



Curtain up on Clerkenwell: Highlights from CDW's Landmark 15th Edition

NOW OPEN 19 - 21 May 2026



The Italian Hospitality, by Giulio Cappellini, curated by INTERNI magazine. Photo Giovanni Cappellini

[Tuesday, 19 May 2026] [Clerkenwell Design Week](#) (CDW), the leading global design festival, opened today for its 15th and most ambitious edition to date, expecting tens of thousands of visitors. Hundreds of [showroom partners](#) and [exhibitors](#) are participating in [events](#) across Clerkenwell including five extensive talks programmes. Running until Thursday 21 May 2026, CDW offers architects, specifiers, interior designers and the public the opportunity to explore everything from furniture and lighting to kitchen and bathroom designs, materials, decorative accessories and more.

European Design in Force at Clerkenwell

This year's CDW includes the most wide-ranging showcase of European design the festival has ever staged, welcoming stunning collections from Spain, Italy, Norway, Germany, Austria and the UK.



Interiors from Spain presents: El Salón at the Museum of the Order of St John

Contemporary Spanish design is represented by 27 brands at three venues and a number of showrooms. Interiors from Spain has worked with designer Tomás Alonso to transform the 16th – century Museum of the Order of St John, into El Salón an immersive installation set within the museum’s atmospheric Chapter Hall. Three new product launches are also highlights of this project.

Italian design also has a strong presence with around 40 furniture, interior design and surface material brands across three distinct activations. A highlight is ‘The Italian Hospitality’ at the Luxury Edit (Haberdasher’s Hall) curated by Giulio Cappellini in conjunction with Interni magazine. The Embassy of Italy in London and the Italian Trade Agency.

Neurodiversity and wellbeing

Designing for difference is a prominent thread across installations and talks throughout EC1 this week.



Resonance by Fung+Bedford (left) Conversations at Clerkenwell (right)

A number of showrooms including [Egger London](#), [PlusFloor](#), [Milliken Floors](#), [Trilux Lighting](#), [Tarkett](#), [Material Source Studio](#), [Wagstaff & Umbrella Furniture](#) all are putting neurodiversity and wellbeing front and centre. Along with talks programs: Design Meets (Haberdasher’s Hall) dARC Thoughts (House of Detention) and Design In Focus (Commercial Design in the Park) Design Dialogues (Church of Design)

many of the topics touch on diversity, inclusion and wellbeing. The topics are also a big part of the heart of **Conversations at Clerkenwell**, the festival's official talks programme which has partnered with paint brand **Dulux Trade** this year. Curated by Katie Richardson, the programme is housed in the extraordinary setting of the Church of Design at St Bartholomew the Great. In the same venue, Fung+Beford has installed 'Resonance' three illuminated, folded paper sculptures. Resonance activates the space while maintaining serenity and unfolding moments of calm through mindful repetition.

Designing with waste

Across EC1, designers are giving discarded materials a second life.



Foundations in Flow by Magnus Mulvany, Gabi Spangenthal & Julio Manchón Campillo / Brew House by Studio Egret West photo:Jarrell Goh

In Brewhouse Yard, Studio Egret West has constructed the **Brew House** a pavilion built from 600 Brew Bricks made from around 300 kg of waste coffee grounds collected from London cafés. Each aerated unit uses 10% less finite clay and is 5% lighter than a standard brick, demonstrating how everyday waste can be reintroduced into the building cycle.

At the British Collection, **Spared** explores emerging material possibilities by transforming post-consumer waste into furniture and interior objects that are functional, expressive, and rooted in craft.

At St John's Gate, Design Intervention **Foundations in Flow** has been designed using recycled materials including diamond embossed polycarbonate corrugated panels, acrylic and ceramic tiles. Inspired by Clerkenwell's historic wells, rivers and subterranean waterways, the design incorporates water, fluid forms and reflective surfaces.

New Showrooms open in EC1

[ABI Interiors](#), [Nth Degree](#), [Reddie](#) and [Industville](#) are all launching new spaces to showcase their latest collections. To preview its new showroom and headquarters, which opens in a five-storey townhouse on Clerkenwell Green in July, [SCP](#) is animating the courtyard space with a selection of furniture brands throughout the festival.



Clerkenwell Design Week 2026 takes place across EC1, London, from 19 - 21 May. More details about the festival will be announced in due course. For more information, please visit clerkenwelldesignweek.com – registration is now [open](#).



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PRESS CONTACT

For press enquiries, please contact Belinda Fisher, Berna Sermet and Jeroen Bergmans at Friends & Co: cdw@friendsandco.co.uk.

Press registration: please click [here](#)

NOTES TO EDITORS

Clerkenwell Design Week, 19 – 21 May 2026. 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: #CDW2026

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