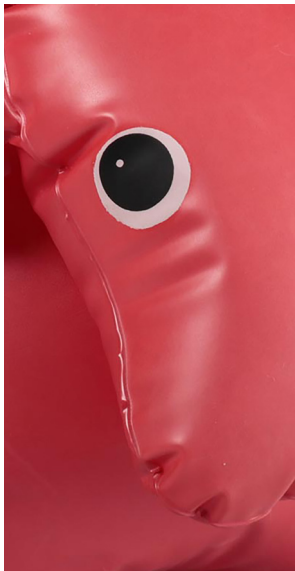


MAKE



DO



THINK

AUB+THEGALLERY WORKSHOP

What does it mean to be 'designated?' | TheGallery | MoDiP | 2023



WELCOME

Exhibition overview

What does it mean to be 'designated'?

In January 2022, AUB's Museum of Design in Plastics (MoDiP) was awarded Designated Outstanding Collection status by Arts Council England. This prestigious award recognises the objects in the museum's care as forming a 'collection of national importance'.

This exhibition is a visual representation of the national significance of the subject of the museum – design in plastics, the outstanding quality of the collection and its research value

Designation Scheme

The Designation scheme, which has been running since 1997, celebrates exceptional collections and raises their profile nationally and internationally. It aims to reveal the strength of England's leading collections and encourages the care and retention of the nation's treasures.



A Museum of Design in Plastics (MoDiP)
Exhibition, in collaboration with
TheGallery, AUB.

Today, when many people think of plastics, the first thing that comes to mind is the negative impact they can have on the environment. Excessive packaging, unnecessary single-use products, and images of debris and waste in oceans, waterways, and streets are evocative.

Within the last 50 years, more things, and a greater variety, have been designed and made in plastics than in any other materials group. With no intrinsic form, texture or colour, plastics have released design from the constraints imposed by the inherent characteristics of traditional materials, such as wood and metal. This has enabled innovative methods of manufacture leading to colourful design filled with forms, textures and functionality that was previously unachievable.

No other collection in the world shares MoDiP's focus on design in plastics. The collection provides a unique and outstanding resource for its study and narration. The museum is a specialist resource at AUB and can be found on the first floor of the library.



LET'S MAKE!MAKE!

Workshops brief

This workshop can be adapted to a range of ages/year groups, can be taught as a single lesson or extended to be a small Art project spreading over a couple of weeks. Research tasks can also be set as homework in advance as part of the preparation for the workshop.

Materials

- » Everyday household plastics objects/ materials (Look through your recycling bin! You could use plastics bottle tops, bottles or any plastic packaging)
- » A3 Drawing paper
- » Pencils
- » Erasers
- » Scissors
- » Hot Glue Guns

To prepare

- » Print a selection of images from the exhibition for students to take inspiration.
- » Prepare to show the group the Exhibition tour video.



Plastics are all around us and used in so many things we interact with on a daily basis. So much is said about the impact of plastic to our lives and the effect it has on the environment, but how can we utilise plastics, recycle them instead of throwing them away? This workshop is a starting point for a conversation around what plastics have done for us and how we can look at the material moving forward.

THE STEPS

Workshop task breakdown

1.

In pairs, students are to use A3 paper to list as many plastic items/objects that they have touched/used that day. Think about everyday things that are used that are made of plastic! This is a great way to start a conversation about how influential plastics have and are in our lives.

2.

The groups will then look at the plastic materials they have collected and start to sketch out ideas on paper to design a maquette* of a chair/seat. Allow the materials you have to help guide your design ideas.

* A maquette is model for a larger piece of work, created in order to visualise how it might look full size. Think of it as a three-dimensional sketch.

3.

Having sketched out some ideas on paper, the groups will choose one design and create it using all the collected plastic materials. The plastics can be cut and glued to allow for the design to be created.

4.

Think about how someone would sit on this chair/seat, if it were made full size, would it be comfortable? Does it have a back? Can it sit multiple people? Try to design a new and original idea for a chair/seat. Be creative!



Think about

Shapes | Tone | Pattern | Colour

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

As a class, students are to lay out their work and as a group discuss the outcomes of the workshop.

Each group will take in turns to present their maquette, thought process, and start to discuss where they can imagine their chair/seat to be located.

Would it be perfect for an Art Gallery? Or possibly a school?

How can we recycle plastics for contemporary design solutions?

How have using the existing shapes/forms of your recycled plastic objects helped you in designing/affect the design of your chair/seat?





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Design Ideas

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