

On Our Doorsteps – Local Design Activism Touring Exhibition and Website.

Nick Gant 2012.

This touring exhibition and website, which coincides with the UK 'Localism' legislation, forms new understandings of the re-emergence 'locality' as a distinctive methodology in contemporary design. The project engages debates around co-design and collaborative knowledge and creativity and defines and explores the benefits (social, cultural, economic and environmental) of varying interpretations and methodological processes of 'design localism'. The research method deploys a touring exhibition platform on which exhibits are curated based on the locality of the exhibition as a means to reform and compare and contrast design methods in differing localities across the world. It also utilises a web-mapping and digital repository tool to enable data basing of exhibits, a process which takes place 'live' at the exhibition base. More remote examples and interpretations of the theme are submitted through an open access repository.

The research project was instigated 'locally', in Brighton through a curriculum project that explored the theme of 'design localism' and included all final year students and academic staff of the 3D Design undergraduate programme, working with 18 collaborating community partners in the city and resulted in new methodologies, social and cultural souvenirs and sustainable products and unit of study. The exhibition then received major sponsorship from REED PLC resulting in a feature exhibit and second leg of the tour to the UK's largest Design Show as part of London Design festival, 100% Design where it exhibited and mapped further actors and exemplars based in the UK and London and formed part of the industry seminar series. The exhibition premiered product launches from leading designers such as Max Lamb, Henzel and Hunt and Dominic Wilcox and companies including the launch of the Farmers Market training shoe from global sportswear brand New Balance. The exhibition exhibited in Milan, Serbia and Portugal with invitations to Korea, China and India supported by the British Council in 2012 (pending).

The project has featured on websites including; Core 77 and Scuola Italiana Design and a feature article in ICON magazine December issue 2012.

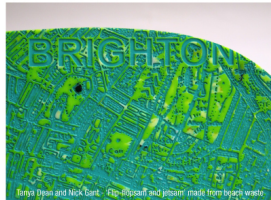
**'On Our Doorsteps' Local Design Activism
exhibition at 100% Design, 19th-22nd Sept**

Coinciding with the commencement of 'Localism' legislation, this inspiring, touring exhibition presents contemporary design's reengagement with 'local' as a means to forge meaningful and valued contributions to society, the economy and the environment. It presents the work of leading designers and companies who are positively activating change through their products, methods, ideas and ideals. The show will tour, exploring different localities and creative responses on its way to Milan in 2013 and helping to both showcase and signpost a direction for active and resilient design practice.

100% Design Eco Design & Build, Earls Court London
19th-22nd September 2012.

onourdoorsteps.community21.org

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University of Brighton



Benji Dean and Nick Gant - 'Big Bopoff' and present made from topch waste



Kieran Jones and Will Shannon



products made from recycled Olympic Wall for displaced community clubs



Joah Bhatti - furniture made from biomass in collaboration with road builders



Melissa Perna - interior products for flood victims



Chloe Moneck - Children's Embedded Carbon Education Kit



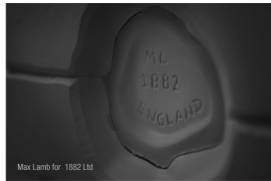
Joah Bhatti - anniversary anniversary coin in brass for KCC Bakers 70th birthday



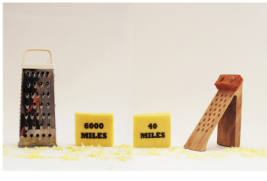
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Max Lamb for 1882 Ltd



Max Lamb for 1882 Ltd

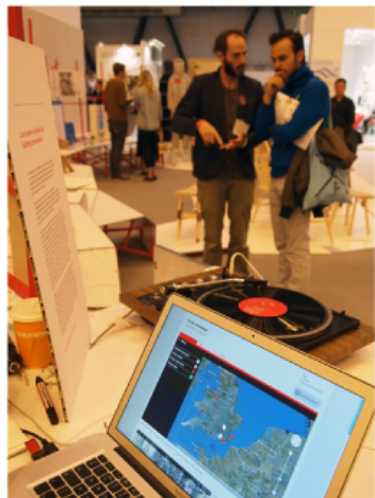


Harry Timble - 1 Pounds coin from local iron ore



Harry Timble - 1 Pounds coin from local iron ore

'On Our Doorsteps' - Local Design Activism. Devised by Nick Gant - for more information please contact n.a.gant@brighton.ac.uk



on our doorsteps at 100% Design