



BIID REBRANDS

Jenny Gibbs is named as new BIID president as the organisation reveals its new look as it finalises its transition to institute status



Jenny Gibbs has been named as the new president of the BIID, just in time to reveal the organisation's new identity. Gibbs replaces Iris Dunbar who was the first to hold the title of president of the organization that was until recently known as the BIDA. Dunbar oversaw its transition to institute status in 2009 and now returns to her role as director of the Interior Design School, while remaining on the board of the BIID. Gibb is one of the best known faces in UK interior design also well known as an educator, having headed up the KLC school in London which she founded 28 years ago. Gibbs was previously responsible for development of the CPD programme on the BIDA board. A new look website will be launched this month. www.biid.org.uk

TENT AND ORIGIN JOIN FORCES

Two leading events on the London design calendar will join forces this year. Tent, held in the Truman Brewery, will present Origin, which will take place across the road in the newly refurbished Old Spitalfields market. Origin is the principal craft exhibition in the UK and will be consolidating all its 220 exhibitors into one week for the first time. Meanwhile Tent has become the a key event for furniture and product design in the UK. Though they will still exist as separate events, the union will present increased opportunities for designer-makers participating and more choice for visitors, making it an unmissable part of London Design Week. The joint events will take place on 23rd - 29th September 2010, anticipating a collective audience of around 30,000 visitors. www.tentlondon.co.uk www.originuk.org



Eco Lighting
A Lighting Association scheme has made low-cost energy saving lamps available to independent retailers, allowing competition with larger stores. The Energy Efficient Lamp Scheme (EELS), subsidised by E.ON, has supplied over two million energy efficient lamps. www.lightingassociation.com

Design of the Year
The Folding Plug by British RCA graduate Min-Kyu Choi has won the Brit Insurance Design of the Year prize 2010. The award was presented by jury chair Antony Gormley at the Design Museum, where the exhibition will be until 6 June. www.designmuseum.org



Vintage Store Locator
RetroStart.com is an online directory featuring over a thousand vintage mid-century modern design stores worldwide. The website features a shop locator, allowing you to find the stores and their websites, as well as upcoming fairs. www.retrostart.com



CRAFT BOOST The Crafts Council has launched Craft Rally, an online network that will hold events for contemporary designer-makers to meet, collaborate and exchange ideas. It launched last month in London, and part two will be held this month on 23 April at Museums Sheffield: Millennium Galleries.

Meanwhile its new CraftCubes are available to hire, three metre-squared spaces where visitors can see film interviews with makers, tours of makers' studios and real craft objects up close. www.craftscouncil.org.uk



INCOME FOR INTERNS The University of the Arts London are launching a scheme offering paid internships to unemployed graduates. The Creative Graduate Internship Programme will offer 100 small businesses £100 a week towards paying the interns, offering both work experience to graduates and a boost for businesses.

HEFCE have provided £13.6 million of funding for similar schemes in universities across the country. Read more about internship culture in our feature article for young designers on page 39. www.arts.ac.uk

COMPETITIVE REPORT FIRA have released a new report that shows UK furniture manufacturers to be resilient in tough market conditions. The study shows that the industry have responded to competition from low-wage industries such as China by specialising more, improving on quality and service and operating more efficient businesses. The full report also identifies opportunities and proposed actions for furniture companies to weather the changing market. www.fira.co.uk