



LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL EXTENDS ITS PUBLIC PROGRAMMING WITH OPEN MONUMENTS BY MELEK ZEYNEP BULUT

1 – 14 DECEMBER 2025

londondesignfestival.com

#LDF25

19 November 2025 - London, UK: Following the success of the London Design Festival's 23rd edition, which drew thousands of visitors to experience innovative design in the public realm, the Festival is excited to extend its public programming.

Building on the impact of Landmark Projects *What Nelson Sees* by Paul Cockshedge in collaboration with Google Arts & Culture at Trafalgar Square, and *Beacon* by Lee Broom supported and produced by BROKIS and Materials Assemble at the Southbank Centre, which will continue to illuminate the South Bank until January 2026, LDF will present **Open Monuments** by **Melek Zeynep Bulut** at **the Design Museum** from **1 - 14 December 2025**.

This extension of LDF's public programming reinforces the Festival's commitment to bringing world-class design directly into London's cultural landscape, creating lasting dialogue between contemporary design and Londoners. *Open Monuments* at the Design Museum's entrance courtyard will demonstrate design's power to transform public spaces and foster meaningful community engagement.

The 2025 Festival is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies, with Bloomberg Connects being the Festival's official digital guide. The free mobile guide features content exclusive to Connects: expert commentary, video highlights and curated routes across the city.

OPEN MONUMENTS BY MELEK ZEYNEP BULUT AT THE DESIGN MUSEUM 1 – 14 December 2025

Open Monuments by **Melek Zeynep Bulut** is an installation comprising monolithic urban objects that will transform the entrance courtyard of **the Design Museum** — London's leading museum devoted to contemporary design — into a site of ongoing performance and experimental experience that reimagines public space.

These sculptural yet functional structures occupy a blurred boundary between installation and product. They are not simply objects to be seen, but rhythms to be felt. *Open Monuments* is a meeting point to connect with others, a place for mindful reflection and rest, as well as an invitation to interact with the work itself, which never truly begins or ends but instead unfolds and evolves through the participation of those who encounter it.

Formed from the most elemental shapes, the point, the line, the circle, and the square, the pieces are conceived as “performers” in the city. Their arrangement and role can be shaped and reshaped continuously as much by the context of their surroundings as by the mood of their users. These components initiate open-ended staging, responding simultaneously to the needs of the user and the character of the city.

The works encompass the functions of urban furniture, providing space for sitting, resting, gathering, or simply passing through. At the same time, they create an abstract spatial construct that integrates rather than imposes on its environment, offering an inviting setting for encounter and memory. Subtle lighting lends the objects a second life after dark, their soft glow extending the invitation into the evening and deepening the sense of rhythm and interaction.

Melek Zeynep Bulut, said: *“Its ever-changing form and function makes Open Monuments a site of unexpected interactions, meaningful confluence and human memory – embodying my ideal of the open city. My intention is to propose that the public realm should be a space*

that is living and mutable: a setting that gains its meaning not from a fixed design, but from the shared experiences, encounters, and stories it hosts over time.”

- ENDS -

NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information, please contact Sarah Ward

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All images and assets can be [downloaded here](#).

ABOUT LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL

Established in 2003 by Sir John Sorrell CBE and Ben Evans CBE, London Design Festival celebrates and promotes London as the design capital of the world.

London Design Festival has since earned the reputation as a key calendar moment of London's autumn creative season, alongside London Fashion Week, Frieze Art Fair and the London Film Festival, attracting the greatest thinkers, practitioners, retailers and educators to the capital, in a citywide celebration.

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Website: londondesignfestival.com

Instagram: [@l_d_f_official](https://www.instagram.com/l_d_f_official)

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/london-design-festival/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/london-design-festival/)

ABOUT MELEK ZEYNEP BULUT

Melek Zeynep Bulut is a London-based Turkish multidisciplinary artist and designer. Melek's work synthesises space, experimental architecture, behavioural sciences, and visual arts. She focuses on the complex interplay between material, experimental circulation fiction, and human consciousness, exploring and exhibiting how existence and subjectivity are shaped by space. Her practice employs a multilingual production technique, encompassing sculpture, installation, photography, performance, painting, and video art.

The dynamic relationship between design and art, both distinct and ambiguous, has formed the central line of her work from the very beginning. In Melek's creations, the connections we establish with time, body, consciousness, society, and the abstract aspects of everyday life transform into objects and materials, which are continually reshaped as spaces and visual connections. This process represents both a new and ancient language of communication.

Three recent critically acclaimed installations have cemented Melek's presence on the

international stage: *The Recursion Project: Levh-i Mahfuz*, a solo exhibit at the London Design Biennale 2025; *Duo*, showcased at the 2024 London Design Festival; and *Açık Yapıt: Open Work*, the official Pavilion of Turkey at London Design Biennale 2023, which was awarded the Public Award.

Melek's exhibitions have been highly praised by industry peers and the public alike, winning numerous awards including, London Design Biennale: Public Award, Red Dot: Design Concept, Createurs Design Awards: Excellence in Art and Design Curation and D'Arc: Best LightArt Scheme – Bespoke.

Melek's work continues to evolve at the intersection of disciplines, creating spaces that function as portals between the physical and the metaphysical, inviting reflection on the rituals and patterns that shape human experience.

ABOUT THE DESIGN MUSEUM

The Design Museum is a multifaceted museum, an ever-changing space for the public, industry and education to come together and explore new ideas. A registered charity, the museum's innovative exhibitions, partnerships, research and learning programmes evidence how design can enable this planet and its inhabitants to thrive. Our landmark building in Kensington is the centre of our national network and a global hub for the transformative potential of design.

designmuseum.org

ABOUT BLOOMBERG CONNECTS

Bloomberg Connects offers free digital guides to more than 1000 cultural organisations around the world. The app is part of Bloomberg Philanthropies' longstanding commitment to supporting digital innovation in the arts. With dynamic content exclusive to each partner organisation, the app provides a range of features including video, audio, and text; expert commentary; and way-finding maps. Bloomberg Connects makes it easy to access and engage with arts and culture from mobile devices when visiting in person, or anytime from anywhere.