

Friday Forum: Designing for Change

November 19th

The V&A's new gallery Design 1900-Now explores design's pivotal role in shaping and challenging the biggest issues of our times. So how can design help create a better future for all?



The objects, systems and structures that surround us are the results of design processes that help shape our world in both intentional and unintentional ways. New modes of manufacture impact on society and how we work, while emerging technologies change how we connect and relate to one another. During the coronavirus pandemic and at a time for heightened calls for racial and social justice, we've seen how objects and systems have taken on new meanings and functions and how design has tried to act as a force for positive change.

We'll be joined by Seetal Solanki the founder and director of material research studio Ma-tt-er alongside Cristian Fracassi, CEO and co-founder of Issinova; who's ground

breaking scuba diving facemask hack became a life saving device during the peak of the pandemic.

Join us for a day of talks to explore the power of design to shape different outcomes and to interrogate what future methods and mindsets are needed to create a society that better reflects the needs of all its inhabitants.

Programme

10:00 – 10:05

Welcome – Liza Mackenzie, *Senior Producer, V&A Academy*

Introduction: *Design 1900-Now* galleries, V&A

10:05 – 10:45

Corinna Gardner *Senior Curator of Design & Digital Design, Architecture & Digital*

Johanna Agerman Ross *Curator of 20th and 21st Century Furniture and Product Design, Architecture & Digital*

Session One: Design for Health

10:45 – 11:45

The pandemic has highlighted the seismic inequalities in society from access to healthcare and greenspace to how we work. How might we leverage the crisis of this moment to transform healthcare design?

- **Cristian Fracassi**, *CEO and co-founder of ISINNOVA*

11:45 Q&A

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

Session Two: Designing Systems

13:00 – 14:00

To meet our sustainable development goals by 2030, we need to work more consciously and creatively with our natural world. Join the debate with material innovators and climate change leaders as we explore the sustainable solutions re-designing our material world and ask what's blocking our path?

Fernando Laposse, *Industrial product designer*

Seetal Solanki, *Founder and director of materials research studio Ma-tt-er*

Reet Aus, *Sustainable fashion designer*

14:00 Q&A

14:15 – 15:00 Break

Session Three: Design for all

15:00 – 16:15

Design needs to be fit for purpose and serve the many, how can architectural spaces be more pluralistic, inclusive and representative?

- **Manijeh Verghese**, *Founding Director at Unscene Architecture and the Head of Public Programmes at the Architectural Association* and **Maddy Kessler**, *RIBA chartered architect and founding Director at Unscene Architecture*
- **Natalie D Kane** *is a curator, writer and researcher based in London, UK. She is Curator of Digital Design at the Victoria and Albert Museum within the Design, Architecture and Digital Department.*

16:15 – 16:45 Keynote

Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya

Multidisciplinary Artist On Reclaiming Space, Fostering Belonging and Sparking Joy

16:45 Q&A

17:00 End

