

Press release

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Fairground Munich

www.ihm-handwerk-design.com

«Handwerk & Design» 2025 Arts and crafts from 45 countries in Munich

Premium products from workshops, studios and manufacturers from all over the world: «Handwerk & Design» is a true celebration of design. From 12 to 16 March 2025, exhibitors from no fewer than 45 countries will be presenting top-class, handmade work as part of the Internationale Handwerksmesse IHM.

Munich, 07.03.2025 – What is it about IHM that makes it a special highlight? It is a cross-regional meeting place and showcases the diversity of the skilled trades. Exhibitors travel from far and wide to present their products, but also to inform themselves and last but not least, to meet up. This also applies to «Handwerk & Design»: designers from 45 countries from Norway to South Africa, from Mexico to Korea meet in Munich every year in March and present their work to the trade fair audience. In addition, the Chamber of Crafts for Munich and Upper Bavaria organises several special shows whose participants are selected by international juries.

One of the highlights of «Handwerk & Design» has always been the special show **EXEMPLAmünchen**. This year, the show offers an insight into the "world of the stage". Whether opera or theatre: set designers, set builders, costume and make-up designers, carpenters, metalworkers, lighting designers and many more craftspeople play a decisive role in the stage performances. In living workshops, the trade fair audience can look over the shoulders and see how they realise even the craziest ideas. From Italy, for example, costumes from **La Scala in Milan**, one of the most important opera houses in the world, will be on display. The award-winning Japanese mask artist **Kitazawa Hideta** from Tokyo will also be live on site. In Munich, he will be demonstrating how he carves masks for the traditional Japanese NOH theatre. Only men perform in this traditional Japanese theatre. They wear masks to portray women, gods or monsters. The masks are carved from the light wood of the Japanese cypress and then painted.

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The special show **TALENTE**münchen – **Masters of the Future** is dedicated to young designers under the age of 35. Works made from all kinds of materials are represented, such as textiles, wood, glass, ceramics, jewellery, leather and even works made from tea! The materials often offer great surprises. The young Czech artist **Kamila Dvořáková**, for example, deliberately disguises the characteristics of her material: her pastel-coloured vases are reminiscent of giant marshmallows, the material appears soft and supple. In reality, it is glass that has been treated with enamel and airbrush paint, two processing techniques that are very atypical for glass.

The special show **SCHMUCK**münchen is traditionally particularly international. This year's selection was made by **Dr Jurgita Ludavičienė** from Lithuania, curator of jewellery at the Lithuanian National Museum of Art. Among the more than 60 participants are some of the world's most renowned jewellery artists, as well as many newcomers and young talents. The works of Swedish jeweller **Mona Wallström** are one of the highlights. She will be showing her work "TSAF 2025 – Tree Spirit Action Force". The artist has transformed broken branches from a neighbouring forest into small masked fighters. Under the command of tree deities, they fight to preserve the forest. The jewellery project is a reaction to the disappearance of natural forests and wildlife in northern European countries. The brooches consist of two parts: A shorter piece conceals the fighter with his viscose fibre mask. A longer piece serves as a pedestal so that the work can be set up as a small sculpture.

In addition to the curated special show, there are dozens of jewellery galleries, schools, collectives and artists presenting themselves and their work at the fair, from the **Noel Gallery Guyomarc'h** from Montreal, Canada, to the "**Syldyr Project**", an initiative for contemporary jewellery from the Kazakh capital Astana.

But dozens of exhibitors are travelling not only from abroad, but also from Germany. **Valentin Schneider** from Hanover is exhibiting his traditionally manufactured solid wood furniture at «Handwerk & Design». For his customised chairs, benches and small tables of his own design, he dispenses entirely with screws or nails. His work are completely imbued with his love for wood: before deciding to work as a furniture maker, Valentin Schneider was a doctor.

In addition to this wide range of exhibitions and trade fair stands, there will also be a colourful supporting programme to watch, listen to and discuss on a central stage: vocational schools such as the vocational school for wickerwork design in Lichtenfels or the vocational school for glass and jewellery in Kaufbeuren will be presenting themselves, bespoke tailors and make-up artists will be demonstrating their work in action on the catwalk, and experts and young designers will be discussing the current position of handicrafts and jewellery. The complete programme is available at: www.ihm-handwerk-design.com/programme/

Further information on the trade fair can be found at www.ihm-handwerk-design.com.

About «Handwerk & Design»

As part of the Internationale Handwerksmesse the «Handwerk & Design» arose in 2008. The idea behind it was to combine outstanding performances in crafts, art handicrafts and design at the Internationale Handwerksmesse. During the Internationale Handwerksmesse, everything is about the incorporation of craftsmanship and good design in hall B1 on the Fairground Munich. «Handwerk & Design» is made up of numerous special shows such as EXEMPLAmünchen, SCHMUCKmünchen, TALENTEmünchen – Meister der Zukunft. You can find further information at www.ihm-handwerk-design.com.

Note to the editors:

Download of photos at: www.ihm-handwerk-design.com/presse

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