



UNIVERSITY OF  
GOTHENBURG

# GATHERINGS



HDK

**HDK**

**ACADEMY OF DESIGN  
AND CRAFTS**

STENEBY

Wood Oriented Furniture Design,  
HDK – Academy of Design and Crafts at Steneby,  
University of Gothenburg,  
presents:

## GATHERINGS

We believe the designer's role is about looking beyond the surface – to make responsible decisions and to understand the ethical implications of one's choices.

In partnership with Forbo, we have investigated the ethical implications of design through material, form and function. We have designed artifacts that embody various kinds of gatherings; the gathering of materials and the gathering of people – all about stimulating interaction through design.

Let's talk, share and play!

# BOUT'CHOU

While working on an organic farm, Alice Hultdin discovered kombucha: a beverage produced by fermenting tea using a SCOBY (Symbiotic Colony of Bacteria and Yeast). She saw in the culture of kombucha a way to connect people around values of cooperation, encouraging a non-consumeristic sharing economy. With this in mind, she worked together with different craftsmen and designed "Bout'chou", a brewing station for kombucha combining Desktop linoleum with other refined materials. With "Bout'chou", Alice wants to gather people around a drink, to share and enjoy the results of a collaborative activity.

Special thanks to Magnus Andersson (glassblowing), Augusto Boer Bront and Rémy Sorondo (metalwork)

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**Desktop Linoleum**  
**4185 powder**  
**4177 vapour**



# KUTTINGEN

In a society becoming more and more urbanized, how can people still connect to the core values of life that nature gives? Subsequent to her love for plants, Sofia Nilsson saw in the activity of bartering cuttings of plants a chance for young people to meet and incorporate these values in their daily life. Therefore she designed "Kuttingen": a transportation bag that protects the cuttings, but which can also be used as a display. Using a "special" technique to bring flexibility into the Desktop linoleum while keeping the strength of the material, she created a practical yet refined solution that allows people to bring their cuttings with them wherever they go, connect with each other and share without consuming.

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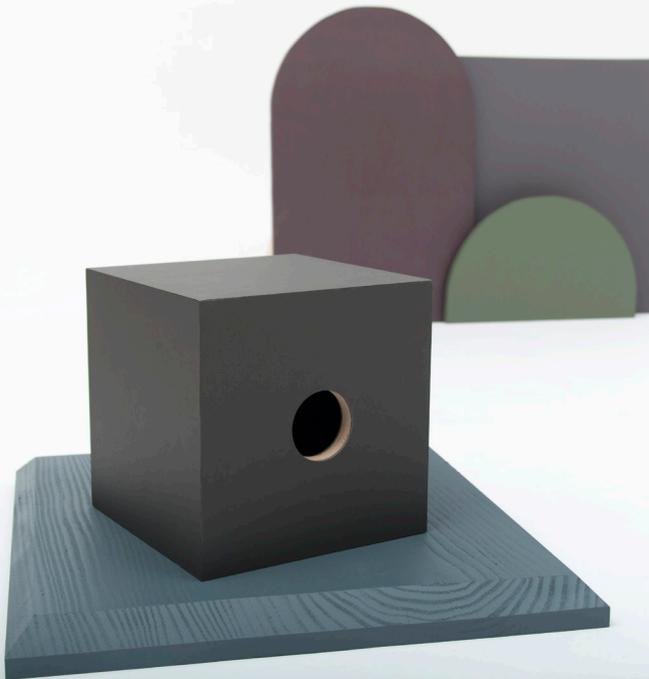


# ILLUMINATIONS

Noticing a resurgence in storytelling since the advancement of digital platforms in our daily lives, Robert Curran decided to have a look back in the history of storytelling, following the tracks of cabinets of curiosity and Victorian natural history museums. This led him to create "Illuminations", a vessel for visual stimulation, connecting to a tradition of shadow puppetry. By playing with light and by tearing the Desktop linoleum apart in such a way that the material becomes a miniature representation of a landscape, Robert is triggering our imagination to conjure up stories and memories.

