



Press release

14 February 2023
Älmhult, Sweden

Meet the future of design in Älmhult – waste is transformed into thought-provoking design when Sweden’s design stars of the future get to decide

How can thought-provoking design be created from what we would normally call waste, or even rubbish?

This is one of the questions that has been in focus for Young Swedish Design in its 25th year. IKEA Museum has curated and co-produced the exhibition with Svensk Form, which showcases works by some of the most promising young Swedish design stars. The exhibition premieres at IKEA Museum in Älmhult, Sweden on 2 March.

This year’s Young Swedish Design exhibition has a distinct circular theme. The works by this year’s participants all show how materials can be reused, and how we can learn more from nature as a problem-solver. The exhibitors have been inspired by what we might normally refer to as leftovers, waste – or just plain rubbish. The pieces take shape from what humans and bark beetles leave behind. Waste from the sun and baby clothes is put to good use, and knowledge from earlier constructions is redeployed.

“Young Swedish Design is an important platform for innovative young designers, who show a variety of ways in which good design can be expressed. IKEA has been involved from the start 25 years ago, and as a producer we’re proud to be able to help innovative ideas find their way to more people,” says Anna Sandberg Falk, Curator at IKEA Museum.

Young Swedish Design is Sweden’s biggest design competition for young designers. It is an annual distinction, awarded by a panel of judges and also a touring exhibition, which showcases the latest works from the young design scene in Sweden in furniture, fashion, handicrafts, architecture, industrial design and graphic design. Since its launch in 1998, it has become the leading platform for innovative designers at the start of their career. Also in Älmhult, we present the winner of this year’s IKEA scholarship: Simon Bågstad.

“I have a background as a boat-builder, so my lounge is based on ancient Scandinavian boatbuilding tradition, which is called clinker construction. The materials and building techniques are based on methods from Viking times,” says Simon Bågstad, IKEA scholarship winner in Young Swedish Design 2023.

The grand opening at IKEA Museum in Älmhult marks the beginning of an extensive tour for the exhibition, beginning on 2 March at 10:30 with a discussion about design involving IKEA Design Managers Eva Lilja Löwenhielm and Johan Ejdemo from IKEA of Sweden, Mats Widbom, Managing Director of Svensk Form, and others.



The Young Swedish Design winners 2023 are:

Karin Bäckström – [Seemingly ordinary](#)
Mia Bøgedal Troelsgaard – [2-in-1 designs, Distorted to fit](#)
Martina Claesson & Luisa Wirth – [ON/OFF Grid](#)
Axel Danhard – [På nya spår/Along New Tracks](#)
Olof Davidsson – [Spread](#)
Matilda Envall – [The Story of a Dress](#)
Ebba Hedlund – [Actissance](#)
Lars Høie – [Letters from Utopia](#)
Natalia Ikebara – [Hemi](#)
Lovisa Ingman – [Efterlevnadsliv/Life of Compliance](#)
Christoffer Jansson – [Uncanny Spaces](#)
Sophie Jungkvist – [Woven change, Shifting expressions](#)
Laura Kjær – [Super Superficial](#)
Jasmijn Kooijman – [Dansa min docka/Dance My Puppet](#)
Hedvig Ljungström – [Mother Elizabeth](#)
Frida McDavitt Wallin – [Sandhagen 2](#)
Simon Mattisson – [Granland](#)
Taurai Valerie Mtake – [*madími](#)
Maja Möller – [Knuten/Fastknuten / Tied/Firmly Tied](#)
Olle Sahlqvist – [Biomimicry Furniture Design](#)
David Selander – [Fotografier från Stockholm/Photographs from Stockholm](#)
Oliver Weglinski – [Carbon Care Work](#)
Simon Bågstam – [Essing](#) “IKEA scholarship”

Tour schedule 2023:

2 March – 16 April, IKEA Museum, Älmhult
26 May – 4 June, Sara Kulturhus, Skellefteå
2 September – 5 November, The Textile Museum of Sweden, Textile Fashion Center, Borås
16 November – 11 February 2024, Malmö Museer, Malmö

The Young Swedish Design exhibition 2023 is a co-production between Svensk Form and IKEA Museum. The project is presented in association with IKEA of Sweden, the City of Malmö, Stockholm Furniture Fair, Swedish Wood, and a raft of exhibition organisers and scholarship providers.

For interviews and further questions, please contact:

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IKEA Museum opened in 2016 and features the exhibition The Story of IKEA – Past, Present & Future. IKEA Museum is located in the original building of the first IKEA store, which opened in 1958 in Älmhult, Sweden. IKEA Museum features a main exhibition: Our Roots and Democratic Design. The museum also includes several temporary exhibitions, as well as a restaurant and a shop.



Museum

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