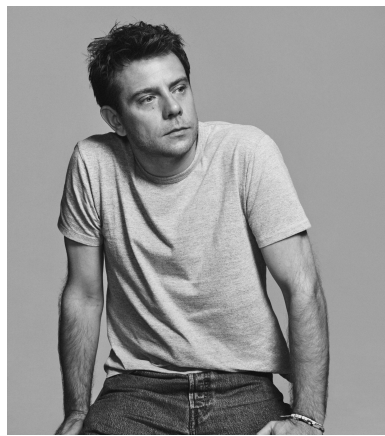


LONDON DESIGN FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE 2026
LONDON DESIGN MEDALS: JONATHAN ANDERSON, SIR CHRISTOPHER
FRAYLING, ANAB JAIN AND SOLVEIGA PAKŠTAITE

12-20 SEPTEMBER 2026
londondesignfestival.com
#LDF26



Above: Top Left: Jonathan Anderson; Top Right: Anab Jain; Bottom Left: Solveiga Pakšaitė, Image credit : Ben Broomfield; Bottom Right: Sir Christopher Frayling

[London Design Festival](https://londondesignfestival.com) announces today the winners of the **2026 London Design Medals**. Every year, the Festival celebrates both established and emerging talent that have distinguished themselves within the industry and demonstrated design excellence, with four London Design Medals awarded: **The London Design Medal, Design Innovation Medal, Emerging Design Medal and Lifetime Achievement Medal**.

London Design Medal: Jonathan Anderson
Lifetime Achievement Medal: Sir Christopher Frayling
Design Innovation Medal: Anab Jain
Emerging Design Medal: Solveiga Pakšaitė

The winners will receive their Medals at an awards ceremony on the evening of **Monday 14 September** at **RH London, The Gallery in Mayfair**. RH London, which opened earlier this summer, stands at the global epicenter of luxury and design, between the fashion houses of New Bond Street and the legendary bespoke tailors of Savile Row. Built in 1723 and designed by preeminent architect Giacomo Leoni, the rare Palladian mansion and its adjoining two landmark properties has been transformed into a series of immersive experiences, including The Dining Room at RH London and The Perch, by Anouska Hempel, alongside an Architecture & Design Library, Tea Salon and Wine Bar.

"This year's medal winners demonstrate the transformative power of design, from Jonathan Anderson's work blending high fashion, art and craft, to Sir Christopher Frayling's lifelong dedication to design education and cultural history, Anab Jain's pioneering work in speculative futures, and Solveiga Pakšaitė's solutions for intuitive, inclusive and considered design. Each medal recipient exemplifies how creative innovation shapes our culture, industry and shared future." - **Ben Evans CBE, London Design Festival Director and Co-Founder**

The London Design Festival is proud to announce the **Mayor of London** as Principal Supporter for 2026. The London Design Festival continues to be supported by **Bloomberg Philanthropies**, with **Bloomberg Connects** serving as the Festival's official digital guide. The free digital guide will feature content exclusive to Connects, including expert commentary, video highlights and curated routes across the city.

The 2026 winners are as follows:

Jonathan Anderson
London Design Medal

The **London Design Medal** is the highest accolade bestowed upon an individual who has distinguished themselves within the industry and demonstrated consistent design excellence over a number of years.

Operating as both curator and creator, Jonathan Anderson bridges high fashion with a curatorial design ethos and has become a defining voice in fashion. He has earned critical acclaim and commercial success with the collections he has designed for the likes of his

eponymous label, JW Anderson, as the Creative Director of LOEWE, and in his current role as Creative Director at Christian Dior across women's, men's and haute couture.

An alumnus of the London College of Fashion, Anderson has been guided by his unique design aesthetic which presents a contemporary interpretation of masculinity and femininity. He launched JW Anderson menswear in 2008 and expanded his thought-provoking silhouettes into womenswear in 2010. In 2013 he was named Creative Director of LOEWE, turning the Spanish house into a dynamic cultural brand, blending craftsmanship with a playful and surrealist dialogue.

His visionary work has led Jonathan Anderson to become one of the industry's most feted designers, being awarded accolades throughout his career such as; the first fashion designer to be awarded both Menswear and Womenswear Designer of the Year 2015 by the British Fashion Council; appointed by the Prime Minister to the Board of Trustees of the V&A in 2019, named as an Honoree of the Creativity Fashion Award by the British Fashion Council in 2020, won Designer of the Year in 2024 by the British Fashion Council for his work at JW Anderson and LOEWE, and named one of the Most Influential People of 2024 in Time Magazine's Time100 list.

