interactivity. It uses repurposed steel, salvaged from the demolition of another building in London, thanks to the sponsorship of Cleveland Steel. It is developed with the support of Crittall Windows, FabSpeed and Michelmersh Brock Holdings PLC. The installation will remain on display for several weeks after the festival.

Studio Smithfield

A 27,000-square-foot Grade II* listed building above Smithfield Market, Studio Smithfield is a new creative event space and will be home to commercial and workplace interior brands during CDW, including Houzz Pro and Bandalux.

Church of Design

Set within St Bartholomew the Great, a 900-year-old Grade I listed medieval church, Church of Design will offer a breathtaking setting for modern design showcases. Exhibitors will include French interiors specialist Roche Bobois. Meanwhile, new to this year’s edition, CDW has partnered with Sandow, the US-based publisher of *Interior Design*, *Design Milk* and *Metropolis*. As part of this collaboration, Sandow will host design conversations, Design Dialogue by Sandow, inside the church throughout the festival. In the lead-up to the event, the publisher has launched its first-ever [CDW Product Awards](#), celebrating the most innovative and visionary products shaping the future of design. Submissions are now open.



Above (from left): Old Sessions House; Jestico + Whiles x Bolon 2024 installation; courtyard of Detail at The Order of St John (Photo: Sam Frost)

RETURNING VENUES

In addition to the new venues, [existing locations](#) will house a variety of product-focused exhibitions, including:

- **Clerkenwell Green and Installations** – Structural stone will take centre stage in the recently refurbished Clerkenwell Green, where Albion Stone and Hutton Stone will reveal a special new commission by Hawkins\Brown, demonstrating the durability and beauty of British stone bricks. Nearby, the ambitious Stone Tapestry structure by the Stone Federation will be featured, along with showcases from exhibitors specialising in contract and workplace interior products and solutions.
- **Project** – Focused on contract furniture and surface design.
- **Design Fields** – Showcasing contemporary furniture, lighting and product design with an international focus. The [Design Meets](#) talks series will also return, inviting representatives from trade bodies and associations to engage in a range of intimate, industry-led discussions.
- **Light** – Home to global lighting companies. [Darc Thoughts](#), *Darc’s* talks series, will also return.
- **Elements** – Dedicated to architectural hardware and finishes.
- **British Collection** – Taking over the whole of St James’s Church again and highlighting the best British design talent and brands.
- **Detail** – Featuring luxury interiors.



- **Platform** – Spotlighting emerging design talent and companies.
- **Ceramics of Italy** – Hosting Italian ceramic and porcelain tile brands at VaynerMedia’s headquarters on St John’s Square. This exhibition is organised by the Italian Trade Agency in collaboration with the Ceramics Association of Italy.
- **Old Sessions House** – Home to brand activations, presentations and the festival hub (free access for CDW visitors, 20 – 22 May).
- **The Goldsmiths’ Centre** – Presenting products for commercial and workplace interiors.
- **Cowcross Pavilions** and **Brewhouse Yard** – Both presenting leading commercial interiors from the UK and abroad.

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN NAMES

Across all venues, CDW will feature **over 350 design brands**, showcasing furniture, lighting, textiles, surfaces, home accessories and product design. Confirmed exhibitors include String, Bolzan, Chelsom, Vincent Sheppard, Kasthall, Ethimo, Kirkby Design, Coat Paints, Benchmark, Morgan, Another Country, Ercol, Pluck Kitchens, Universal Fibers, Arte and Ultrafabrics. Click here for the [latest exhibitor list](#). The Danish Collection will also return to Paxton Locher House and expand into parts of Clerkenwell Green.

More than 160 showroom partners (see [full list](#)) will also host product launches, talks and workshops. These include Allermuir, Andreu World, Ferm Living, The Conran Shop, Camira, Bolon, Tarkett, Modulys, Flokk, Bla Station, Lintex, Vitra, Duravit, Hansgrohe, Ideal Standard, Secto Design, J. Adams and Co, Bert Frank, Case Furniture (pop-up showroom), Modus, Nordic Design House, Cosentino, Domus Tiles, Parkside and Viaduct.

FRINGE

Over the three days of CDW, various design studios will invite visitors to take part in a range of creative workshops as part of the **Fringe** programme.

FOOD & DRINK

Festival-goers can also enjoy exclusive discounts and offerings from local **food and drink partners**. Furthermore, architects and interior designers will have the opportunity to join guided specialist tours covering topics ranging from sustainability to emerging design talent and more.

ENHANCED NAVIGATION

For the first time, CDW has partnered with an interactive map software expert to create a bespoke digital map for the festival. This map will enable visitors to search their location – using geolocation technology – and browse participating venues, festival routes and lists of brands. The fully interactive experience will make it easier for attendees to navigate the neighbourhood during the festival.



Clerkenwell Design Week 2025 takes place across EC1, London, from 20 – 22 May. More details about the festival will be announced in due course. For more information, please visit clerkenwelldesignweek.com – registration is now [open](#).

-ENDS-

PRESS CONTACT

For press enquiries, please contact Belinda Fisher and Jeffrey Cheung at Friends & Co: cdw@friendsandco.co.uk.

Press registration: please click [here](#)

NOTES TO EDITORS

Clerkenwell Design Week, 20 – 22 May 2025

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

X: [@cdwfestival](https://twitter.com/cdwfestival) | Facebook: [@clerkenwell.design.week](https://www.facebook.com/clerkenwell.design.week) | Hashtag: #CDW2025

VISITING INFORMATION

- Visitors can register for their [FREE festival passes](#) now.
- All visitors require a visitor badge to access the exhibition venues and showroom events.
- Exhibition venues are open **10:00 – 18:00** on **Tuesday**, **10:00 – 21:00** on **Wednesday**, and **10:00 – 17:00** on Thursday. Showroom opening hours vary.
- Closest underground stations: Farringdon and Barbican
- Bus routes: 19, 341, 38, N19, N38, N41, 55, 48