

Young curating talent: Ana Jimenez Palomar of Trouping Colour, which runs pop-up shows of new designers. See for yourself at the Platform show in the House of Detention



Above: Arne Jacobsen's Drop chair for Fritz Hansen at Zaha Hadid Gallery
Below: Bonzo bed by Bauwouhaus. See it at Platform (bauwouhaus.co.uk)

Clerkenwell Design Week is 10 years old. Come and celebrate

Enjoy free pavement parties, shows, talks and events in EC1's enclave of home design, says **Barbara Chandler**

TRADITIONALLY the home of London crafts such as printers, clock-makers and jewellers, ancient Clerkenwell's cobbled alleys, arches, greens, industrial buildings and churches these days also frame the sophisticated design showrooms of more than 100 brands for the home. Internationals including Italian Cappellini and Moroso and German Hansgrohe, adjoin Brits such as Bert Frank for lighting, Deadgood for furnishings, and Naughtone and MARK Product, both furniture. The area also has 200 architect practices, the highest concentration in Europe. From Tuesday to Thursday inclusive next week, Clerkenwell Design Week offers shows, talks and events in venues that include an underground Victorian prison, the crypts and gardens of two churches, and an ex-commercial cold store. More than 100 showrooms host individual events. Architects and interior designers will be after furniture and fittings, but in its tenth year, Clerkenwell Design Week is a great frolic for anyone who loves design. You can walk it an hour or so, and most shows are free. Dip in at lunchtime, or after work. Thursday is late night. Check out the

programme and register free at clerkenwelldesignweek.com — and keep up to date on [Instagram@clerkenwelldesignweek](https://www.instagram.com/clerkenwelldesignweek)

The mood is jolly, with pavement parties and 10 huge "candles" by different designers pointing out the route. St John's Gate arch is filled with a lattice of timber, and art students have made seven installations highlighting the area's history. More history features in walking tours.

Design buffs will love a special show for famous Danish chair makers Fritz Hansen, dating back to 1872. Titled Shaping Reality Through Time, it features classics, prototypes, limited editions and also new models launched at the Milan Furniture Fair last month. See it until June 14 at Zaha Hadid Gallery, 101 Goswell Rd.

Conversations at Clerkenwell is a rolling programme of talks at Spa Fields featuring design experts and curated by Katie Richardson. Tickets are £5 — head for the specially built Moth Pavilion with its vast canopy of recycled fabric hovering like giant wings. Many of the showrooms taking part in Design Week are hosting talks, events and displays. Some need booking, so check the website.

Along with furnishings for offices and hotels, Clerkenwell Design Week showcases intriguing independent designers, niche décor brands, talent from overseas and London makers.

TOUR THE SHOWS IN EC1

- **Platform** is at the House of Detention in Sans Walk
BRIGHT new design talent will be pushing out the ghosts from these underground cells. Showing sharp new stuff are **Monkey Puzzle Tree**, **Gwendoline Porte Design**, **Junction Fifteen** and **Trouping Colour**.
- **British Collection**, Crypt on the Green, St James's Church
INTRIGUING British makers here include **Pluck** of Brixton, with its refreshing take on kitchens. Wood is a shared passion for **Ercol**, **Benchmark**, plus **Forest & Maker**. See a revival of furniture by the British midcentury modern designers **John and Sylvia Reid** at **Nathan Furniture**.
- **Elements**, St John's Square
GET a handle on your home with ironmongery, hardware, switches and taps — scuffed brass is the new must-have look.
- **Detail**, The Order of St John, St John's Square
EXPLORE this lovely church with a back garden, to see upmarket furniture and wallcoverings.
- **Light**, Fabric nightclub, 77A Charterhouse Street
IN SUITABLY dark surroundings, see a galaxy of modern lights.
- Clerkenwell Design Week runs from May 21-23 (clerkenwelldesignweek.com)



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Functional sculpture: Gwendoline Porte Design, showing at Platform