Beyond the runway, Anderson is a champion of craft and art; throughout his career he has curated exhibitions at The Hepworth Wakefield and the Offer Waterman gallery, he founded LOEWE FOUNDATION Craft Prize, the world's first international award for contemporary craft in 2016.

Jonathan Anderson said *"This award is incredibly special to me. It is a true honour to be recognised by the LDF for my work within the field of craft and design, which have always been a personal passion of mine."*

Sir Christopher Frayling Lifetime Achievement Medal

The **Lifetime Achievement Medal** honours an individual who has made significant and fundamental contributions to the design industry over their career.

Sir Christopher Frayling is a British cultural historian, academic, broadcaster and champion of design education. Educated at Churchill College, Cambridge, where he was also awarded his PhD, Frayling's academic work has seen him hold positions at the Royal College of Art, as a Professor of Cultural History, during which he set up the pioneering History of Design postgraduate course with the V&A Museum, and as Rector of the RCA. During his long-standing tenure he strengthened the institution's links to industry, technology and manufacturing and reinforced its international reputation in fields such as

automotive and product design, contributing to London's emergence as a global creative hub.

A prolific voice across radio and television, Frayling has written and presented programmes for the likes of the BBC and Channel 4, speaking on subjects ranging from art, design and visual history. He has also shaped national creative policy; he was a Governor of the British Film Institute through the 1980s, he served as Chairman of Arts Council England from 2004 - 2009 and has held roles as Chairman of the Design Council, Chairman of the Royal Mint Design Advisory Committee, Chairman of the Crafts Study Centre, an 1851 Commissioner and is a long-serving Trustee of the V&A. Frayling is currently Chancellor of Arts University Bournemouth, Professor Emeritus of Arts at the University of Lancaster, Professor Emeritus of Cultural History at the Royal College of Art, and a Fellow of Churchill College Cambridge. His career has championed Britain's creative industries, raising discussions around the funding for arts and education and carrying out academic research to support these public discourses. In 2000, he was knighted for "services to art and design education".

Sir Christopher Frayling said *"Since 2003, the London Design Festival has been drawing the public's attention to the key importance of design in everyday life. Through my teaching, my publications, my broadcasts - and my leadership of the RCA - I have been on a similar mission, for even longer! So I am delighted - bowled over, actually - to have been selected for this year's Lifetime Achievement Medal, and to join such a very distinguished group of previous medallists."*

Anab Jain **Design Innovation Medal**

The **Design Innovation Medal** celebrates entrepreneurship in all its forms, both locally and internationally. It honours an individual who has built one or more businesses where design lies at the core of its development and success.

Anab Jain, Co-founder and Director of **Superflux**, is a designer, futurist, filmmaker and educator, who carries out the studio's mission of leaving a meaningful legacy for the planet and its future custodians.

Born and raised in India's postcolonial landscapes, Jain studied filmmaking at the National Institute of Design and then moved to London to earn her Masters at the Royal College of Art.

Together with Jon Ardern, she co-founded **Superflux** in 2009, a multidisciplinary design studio based in London which focuses on speculative design and experiential futures. Its work crosses technology, politics, and nature to bridge the gap between the knowledge

and key actions that need to be carried out to create safer and more critical collective futures and climates. Superflux has worked with organisations such as the United Nations, Google DeepMind, Ingka Group, and the UK Government, while its artistic works have been exhibited internationally at institutions such as the Barbican, MoMA New York, the V&A, and La Biennale di Venezia, and are held in permanent collections including the European Patent Office. The studio was awarded Dezeen's Design Studio of the Year (2021) and Jain and Ardern were awarded the Royal Designer for Industry Award (RDI) in speculative design (2022), the highest accolade for designers in the UK.

Anab's pioneering work and role as a thought leader in design-led foresight, emerging technologies and ecological thinking, have resulted in her being awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of the Arts, London and being the recipient of the Award of Excellence ICSID, UNESCO Digital Arts Award, and Grand Prix Geneva Human Rights Festival, as well as awards from Apple and the UK Government's Innovation Department.

For the past decade, she has served as Professor of Design Investigations at the University of Applied Arts Vienna, continuing to reframe the designer's role, a mission articulated in her co-authored book *Designing Questions* (Hatje Cantz, 2026).

Anab Jain will be participating in a Global Design Forum panel on 12 September, *In Conversation: Designing Possible Worlds*, with Debika Ray. Tickets are free and available to secure [here](#).

