

Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair Announce New Partnership with United in Design A triumph for diversity, art and design 26-29 October 2023

INVITATION: Join Yeji Son, Clare Cowburn Baker, Director of United in Design and Lizzie Glendinning, Director of Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair at the United in Design booth for an introduction to the booth, a tour of the Fair and complimentary drinks courtesy of Maison Mirabeau. Booth 17, 6pm, Thursday 26 October.

Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair is delighted to announce their new charity partner **United in Design**, unveiling an important new annual Fair initiative. Showcasing an exclusive booth, designed and presented by an emerging interior design talent, the collaboration with UiD amplifies the diversity and inclusivity at the heart of WCPF's ethos.

The WCPF partnership is just one example of United in Design's ongoing mission to offer an equal opportunity pathway for entry into the Interior Design industry for people from Black, Asian, ethnic minority and socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds. The organisation, founded by established designers Alexandria Dauley and Sophie Ashby, has facilitated design graduates in securing full-time employment, launched a successful mentoring and school outreach programme and engaged many businesses in ED&I training to support their goals of creating diverse workplaces.

The UiD partnership with WCPF works to platform emerging design talent, selected by a panel of industry experts, by providing support in the creative process and a booth at the annual fair to showcase their design vision.

"When Sophie and I started United in Design three years ago, we had a bold vision to help create an inclusive, diverse and equality-driven design industry. One that welcomed, celebrated and supported designers from all backgrounds and walks of life." - Alexandria Dauley (co-founder)

This year's recipient is **Yeji Son**. Having undergone a three-month placement with United in Design partner David Collins Studio earlier this year, Son has honed her skills under the mentorship of an elite design studio whilst finessing her individual vision. With a design style that is characterised by its calming and tranquil atmosphere, achieved using soothing colours, soft textures, and a focus on creating spaces that evoke a sense of relaxation and peace, Son brings a mindfully crafted touch to the spaces she creates. Vibrant colour and natural elements, such as wood and stone, often punctuate a space, drawing from traditional Korean design which provides significant inspiration for the designer.



'What sets my designs apart is their strong embrace of artwork, where I integrate art pieces seamlessly into the interior to not only complement the space but also to be a central part of the design. This approach creates a harmonious blend of contemporary aesthetics with artistic expression, making each design a unique and visually captivating experience.' - Yeji Son

The pivotal element that guides Son's creative vision is the artwork. Once the painting, sculpture or photograph has been selected it acts as a centrepiece to which the rest of the scene comes to life. It informs the emotion, character, and the distinct mood of a space, transforming a room into an immersive experience.

The 2023 United in Design booth will be furnished with generous loans from Norr11, Sister by Studio Ashby, Ligne Roset, Floor Story and Pinch.

'With the artwork as my muse, designing and visualizing the space becomes an intuitive and exciting journey, as I believe that art is the key factor in shaping and elevating the ambiance of any environment.' -Yeji Son

David Collins Studio adds, *"Partnering with United in Design has given us the opportunity to offer placements to some incredibly gifted designers. Earlier this year Yeji joined us for her three-month placement, and we are delighted that she has since returned to the studio as a permanent member of our team. We always look forward to when a United in Design apprentice joins the studio, as we know that we are going to be working alongside some incredible talent."*

Art and design have long gone hand in hand, with WCPF founders Jack Bullen and Lizzie Glendinning championing the role of their art collection in giving soul to their own home. The ethos of United in Design aligns perfectly with the inclusivity at the heart of WCPF. With 500 artists at varying price points and career levels to invest in and Yeji Son's designs to provide inspiration, visitors can expect a well-rounded and unique experience at October's edition.

"We are thrilled to have partnered with United in Design, whose outreach and objectives very much parallel our own in providing a platform for young people and emerging creatives. Our Art and Interiors space can now showcase the innovative vision of a young designer, and the work of United in Design, while collaborating to curate new and unique ways for audiences to engage with contemporary art." – Lizzie Glendinning, WCPF Co-Founder

WCPF will host an exclusive **Press Preview** on Wednesday 25 October from 2pm. The preview event will include the offer of a guided tour of the Fair with Curator Lizzie Glendinning, accompanied by canapes and cocktails at 4pm. [Booking](#) is essential.

On Thursday 26 October 6-9pm there will be a **New Collectors' Evening**. Sip on a complimentary glass of Mirabeau and hear hot tips from leading creative experts about what, when and how to buy art. There'll also be a live DJ, have-a-go print demos, and of course hundreds of artworks showcasing the very best of international contemporary print.

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Booth 17, 6pm, Thursday 26 October.***



Located at historic Royal Arsenal, now easily accessible in just 20 minutes from Central London via the Elizabeth Line, WCPF is the largest fair entirely devoted to highly collectible contemporary print. This year marks the eighth edition of the Fair, offering visitors the opportunity to explore, discover, and collect the very best in international contemporary original print from over 500 artists and leading galleries at London's latest landmark creative destination.

Woolwich Contemporary Print Fair, 26-29 October 2023

Woolwich Works, The Fireworks Factory, Royal Arsenal
London SE18 6HD

The Online Edition 26 October - 05 November

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