

# Design week review

With the London design festival over and the dust and excitement of the week starting to settle, we thought it would be good to look back at the most interesting trends we observed over the festival.

## More Common Use of 3d Printing

It seems that 3d printing has been the next big thing for the past 5-10 years but visiting LDF (London Design Week) you could be forgiven for thinking it was now a mainstream production method applied to a variety of every-day (albeit expensive) products, including jewellery, furniture, fashion and home appliances. This trend may be due to both falling costs (read greater accessibility) and more varied 3D printing materials, not to mention Designers experimenting with the technology and applying it in increasingly sophisticated and relevant ways.

Morgan furniture's Rio range of tables and chairs with 3D printed elements are a great example of how this process can be used to create complex decorative elements.



*Morgan Furniture - 3d printed chair*  
<http://www.morganfurniture.co.uk/>



*Morgan Furniture - Rio 3d printed Table*  
<http://www.morganfurniture.co.uk/>

The OXO Tower also showed a range of 3d printed shoes continuing the trend for personalized 3D printed fashion.



*3D printed Shoes*

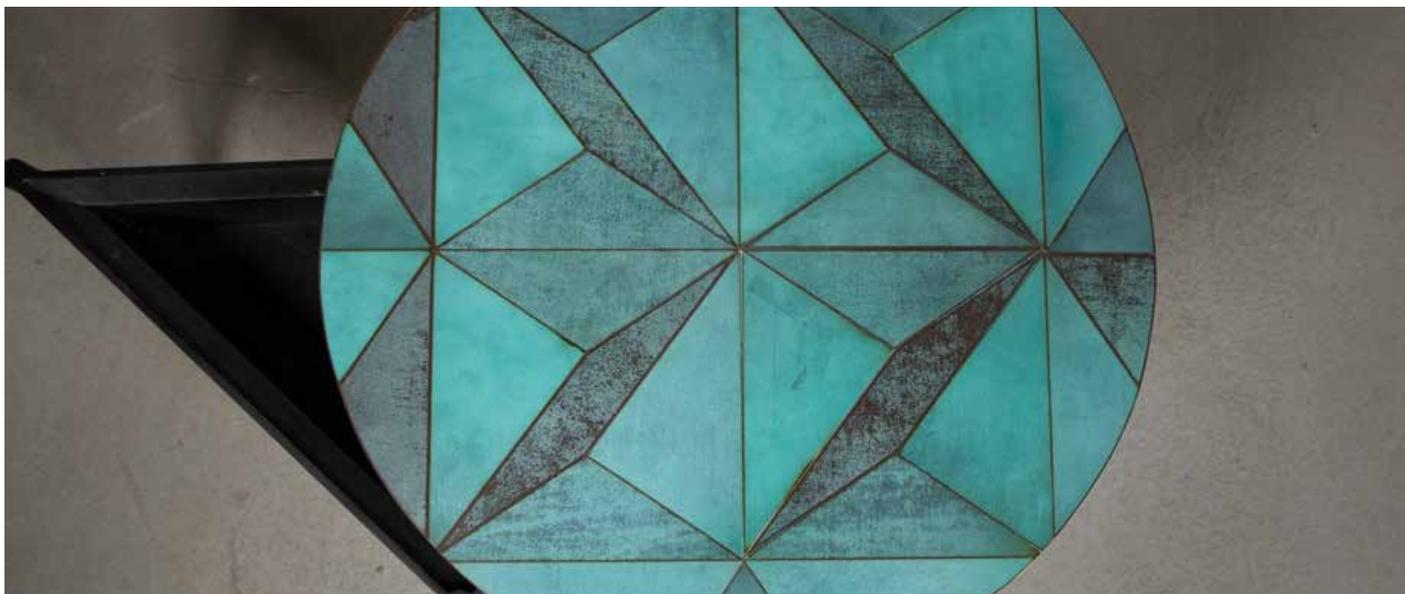
## **Oxidized Metal**

LDF also played host to a range of products using copper and other oxidizing metals that develop a unique patina over time. Designers like Alessandro Zambelli and Ariane Prin are at the forefront of this trend.

Using natural textures and finishes in this way echoes the general trend towards more natural, sustainable products however there may also be a more nuanced effect here. A counter-trend where consumers reject generic, minimal, mass-produced goods for objects that are complex and become increasingly unique and personal over time.