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# KUVERT

With "Kuvert", Johan Andersson wanted to question the meaning of table settings and how they affect our behavior, the way we interact with each other but also with the cutlery itself. His interest in the historical role of table manners to divide people by class led him to investigate shapes, materials and our perception of the objects surrounding us. Experimenting with oak veneer lamination, Desktop linoleum applied to very specific surfaces and silver, Johan created a series of abstract representations of tableware which make us wonder how we can relate to them.

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# STREAM MODULES

Yang Yong-Kang's past experience as a moderator made him wonder how the exchange of information in big meetings could be improved. He found out that a constant flow of people moving around and discussing allows the information to pass on directly and smoothly. Therefore Yong-Kang designed modular stations inspired by both the Swedish fika culture and the Japanese tachinomi standing bars. The organic shapes obtained by laminating plywood can be used as coffee tables, benches or room dividers, depending on the situation. On top of that, the Bulletin board on the modules offers possibilities to pin notes, posters and other types of information which people can read while having a chat or taking a coffee.

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**Bulletin Linoleum**  
2162 Duck egg  
2206 Oyster shell  
2214 Blue berry

**Desktop Linoleum**  
4181 midnight blue  
4132 ash  
4179 smokey blue,  
4177 vapour



# INTERFACE

Inspired by her younger sister's carefree doodling, Lisha Li wanted to bring back little moments of illumination in our daily lives. Therefore she designed "Interface", a tray coming in a variation of colors and appealing patterns which can be used in a café like setting to serve drinks, but also to write or draw on it. Because Desktop linoleum can be cleaned easily, people can use a crayon to share little stories with each other or scribble what they have on their mind. Thanks to this tray and the materials she used, Lisha hopes to provide a warmer experience for people, making them pay more attention to their surroundings and for a moment take a step out of the virtual world.

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## HUDDLE

People know linoleum as being a flooring material, but what if it gained a new purpose within their houses? Challenging our perception of this flat material by giving it a 3D expression, Marie-Louise Velthuisen designed "Huddle", a series of lamps inspired by the construction of old factory lights. By exploring the boundaries of the Desktop linoleum she discovered that she could use the paper backing to give flexibility as well as strength, allowing the lamps to be built without using any extra material. This process resulted in three appealing lamps, inviting people to come closer together to enjoy their light. With this project, Marie-Louise shows how designers can work towards integrating more sustainable products in our daily life.

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# MOKITA

*The truth we know but agree not to talk about*

Societies are facing many issues nowadays but people tend to avoid these unpleasant topics of conversation, fearing judgement or conflicts. Aiming to show that there are benefits from debating with others, Mariska Lamiaud designed "Mokita", a visual metaphor turned into a tactile tool through the combination of wood and Desktop linoleum. Used as a talking stick it can be passed around in a group, giving time to everyone to speak up and share their opinions. The elephant in the room becomes physical, people can hold onto it but are also confronted with a choice: will they dare talk about what really matters or pretend nothing is going on?

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**Ash 4132**



# FIRE(ESCAPE)

Passionate about crafts from a young age, Joe Clark believes that in today's world it is more important than ever to relearn and reconnect with practical skills in order to counterbalance human dependency on modern technology. After investigating humankind's history of key inventions, he designed "Fire(Escape)": a kit containing a fire drill and bow, enabling people to learn how to start a fire in an ancestral way. Laminating Desktop linoleum onto veneer to provide a curvaceous yet strong surface, he created a series of organic shaped containers for the kit. With "Fire(Escape)", Joe underlines the significance of learning and passing on skills, encouraging others to experience how, for millennia, human beings have gathered around fire.

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**4179 smokey blue**





## CROKINOLE

A great amount of people are forced to leave their homeland because of social, political and economical reasons. Anke Dold believes the way to help immigrants integrate into society is to open up to other cultures and improve exchange with locals. Therefore she designed a "Crokinole" board game and matching lamp with the help of "Café Schukert": a language café in Dals Långed where refugees can meet inhabitants of the village around a cup of coffee. Using modern techniques such as CNC and laser cutting to work with the Desktop linoleum, Anke brought back to life an intuitive game, that doesn't need any rules or common language for people from different countries to play together.

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**4166 charcoal**

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FLOORING SYSTEMS

# CEOS



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