Anab Jain said *"It is a real honour to receive the Design Innovation Medal. I share it with my Superflux co-founder Jon Ardern, and with everyone who has shaped the studio over the years. For us, it is recognition that speculative and future-led design is inherently innovative and entrepreneurial. At Superflux, we have always believed that design's greatest power lies in making complex, systemic futures viscerally felt, so people can step outside established narratives and find the courage to imagine alternate futures."*

Solveiga Pakštaitė **Emerging Design Medal**

The Emerging Design Medal recognises an individual who has made a recent impact on the design scene and has an emerging practice showing design promise.

Solveiga Pakštaitė, Chief Design Officer and Founder of **Mimica**, is an award-winning industrial designer and entrepreneur who specialises in user-centred and sustainable design. Her multidisciplinary practice addresses everyday products and systems to create more inclusive, sustainable and intuitive approaches.

Pakštaitė gained critical acclaim after inventing Bump, while studying Industrial Design & Technology at Brunel University London, a temperature-sensitive food label that turns bumpy when food spoils to cut food waste and was originally conceived to help visually impaired individuals monitor food freshness. The invention earned the prestigious James Dyson Award and led to the founding of her food tech venture, Mimica, alongside industry experts Laurence Kayson and Lawrie Matthews, whose technology is now being adopted by major international food manufacturers and retailers.

Pakštaitė's multidisciplinary approach to innovation is driven by her experience in human-centred design research, trend forecasting and UX consulting. Alongside her work with Mimica, she advises global organisations on sustainability, packaging innovation and emerging consumer needs, and holds an Honorary Lectureship at University College London in social entrepreneurship and human-centred design. Her recent work includes Looplets, an adaptable footwear system co-developed during her design fellowship with Open Style Lab that enables off-the-shelf shoes to be customised for greater stability, accessibility and personal expression.

Solveiga Pakštaitė said *"I'm passionate about promoting inclusion and sustainable habits through design, and I think it's wonderful that work that makes the world a little bit better is being recognised. I feel very honoured! I'm proud of what I have worked on so far but I'm even more excited by the design challenges yet to come."*

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Notes to Editor:

For further information, please contact ldf@bacchus.agency | [Bacchus](#)

For all images and assets, please download [here](#)

About London Design Festival | <https://londondesignfestival.com/>

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.

About Global Design Forum | <https://londondesignfestival.com/gdf>

Global Design Forum is a curated thought leadership programme, celebrating design and the minds shaping its future. Across three days design will be inspected, explored and

unpacked through the words and works of diverse practitioners in design and beyond. Earlier this year, the Global Design Forum İstanbul 2026, a new international platform for design, launched in collaboration with People Places Ideas, took place 13–16 May 2026. New global locations to be announced for next year's edition.

About RH | <https://rh.com>

RH (NYSE: RH) is a global curator of design, taste and style in the luxury lifestyle market. Operating across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Europe, the Company offers collections through its retail galleries, Sourcebooks and online at [RH.com](https://rh.com), with integrated hospitality experiences in galleries throughout the United States and internationally.

About Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in 700 cities and 150 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on creating lasting change in five key areas: the Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's giving, including his foundation, corporate, and personal philanthropy as well as Bloomberg Associates, a philanthropic consultancy that advises cities around the world. For more information, visit bloomberg.org, sign up for the [newsletter](#), or follow on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#), [Threads](#), [Facebook](#), and [X](#).

About Bloomberg Connects | <https://www.bloombergconnects.org/>

Bloomberg Connects is a free digital platform connecting audiences with more than 1,500 cultural organisations around the world. The platform is part of Bloomberg Philanthropies' longstanding commitment to supporting digital innovation in the arts. From world-class museums and botanical gardens to historic houses and outdoor sculpture parks, Connects makes it easier than ever to access and engage with arts and culture anytime, anywhere. Available in more than 50 languages through Google Translate, Connects helps cultural institutions reach new and diverse audiences globally.

About The Standard, London | www.standardhotels.com/london

Housed in the former Camden Town Hall Annex in London's thriving King's Cross neighbourhood, the 1974 Brutalist building has been meticulously restored and sets the perfect stage for The Standard's first hotel outside the United States. The Standard, London has 266 rooms, ranging from Standard King Interior Rooms to terraced suites with outdoor bathtubs overlooking the dramatic St Pancras Station.

On the ground floor, Double Standard, a street-facing bar and restaurant, serves a legendary selection of American diner and British pub favourites. Next door, The Library Lounge features a carefully curated collection that pays homage to the building's original



use, alongside Sounds Studio, home to live radio shows and podcasts. Isla offers an approachable seasonal menu, complemented by a brand new wine and cocktail list. The 10th-floor restaurant, Decimo, showcases Chef Paola Arenas' live-fire cooking, surrounded by 360-degree views of London, accessible via the iconic exterior red pill lift.