*Fimbul O lamp*  
<http://www.fimbuldesign.no/>



*Alessandro Zambelli Oxidised table*

[https://static.dezeen.com/uploads/2016/09/matter-of-stuff-toscari-alessandro-zambelli-london-design-festival\\_dezeen\\_social.jpg](https://static.dezeen.com/uploads/2016/09/matter-of-stuff-toscari-alessandro-zambelli-london-design-festival_dezeen_social.jpg)



*Ariane Prin rust collection clocks*

[https://static.dezeen.com/uploads/2016/09/rust-homeware-collection-ariane-prin-london-design-festival\\_dezeen\\_2364\\_ss\\_6.jpg](https://static.dezeen.com/uploads/2016/09/rust-homeware-collection-ariane-prin-london-design-festival_dezeen_2364_ss_6.jpg)



*Piet Hein Eek oxidised copper wallpaper*

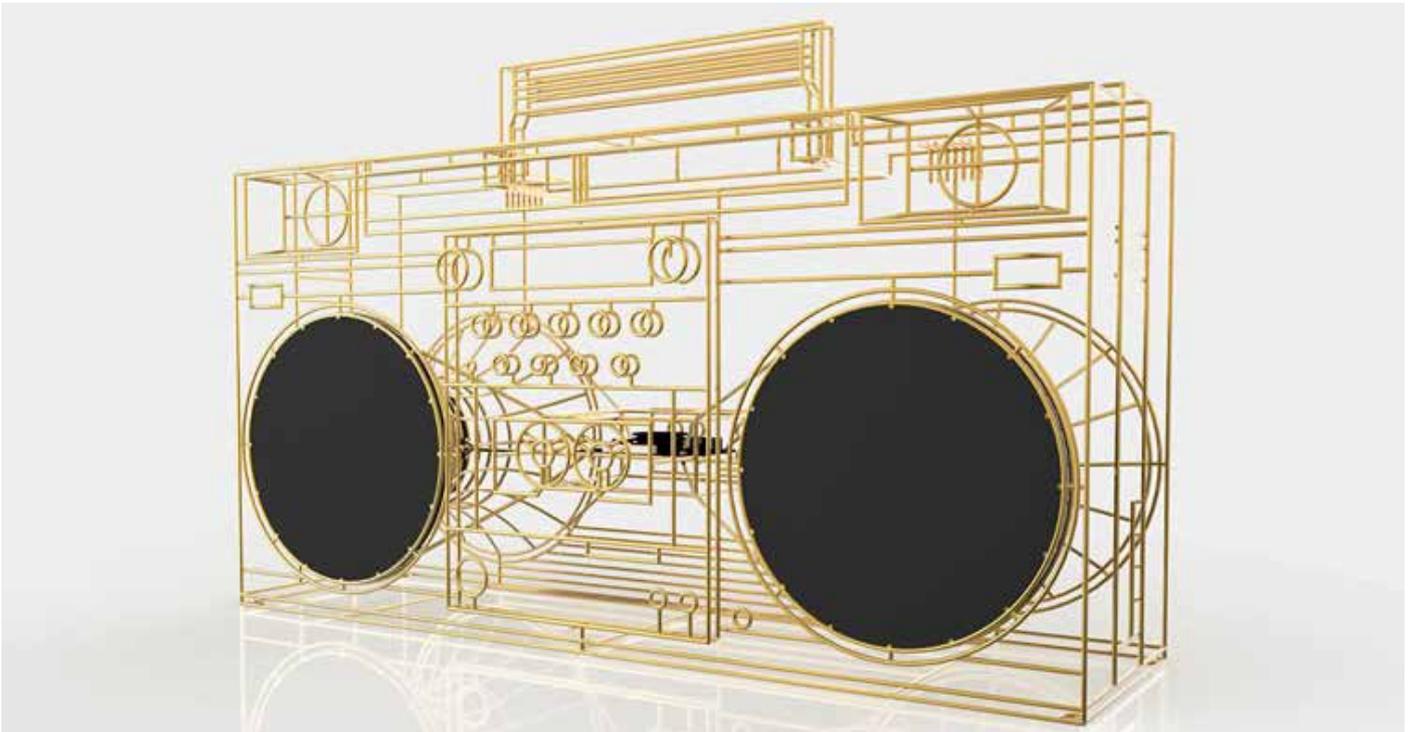
<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/564x/b5/c1/02/b5c102163dcd00f87979019799288669.jpg>

## Beautiful Technology

With more and more objects including electronics these days there is a move away from the gadget-like styling traditionally associated with electronics products. The electro craft exhibition in the Shoreditch Design Triangle showed a range of pieces that considered alternative aesthetics, either concealing the technology completely (as demonstrated by Bilge Nur Saltik) or laying the product bare and celebrating the technology within (Yuri Suzuki's Qu'est que c'est).



*Loud Objects by Bilge Nur Saltik. Bluetooth speakers*  
<http://bilgenursaltik.com/loud-objects/>



*Yuri Suzuki - Qu'est-ce que c'est*  
<http://bilgenursaltik.com/loud-objects/>

## Back to Nature

You couldn't move far in the festival without seeing some kind of potted plant. Whether it be pots, containers or full installations designers everywhere are including plants into their creations.



*Asif Khan and MINI create "forests" in see-through boxes*

<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/564x/a6/dc/3a/a6dc3a1d472a1cfeef107870820a9196.jpg>



*Ann Kristin Einarsen pots*

<https://static.dezeen.com/uploads/2016/07/100-percent-norway-norwegian-design-now-london-de->