

## Award winning accessory designer Úna Burke unveils new collaboration at Weathering, Tent London 2014

New and exclusive collaborations will be a key feature of **Weathering**, an exhibition of contemporary Irish design and craft being presented by the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland at Tent London as part of London Design Festival 2014.

Amongst those who will be unveiling new work is award winning designer Úna Burke, who has already earned a strong celebrity following with style icons including Rihanna, Lady Gaga and Daphne Guinness. Úna employs traditional leather-working techniques to produce sculptural fashion accessories and figurative art pieces that challenge expectations.



*"Japanese Lady" by Úna Burke  
with The Irish Handmade Glass Company*

For **Weathering**, the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, together with the exhibition curator Steven McNamara, facilitated a number of exclusive collaborations between Irish makers and internationally renowned designers in order to forge creative and commercial connections across disciplines. Úna Burke was brought together with The Irish Handmade Glass Company to create, *Japanese Lady*, a limited edition carafe combining leather with glass. The Irish Handmade Glass Company is a collective of former craftsmen from Waterford Crystal who set up their own company following the closure of the crystal factory. Their new studio production facility is in the Viking Triangle, in the historic centre of Waterford City.

Other collaborations being featured in the Irish show include:

- *The Carvel Chair*, designed by LDF2013 Design25 winner, Andrew Clancy of déanta Design and crafted by master boat builder Matthew O'Malley
- Horizon Furniture's *Stanley Lounge Chair* in a solid frame of Irish Oak, designed and made by Fergal O'Leary and upholstered in Donegal Tweed by Molloy & Sons
- Pepper mills designed by Makers & Brothers and handcrafted by wood turner Matt Jones.

Reflecting an openness amongst designers and makers to learn from each other, these collaborations push boundaries, leading to the development of objects that fluidly combine contemporary ideas and traditional techniques.

**Weathering** builds on the story and explorations of the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland's two previous shows; **Vernacular** (LDF 13) and **A Place to Gather** (LDF 12). The exhibition will showcase objects that exemplify simplicity of form, respect for materials and a keen awareness of the end user, presenting over 25 Irish designers and makers working in furniture, wood, glass, ceramics, textiles, lighting, leather and basketry.

## **Weathering**

**18th-21st September 2014**

### **Tent London**

Hall T4-B

First Floor Old Truman Brewery,

Elys Yard (off Hanbury Street)

London E1 6QR

- Ends -

- September 2014 -

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

### **Exhibitors**

Designers and makers featuring in **Weathering** include:

#### *Furniture:*

- déanta Design: Andrew Clancy with Matthew O'Malley
- Horizon Furniture with Molloy & Sons
- Nest Design
- Snug
- Stickman
- Tierney Haines with Alan Meredith
- Woodenleg
- Cillian Ó'Súilleabháin

#### *Ceramics:*

- Jack Doherty
- Derek Wilson
- Andrew Ludick

#### *Glass:*

- J. Hill's Standard
- Scott Benefield

#### *Lighting:*

- Shane Holland Design

*Textiles:*

- 31 Chapel Lane
- Ceadogán Rugs with Katie Hessian
- Cushendale Woollen Mills
- Molloy & Sons
- Muriel Beckett
- Print Block

*Wood:*

- Glenn Lucas
- Makers&Brothers with Matt Jones
- The Local Maker Co.

*Basketry:*

- Joe Hogan

*Leather:*

- Úna Burke with The Irish Handmade Glass Company

## **About the Curator**

**Steven McNamara** is the founder of the studio, Roji Designs. He is passionate about promoting good design and has spoken on panel discussions at international design events such as Habitare AHEAD and OFFSET, and has collaborated with many organisations, amongst them the Irish Pavilion at the Venice Biennale 2012. He led a multi-disciplinary collective to design and curate two exhibitions, to represent Ireland and promote Irish design on behalf of PIVOT Dublin at World Design Capital Helsinki 2012. In 2013 Steven was the exhibition designer for 'Vernacular', the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland's show at Tent London as part of London Design Festival. As well as working towards London Design Festival 2014 on behalf of the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland this year, Steven is the curator and exhibition designer for Cork Craft & Design's showcase exhibition in Kinsale, August 2014, and is the current Exhibitions Officer for the Architectural Association of Ireland. [www.rojidesigns.com](http://www.rojidesigns.com)

## **About the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland**

The Design & Crafts Council of Ireland (DCCol), which is headquartered in Kilkenny in Ireland is the main champion of the craft and design industry in Ireland, fostering its growth and commercial strength, communicating its unique identity and stimulating quality design, innovation and competitiveness. DCCol's activities are funded by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation via Enterprise Ireland. DCCol currently has over 70 member organisations and over 2,900 registered clients. [www.dccoi.ie](http://www.dccoi.ie)